



Lesson  
**46**

2s & 3s

# JESUS CALMS THE STORM

July 4 & 5  
**GOD IS IN CONTROL**



## LESSON GOAL:

**Background:** One day, Jesus and His disciples were in a boat caught in a powerful storm. While the disciples were very afraid for their lives, Jesus was sleeping on the boat! Once they woke Jesus, He spoke and the wind and waves obeyed Him, showing that He has complete control over everything.

**Lesson Goal:** For kids to understand that even when life feels scary or out of control, we can have faith that God is always in control. It doesn't mean the storms won't come, but God is with us through whatever we face.

**Matthew 8:23-27**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Home Discipleship Parenting Class**  
Hosted @ Downtown campus  
July 13, 20, 27 - [woodmenvalley.org/kids](http://woodmenvalley.org/kids)



## KEY VERSE:

*"Finally, let the Lord make you strong. Depend on his mighty power."*

**Ephesians 6:10, NIRV**

## MISSION FOCUS:

### **ACTS School Lunch Donations**

Have you ever struggled with being hungry? It can make us feel tired, sad or worried. There are many kids in our city who are facing this challenge - they don't have enough food.

We can help! When we donate snacks, we're not just giving food — we're showing God's love to kids who need encouragement and care

### **LET'S PRAY FOR THE KIDS WHO WILL GET THESE FOOD ITEMS:**

Pray for them to feel loved & their hearts to be open to hearing about Jesus

Pray for their families



5:45-6:10pm  
8:45-9:10am  
10:45-11:10am

# CHECK-IN

The goal of check-in time is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome by creating a welcoming environment.



## WELCOME FAMILIES

As kids arrive to check-in, greet them and help them feel safe, seen and secure.

### **SAY:**

I'm so glad to see you today, **(insert child/parent name)**! You can play with the classroom activities until we begin Explore time.

**(Insert parent name)**, do you have a diaper bag or any other specific instructions for today? *(Respond accordingly)* Enjoy service!

### **DO:**

Help kids feel **SAFE** (physically & emotionally), **SEEN** (known & understood) and **SOOTHED** (calmed & supported) so they can become **SECURE** in your classroom.



## FREE PLAY

The goal of free play is to create space for toddlers to get adapted to the classroom so they can connect with the Ministry Partners and other kids.

### **DO:**

As kids play with the classroom toys and games, take time to connect on their level. Initiate conversation by relating to something the child is doing, something you notice about him/her or an overview of what they can expect during class. The goal is to help them feel safe and connected.

### **Examples:**

- That's a nice red shirt you're wearing! Is red your favorite color?
- I see you're holding a yellow lego. What are you building?
- I see that you're sad. Your grown ups went to church but they'll be back soon.
- We're going to learn about Jesus here. When we clean up our toys, we're going to do a craft.

6:10-6:25pm  
9:10-9:25am  
11:10-11:25am

# EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



## MAKE: Calming the Storm Spinner

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

**Supplies:** circle paper, boat paper, markers/crayons, brad



### SAY:

Today's story is about a time when Jesus spoke and the wind and waves obeyed showing how he was in control. God is in control of our lives, too. It doesn't mean the storms won't come, but God is with us through whatever we face.



### DO:

Have kids color the circle paper (sea/storm) and the boat paper. Use the brad to attach the boat to the sea (circle). Show kids how to spin the boat from the storm to the calmed sea.



## CONNECT: Why Does It Matter?

Help kids prepare for the lesson by discussing the Big 3 questions.



### SAY:

**Answer THE BIG 3 questions to help kids prepare for the lesson**

**1. Who is our story about today?**

Jesus and His disciples

**2. What is the problem?**

Jesus and His disciples were on a boat in the middle of a terrible storm, and the disciples were scared

**3. What will God do?**

Jesus showed the disciples He was in control by simply speaking and the wind and the waves obeyed Him.



## CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to transition to Large Group by sitting quietly in the designated story area.



### SAY:

Let's all work together to clean up so we can hear our Bible story for the day. We can sing a song as we clean!

**Sing:** "Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."



# Craft Example



6:25-6:40pm  
9:25-9:40am  
11:25-11:40am

# LARGE GROUP

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow in their relationship with God through Worship, an engaging Bible story and a time of response.



## EXPECTATIONS

As you begin Large Group, play the Church Today Expectations video ([Plex > Videos > EC > 2s & 3s](#))

### **SAY:**

We're glad to be at church today.  
We will listen, we will pray.  
We'll sit quietly in our spot.  
We'll tell Jesus we love Him a lot!

### **DO:**

PRAY before transitioning to worship.



## WORSHIP

Use the Little Kids music videos on Plex to sing some simple songs with your class. To access these videos, go to [Plex > Videos > EC > 2s/3s](#) folder.

**SONG 1:** My God is so Big

**SONG 2:** Open the Eyes of my Heart Lord

**SONG 3:** Jesus Loves me



## BIBLE STORY

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story (see script on page 4). Use the flipbook provided.



## WORSHIP RESPONSE

Help kids reflect on the lesson by providing a quiet space for the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts as they think about how it applies to them personally.

**Supplies:** none

God is in control! That means even when things feel scary or hard, God is with us. Let's all lay down and close our eyes. With your eyes closed, pretend there's a big storm outside and you can hear rain and thunder. With your eyes closed, picture Jesus laying there right next to you! Give yourself a big hug to remind yourself that God is in control and God is with you. **Have kids open their eyes and talk about how it felt for a few moments.**



## BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.

*May you have peace knowing that God is in control! He loves you and is with you!*

# BIBLE STORY

**Hamilton's Prop:** tiny umbrella



## INTRODUCTION - HAMILTON

Use the Hamilton puppet to introduce the lesson topic and get the kids engaged.



**SAY:**

Hi Hamilton! **Hamilton is holding a tiny umbrella over his head.** What is wrong, Hamilton? **Hamilton whispers in your ear.** You heard there was a big storm coming this week and you're a little nervous for it? **Hamilton nods.** Storms can feel scary, but maybe our Bible story today will help you feel a little less scared. It's about a big storm that happened in the Bible. Do you want to listen with us? **Hamilton nods.** Friends, if you're ready to hear our Bible story, can you wiggle your ears with me? **Wiggle ears together.** Let's dive in!



## BIBLE STORY

Use the Hamilton puppet to help read the Bible story. Use the story cards in your curriculum folder as you read the story.



**SAY:**

One day, after spending time teaching and healing lots of people, Jesus and His special followers got on a boat. Jesus was very tired after a long day! **Can you all show me your sleepy faces?** As Jesus was on the boat, He fell asleep right away! **Let's all close our eyes and pretend to sleep.** But guess what happened next? A big storm came! **Let's all pretend to be the storm - have kids make rain, wind and crashing waves sounds.**

If you heard that crazy storm, would you wake up? **Let kids respond.** I know I sure would! But Jesus stayed asleep! Finally, Jesus' disciples, the special followers, went and woke Jesus up. They were scared. **Show me your scared face.** They wanted Jesus to help save them.

Jesus woke up, looked around and told the wind and the waves, "STOP!" Do you think the wind and waves just stopped? **Let kids respond.** Yes! It became completely calm! **Let's make our storm noises again and when I say stop, we will listen and stop just like the storm did!**

Jesus' disciples were amazed! The wind and the waves obeyed Jesus! This is because Jesus is in control! Hamilton, Jesus may not stop the big storm from coming this week, but you can trust that God will be with you when it does happen. **Hamilton nods.** God is in control!

6:40-6:55pm  
9:40-9:55am  
11:40-11:55am

# RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



## SAY IT OUT LOUD!

Help the students remember the God Statement for the day by repeating it aloud and doing simple motions to help them remember the phrase.



### SAY:

Today our God statement is **God is in Control!**

Let's say it together in a fun way to help us remember it.

*Say it loudly, softly and in a fun voice. Then do the hand motions.*



### DO:

Use simple hand motions to help kids remember the God Statement as you say it together.



## ACTIVITY- Rock The Boat

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the students can participate in this activity that reinforces the daily lesson.

**Supplies:** None (if you want to be creative, use classroom items to create pretend boats!)



### SAY:

Today we learned that God is in control. When the disciples were scared during the storm, Jesus calmed the wind and waves. Let's pretend we are in a boat during a storm and remember that Jesus is always with us!



### DO:

Invite the kids to sit in pretend boats on the floor. Encourage them to sway side to side and make storm sounds together. When the leader says "Jesus calmed the storm," have everyone stop, pretend the water is calm again and shout "God is in control!"

6:55-7:10pm  
9:55-10:10am  
11:55am-12:10pm

# EAT & PLAY

The goal of this time is to provide a snack, introduce kids to structured classroom games, have free play and to encourage interaction and participation with others.



## SNACK

Check your classroom roster to ensure none of your kids have allergies, then offer each child a snack and water (provided in your classroom).



## GAME IDEAS

While your class can participate in free play for most of the remaining classroom time, please try to lead at least one structured activity with your class.



### DO:

- Play “I Spy” focusing on color, shape, and letter recognition
- Freeze Dance
- Duck, Duck, Goose
- Hot Potato
- Charades
- Odd One Out Game
- Hokey, Pokey
- Popcorn Parachute Game
- Read a book or a story out of picture Bible
- Gather paper and crayons and practice drawing

As parents  
arrive after  
service

# CHECK-OUT

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.



### DO:

Encourage kids to finish their Explore craft or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any upcoming events or announcements while handing their parent the announcement card or flyer.