



# THE STORM THAT STOPPED

## LESSON PLAN

2-4  
year-olds

**Session Summary:** God's word tells us that Jesus is God. He made everything and is in charge of everything

### Pray

Let's talk to God before we read the story:

*Dear Lord Jesus, please show us who you are. Amen.*

### Listen\*

(Read the story from *The Storm that Stopped*.)

### Game and Thinking

We are going to pretend to be on a ship at sea. When you hear me say an instruction, you have to do the right action.

#### **When you hear me say...**

Climb the rigging

Scrub the ship

Let's row

Swim away

Quiet! Be still!

#### **You do this...**

Demonstrate a climbing action

Demonstrate a scrubbing action

Demonstrate a rowing action

Demonstrate swimming action

Freeze and be silent

Can you tell me the answers to these questions...

*Who stopped the storm by saying "Quiet! Be still!"?*

*Who showed that he is God by stopping the storm?*

### Listen to God from the Bible

This is Psalm 89, verses 8 and 9:

LORD God of heaven's armies, who is like you?

LORD, you are powerful and completely to be trusted.

You rule the mighty sea.

You calm the stormy waves. (ICB)

### Pray

Let's talk to God again now:

*Lord Jesus, you are the powerful, loving God who made everything. Wow! Thank you for stopping the storm. Amen.*

### Activity Idea

In a paddling pool/water bowl or at bath-time, re-enact the story with any plastic vessel and some toy figures. Have fun splashing and making waves. Try calming the "storm" with just your words. As you play, ask your children, "Who stopped the wind and waves just by speaking? Who showed that he is God by stopping the storm?"

See ideas at the end of the session below for things to do "In the Week".



\* *The Storm That Stopped* by Alison Mitchell and Catalina Echeverri is available from Christian retailers and at [www.thegoodbook.com](http://www.thegoodbook.com) (US) or [www.thegoodbook.co.uk](http://www.thegoodbook.co.uk) (UK).

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## CRAFT/ACTIVITY IDEAS

**Using minimal resources...** play with water! Make a boat from any plastic container and fill it with toy disciples and Jesus. Have fun recreating a “storm”.

**Using things you may have around...**

- you’ll need a paper/card and a split pin: <https://craftingthewordofgod.com/2013/10/29/jesus-calms-the-storm/> (Draw the circle and ship if you can’t print the templates.)
- you’ll need a plastic container/piece of foam, blu-tack, wooden skewer, card/paper: make a boat by inserting a skewer into the foam or sticking it into some blu-tack in a plastic container. Cut out a sail to attach to the ‘mast’, and write on it, “Jesus could calm the storm because he is God” or your memory verse (see below) or what most struck your family from the session.
- you’ll need 2 oranges, a pack of jelly/jello, 8 cocktail sticks, 8 paper triangles. See instructions on page 5 (taken from *Bake Through the Bible*, The Good Book Company, 2013).

**More of a project:** Make a storm in a bottle using water, blue food colouring, cooking oil and a boat cut out of plastic. Instructions abound on the internet—take your pick!

**If you have a printer:** enjoy the art and activity sheets from *The Storm That Stopped Art and Activity Book* on the next two pages.

## IN THE WEEK

**Revisit the story** through water play or at bath-time. Make big waves and try stopping them with just your voice. Who stopped the wind and waves just by speaking? What does that tell us about who he is?

**Learn a memory verse.** As a family, choose one of the verses below to learn over the course of the week. You could write up the memory verse somewhere and cover words with post-it notes or write out the initial letters only, or try setting it to a familiar tune for instance as you learn it...

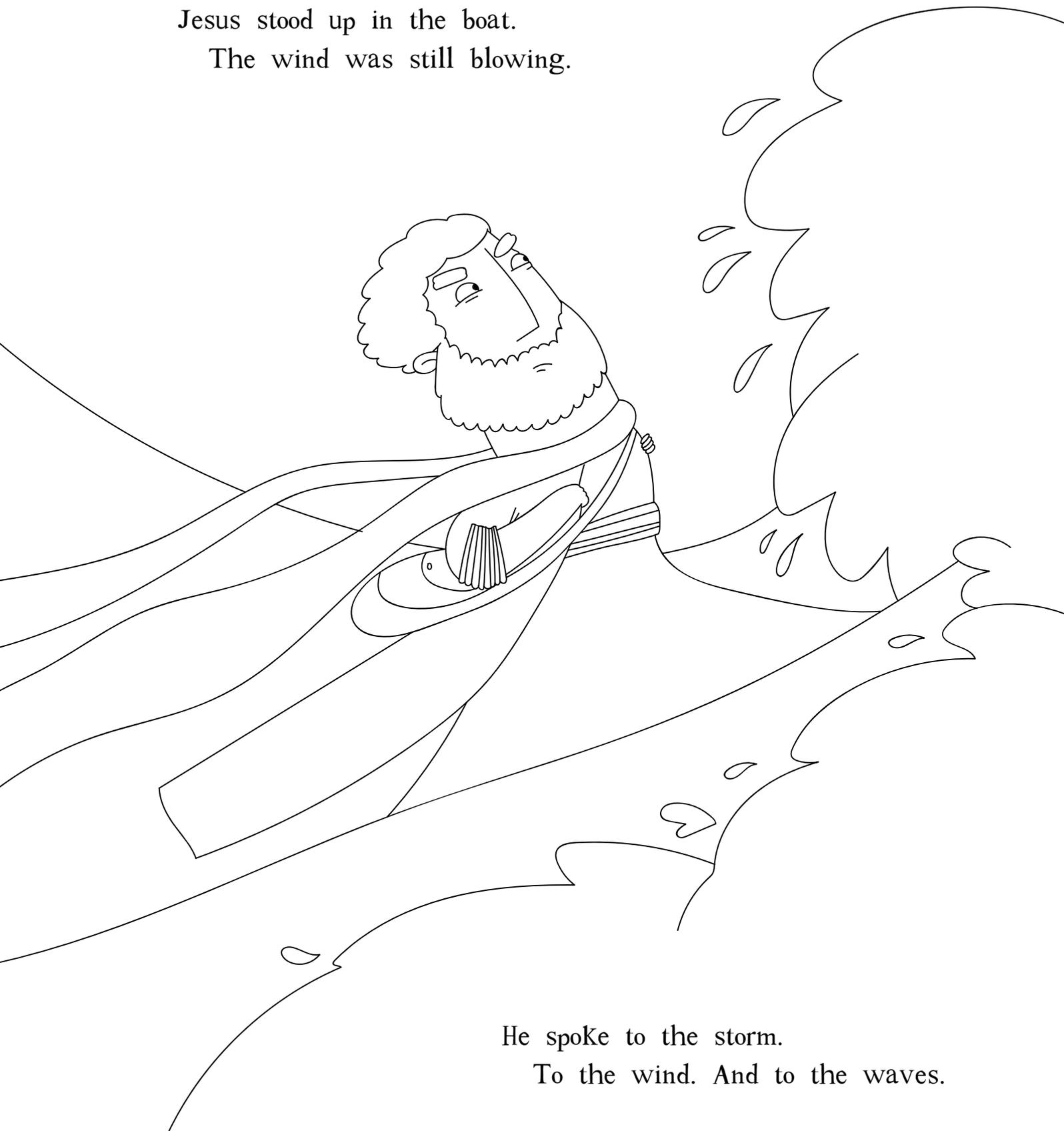
- For younger children:  
“He said, ‘Quiet! Be still!’ Then the wind stopped, and the lake became calm.” (Mark 4 v 39)
- For older children  
“The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created...” (Colossians 1 v 15-16, NIV)

**Enjoy singing and dancing** along to the song “Are you serving Cap’n Jesus?” (Colin Buchanan, *King of the Jungle*). You could play musical statues, incorporating the instruction, “Quiet! Be still!”

Other songs about Jesus’ identity include: “Who is this man?” from *The King, the Snake and the Promise*; “Jesus is the King” from *Meet the King*



Jesus stood up in the boat.  
The wind was still blowing.



He spoke to the storm.  
To the wind. And to the waves.



Taken from *The Storm That Stopped Art and Activity Book*, available from Christian retailers and at [www.thegoodbook.com](http://www.thegoodbook.com) (US) or [www.thegoodbook.co.uk](http://www.thegoodbook.co.uk) (UK).

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SPLASH!

SPLOOSH!

QUIET!

BE STILL!

SPLASH!

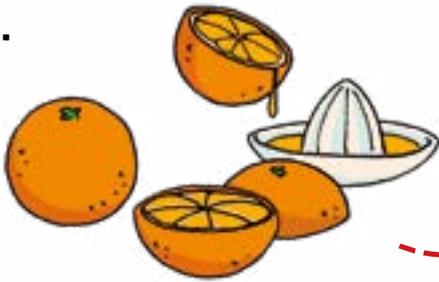
CRASH!

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1.



Carefully squeeze the juice from each orange half, then set aside the juice to drink later.

2.



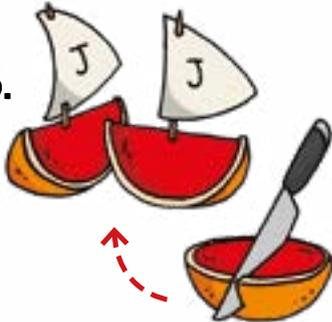
Use a spoon to scrape out as much flesh as you can. Place each orange half, open side up, onto a plate.

3.



Make up the jelly/jello according to the instructions on the packet.

6.



**!** Cut the orange halves into half again, once the jelly/jello is completely set, to make eight boats. Push the sails into the boats.

5.



Write a "J" for Jesus on each triangle and carefully push a cocktail stick through the paper to make the sails.

4.



Pour it into the orange halves and put the plate into the fridge. Leave it to set for 6 hours.

### While you cook...

- What happened to the weather when Jesus and his friends were in the boat?
- How did Jesus' friends feel?
- What did Jesus say to the wind and the waves?
- What happened when he said that?
- Only God has power over the wind and the waves! So what do we learn about who Jesus is?

### While you eat...

Use your boats to explain what Jesus did and why he could do it.



# TALES THAT TELL THE TRUTH LESSONS INTRODUCTION



You can use these suggested lesson plans to give you a quick-to-prepare way of engaging with a story in the *Tales That Tell the Truth* Bible storybook series, and with the Scripture that underpins it, helping children see what it means for them.

Each session includes:

- A “Session Summary” to help the adult leading the session know where it’s going.
- A suggested session for pre-school age children (3-4 years).
- A differentiated lesson plan for children from 5-11, with different activities signalled as being for “Younger” (approximately 5-7 year-old) and “Older” (approximately 8-11 year-old) children. In some instances, there are also possible further questions/activities you can use for older children in a family.

Use what you judge appropriate for your children’s experience, understanding and concentration. (You may find the “younger” questions more helpful for an older child who is unfamiliar with the Bible or the gospel message.) But try to include something from the “Let’s listen to God”, “Let’s think” and “Let’s pray together” sections, as well as the story-telling. Feel free to cover the material in more than one sitting!

Each lesson is put together so that it can be read out directly as it is written, with any explanatory notes for adults included in brackets. It is as light on necessary materials as possible but includes many of the elements your children might be used to from Sunday church:

- An introductory activity that establishes a key concept the children will need to help understand the passage.
- Activities to help them engage as they listen to or read the Bible story.
- A story-telling segment that seeks to tell the Bible story in a memorable and visually engaging way. (This involves using part of a book from the *Tales That Tell The Truth* series. In some of the sessions, the book is deliberately read in two parts so that you can look at the Bible before reinforcing the message using the remaining pages of the book.)
- An opportunity to think about a passage of Scripture and what it means using appropriate questions.
- An activity or discussion that encourages the children to understand what the passage means for us today.
- Encouragement to children to pray in light of what they’ve learnt about Jesus in the lesson.
- Games that reinforce the learning, but that also provide a concentration break and a chance to move around!
- Craft activities, ranging from those requiring minimal resources to more complicated projects.

Each session ends with specific suggestions for ways you can revisit what you have been thinking about over the course of the week. Here are some other ideas for ways to recap what you have learnt:

- Show your craft proudly over Zoom/Skype/Facetime etc...to a family member or friend!
- Replay the game. Can your children remember what it reminds us about Jesus?
- Encourage children to have a go at re-teaching the lesson to their dolls/playmobil/Sylvanian families.
- Read the storybook at bedtime.

As far as is currently allowed, why not try to get together with another family with children of a similar age? You can share around the “leading” and enjoy precious time together!

We pray that these resources will give families and churches a way of engaging their children with Scripture at a time when normal church family life has been disrupted and grow all of us in love for our powerful, loving, saving Lord!