

Fix Your Eyes On Jesus

Objective: The kids will learn what it means to fix your eyes on Jesus and know the story of Peter walking on water.

Materials: Bible, papers, cardboard, glass, water, ball, marker, circle.

Lesson: Talk to the kids what it means to fix your eyes on something, what to focus on. Like with sports. When shooting a basketball or hitting a baseball. What do you do? You focus on the ball right, focus on the target. Well we need to do that but with our focus on Jesus. You can read Hebrews 12: 1-3. Discuss with the kids what that means. What did Jesus do for us? What sacrifice did he make for us? Why should we focus on Jesus? Then you can go into the story of Peter walking on water. Read Matthew 14:22-33.

Here are some review Questions:

1. **Where was Jesus when the disciples were on the boat going to the other side of the lake?** (Jesus stayed behind to pray)
2. **How did the disciples act when they saw Jesus on the water?** (they were afraid)
3. **What did Peter do?** (he asked Jesus if he could come to Him)
4. **What happened when Peter looked at the waves?** (Peter sank and called out to Jesus)
5. **What did Jesus do when Peter called out to Him?** (He grabbed Peter by the arm and pulled him up, saved him)
6. **What should you do when you have a problem?** (keep looking to Jesus to give you the faith you need, call out to Jesus)

When Peter looked at Jesus, he could walk on water. But when he looked at the waves, he sank. When he cried out to Jesus, Jesus reached out to save Him. When waves or problems come in our lives, we need to keep looking at Jesus instead of the problem. We can do that by praying and reading our Bibles. But if we do mess up, we can call out to Jesus, and He will help us just like He did Peter.

Activity: There are worksheets the kids can do or if you have these things at home you can do these different activity.

Learning Activity #1: Faith Stronger Than Water

Materials: glass, water, cardboard (old breakfast cereal boxes work best)

Pour water into a glass until it is almost full. Place a piece of cardboard, cut to slightly larger than the top of the glass, shiny side down, over the top. (an old breakfast cereal box is an ideal source of suitable cardboard). Hold cardboard in place, and invert glass. Take away your hand from the cardboard. Explain that gravity is still at work trying to make the water fall on the floor, but that the air – which we cannot see – is stronger than gravity and is keeping the cardboard in place. Try this at home first to make sure it works correctly.

Invite the children to show they know the air is there – which they cannot see- and walk under the glass.

Peter could walk on water because his faith in Jesus was stronger than the water. As long as he kept his eyes on Jesus, his faith held him up. When he no longer looked at Jesus, but looked at the waves, his faith failed, and he sank. Children, when you walked under the glass of water, you had faith in the air that was holding the cardboard in place and keeping the water from spilling on you. Just as you had faith in the air to hold the cardboard in place, when you have faith in Jesus, He will help you through the waves or problems you face, because your faith in Him is stronger than any troubles you have.

Learning Activity #2: Keep Your Eyes On The Target

Materials: ball, marker board with a circle drawn

Draw a circle the size of the ball on the marker board. Have each child keep his or her eyes on the circle and throw the ball at it. Then have each child focus on something else in the room and throw the ball again trying to hit the circle.

Children, which time was it easier to hit the circle with the ball? (the first time) Why do you think it was easier the first time? (they had their eyes on the target) It's easier to trust Jesus to help us when we go through storms in life when we keep our eyes on Him.

Jesus Walked on Water Word Search

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be right to left, up and down, or diagonally.

V R L T D R E J I S P P Y N M
Q S K U B I R Z M A Z R P T I
D E N K J U S C W A Z A W S R
W A L K E D O C Y M O Y T T A
W T N S W V E D I K F Q Q S C
J A D N W I N D G P N O O C L
O S V O K X Z C Y A L S Y O E
D U U E C N X R U F A E D D S
L V F X S O S K D H F X S E V
K M A O J K B O A T R M M J A
E U I C E G R C B O A N X F R
I I T P E T E R U A I Z M M P
S N H S K C F G E T D A D B C
C O F T N S H D W E I K I B Q
F R W A T E R B Z G D O U B T

AFRAID
FAITH
WALKED

BOAT
MIRACLES
WATER

DISCIPLES
PETER
WAVES

DOUBT
PRAY
WIND



Jesus Walks on the Water

During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. Matthew 14:25 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
H	V	S	L	F	P	X	Z	A	I	N	W	C	R	D	U	Q	J	M	Y	O	K	G	T	E	B

1. 26-21-9-24 _____
2. 12-10-11-15 _____
3. 12-9-24-25-14 _____
4. 5-9-10-24-1 _____
5. 9-5-14-9-10-15 _____
6. 3-10-11-22 _____
7. 12-9-2-25-3 _____
8. 5-25-9-14 _____
9. 12-9-4-22-10-11-23 _____
10. 4-9-22-25 _____

BOAT	WIND	SINK	WATER	FAITH
LAKE	WALKING	FEAR	AFRAID	WAVES

Peter Walks on the Water

Matthew 14:22-33

Read the Scripture passage.

Peter trusted Jesus and the Lord took care of him.

Use the code to find out what we should do.

20 18 21 19 20 9 14 20 8 5 12 15 18 4

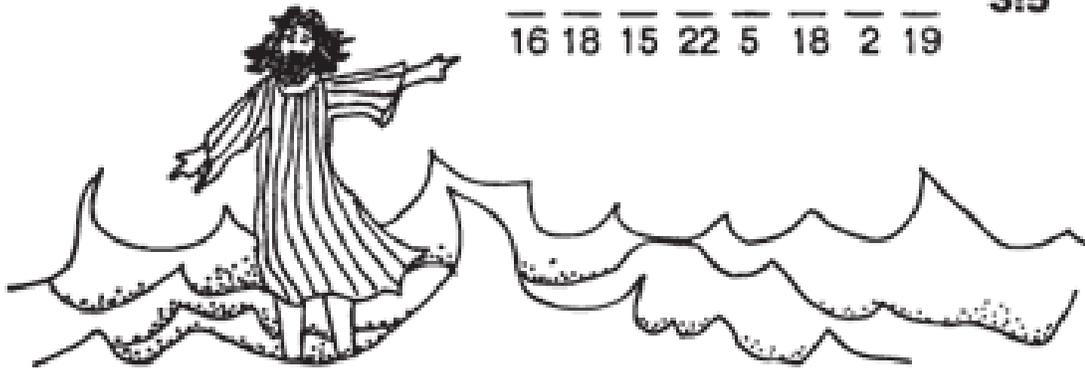
23 9 20 8 1 12 12 20 8 9 14 5

8 5 1 18 20 1 14 4 12 5 1 14

14 15 20 21 14 20 15 20 8 9 14 5

15 23 14 21 14 4 5 18 19 20 1 14 4 9 14 7

16 18 15 22 5 18 2 19 **3:5**



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26