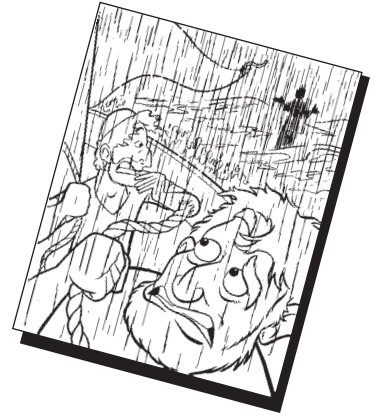




Jesus Walks On Water

Matthew 14:22–34



LESSON GOAL

Students will trust Jesus, the Son of God.

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- Tell the major events of the day Jesus walked on the water.
- Describe Peter's coming to Jesus on the water.
- Analyze why Jesus' disciples worshiped Him.
- List the miracles from today's lesson.

KEY VERSE

"Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, 'Truly You are the Son of God.'"
—Matthew 14:33

APPLICATION

- Trust that Jesus is able to provide salvation and sanctification to all who believe.
- Trust Jesus enough to serve and obey Him.
- Set aside time to pray to the Lord.
- Keep your focus on Jesus.

NEXT WEEK

Jesus Defines Discipleship
Matthew 16:13–17, 21–27

Symbol Key



Craft



Memory Verse



Object Lesson



Game



Visual Aid



Activity



Q & A



Work Sheet



2 Grade Level

PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

“Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul... you shall teach them to your children.” —Deuteronomy 11:18–19

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God’s Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here that will aid you in understanding the Scripture.

Bible Background

Introduction

After the disciples had come back from proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and performing miracles across Israel, they were eager to tell Jesus about “all things, both what they had done and what they had taught” (Mark 6:30). The disciples’ time of sharing with Jesus was cut short by the formation of a massive crowd who had gathered around Jesus because of all the miracles He did (John 6:2). Although the disciples were full of messages and miracles, Jesus used the crowd’s need of food to draw the disciples’ attention where it belonged—toward Himself! Jesus knew what He was going to do but He chose to test the disciples by challenging them to find food for the people (John 6:5–6; Matt. 14:16). Sadly, the disciples did not look to the Creator but to their deficient funds and the massive crowd. How shocked they must have been when Jesus provided the crowds with more than enough food! He even provided twelve baskets of leftovers for His beloved disciples.

Although Jesus’ miracle should have challenged the disciples to greater faith, the Gospel of Mark reveals that the disciples “had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened” (Mark 6:52). Despite Jesus’ amazing miracle, they refused to reevaluate their understanding of Jesus in the light of His power over creation. They had grown accustomed to Jesus’ miracles and were content with their perception of Him. The disciples did not yet know Jesus as He was. As evening turned into night, Jesus continued to challenge His disciples’ faith. By the next morning, the disciples would be so amazed by what they saw that night that they would confess, “Truly You are the Son of God” (Matt. 14:33).

The Disciples’ Departure (Matt. 14:22–24)

Following Jesus’ miraculous feeding, the crowds were ready to make Jesus king by force (John 6:15). Jesus knew that the crowds only wanted more food and were not willing to repent and place their faith in Him. Jesus quickly diffused the situation. He commanded His disciples to leave by boat and go to the western side of the Sea of Galilee (Matt. 14:22). He also sent away the multitudes (14:23). (The crowds would look for Jesus the next day in hopes of finding another free meal [John 6:22–26].)

After sending away the multitude, Jesus “went up the mountain by Himself to pray” (Matt. 14:23). The Bible does not record what Jesus prayed for. Besides enjoying the presence of His Father, Jesus may have prayed for wisdom in dealing with both the crowds and His disciples. Jesus surely also submitted His will to the Father’s. During Jesus’ 40 days of temptation, Satan had offered Jesus the kingdoms of the world (Matt. 4:8) and now the multitudes desired to make Him king. Neither were in accordance with God’s plan. Jesus may have also been submitting His

upcoming miracles on the Sea of Galilee to the Father. Unlike the miracle Satan challenged him to perform, the miracles Jesus would do were not for the purpose of exalting Himself (Matt. 4:5–6).

While Jesus was praying, the disciples were finding it impossible to cross the Sea of Galilee. The disciples had probably intended to follow the shore towards Capernaum but a strong wind had blown the boat off course (Matt. 14:24; Mark 6:47; John 6:18). Despite the rowing of experienced fishermen, the boat had been forced “three or four miles” south toward the center of the Sea of Galilee (John 6:19). The disciples, battling fiercely to get to shore, had forgotten about their Master, but He had not forgotten about them.

The Disciples’ Doubting (Matt. 14:25–31)

The Gospel of Mark reveals how Jesus saw His disciples from the mountain: “Now when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea; and He was alone on the land. Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them” (Mark 6:47–48). The majestic Messiah turned His supernatural gaze toward the disciples struggling at sea. During the fourth watch (between 3 and 6 a.m.), “Jesus went to them, walking on the sea” (Matt. 14:25). The laws of gravity were not laws to the Son of God who holds all things together.

Although the disciples had seen Jesus feed the multitude less than twelve hours before, they were terrified to see a man moving toward them across the surface of the water. Their limited faith did not have room for a man who could walk on water. The only thing they could relate it to was stories about ghosts. The weary men could do nothing but cry “out for fear” (Matt. 14:26). Jesus did not reprimand the disciples for their fear and lack of faith. Instead, Jesus encouraged them by saying, “Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid” (Matt. 14:27). By pointing to Himself, Jesus calmed the disciples’ fears.

Perhaps of all the disciples, Peter was the quickest to embrace the reality of what he saw. The man on the waves was the same man whom he had left everything to follow. In one day, Peter had seen Jesus heal many, feed a multitude, and now walk on water. Only a few minutes prior, Peter had been terrified, but now his faith had grown. Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water” (Matt. 14:28). Peter had no doubt that he really was speaking to Jesus. Peter based his request to walk on the water on the fact that he was in the presence of his Lord. When Jesus commanded him to come, Peter obeyed and walked on the water to go to Jesus (14:29). His faith in Jesus translated into action.

Even though Peter exercised faith in coming to Jesus, his faith was still weak. Before reaching Jesus, Peter took his eyes off Jesus and focused on the storm surrounding him. When Peter “saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid” (Matt. 14:30). Peter had been a fisherman and knew how dangerous storms on the Sea of Galilee could be. He had already spent hours that night battling the fierce winds. Perhaps the fierce wind pushed him toward the water and the waves drenched his clothes. Suddenly the reality that he was standing on the sea in the middle of a storm hit Peter and he panicked. As his faith in the Messiah dissipated, so did his safety. Peter began to sink. In desperation, he called out the only thing he could: “Lord, save me!”

Jesus first rescued and then reprimanded the drowning Peter. To rescue Peter, Jesus “stretched out His hand and caught him” (Matt. 14:31). Jesus could have rescued Peter with only a word, but He chose mercifully to stretch out His strong carpenter hands to strengthen the panicking Peter. While Jesus’ grip was encouraging, His words revealed that Peter’s faith still needed to grow. He identified Peter as one of “little faith” and asked Peter why he doubted. Peter’s unbelief was irrational. In

addition to the miracles he had seen that day, Peter had already seen Jesus calm a previous Galilean storm. Instead of dwelling on the truth of what he knew, Peter focused on himself and self-preservation. Ultimately, his unwillingness to abandon himself to Jesus' care nearly cost him his life.

The Disciples' Devotion (Matt. 14:32–34)

As soon as Jesus and Peter entered the boat, "the wind ceased" (Matt. 14:32). The disciples responded to these miracles by worshiping Jesus. They said to Him, "Truly You are the Son of God" (14:33). Their faith had grown in response to what they had seen Jesus do. While before "they had not understood about the loaves, because their heart was hardened" (Mark 6:52), now the disciples were "amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled" (Mark 6:51). Jesus' walking on the water snapped them out of their apathy. They were forced to question who Jesus was and realized that He was the Son of God. Yet even after seeing Jesus walk on the water, Peter was still subject to doubt. The disciples were learning to grow in faith as they embraced the Messiah, the Son of God. John records one more miracle that occurred in the early morning: "Immediately the boat was at the land where they were going" (John 6:21). The boat with its passengers was miraculously transported to Gennesaret (Matt. 14:34).

Conclusion

The author of Hebrews states that "without faith it is impossible to please Him" (Heb. 11:6). Jesus graciously cultivated the disciples' faith in Himself so that it would be possible for them to please the Father. They needed to respond to Jesus' miracles by trusting in Him and worshiping Him as the Son of God. Believers today must cultivate their faith in Jesus. He alone sustains in the midst of trials and enables sanctification. Believers must pursue Christ with a singular focus and trust Him as the authority over their lives. Those who have not come to faith in Christ must trust Him for their redemption and submit to Him in repentance.

POINT TO THE TRUTH

*"Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth."
—Psalm 78:1*

This section includes questions to review last week's lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week's lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



Review Questions

What were Jesus and the disciples doing in the beginning of this story?
Jesus and the disciples were looking for a quiet place to take a break.

What did they find when they came to the shore?
They found a multitude of people who had followed them.

What did Jesus do for the people?
Jesus healed the sick.

What did the disciples say when it was getting late?
They said that Jesus should send away the people to find food.

How much food did they have?
All they could find were five loaves of bread and two fish.

What did Jesus do with the loaves and fish?
Jesus thanked God for the food and gave it to the people. When they were done they were all full and there were 12 baskets of leftovers.



Small Pan of Water

Using a small pan of water (pie pan, shallow bowl) demonstrate some features of water from the lesson, such as wind on the water (blowing, using a fan, blowing through a straw), a boat race across the pan, or things that float and sink.



Large Pan of Water

Using a large pan of water (plastic Tupperware box, plastic storage box, children's pool), have a teacher or volunteer to try to walk across the water. Will they float or sink? Variation: Command, a leader to walk on the water. Of course, they cannot because they trusted a man with no power. However, in the lesson, Peter trusted Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who gave him a clear command to walk on the water, and he did. Now, if Peter could trust Jesus Christ who had power over the elements, who are you going to trust for your eternal life, salvation?



Will It Float?

Bring into class something like a tank, pitcher, etc. of water where the students can observe the water and the objects inside. The object of this activity is to get the students thinking about what floats and what sinks. Bring in some objects (that will not break the container) such as a piece of wood, a doll, a coin, etc. Begin this game by asking the students if they think different objects will sink or float. Put the objects into the water and let them watch it float at the top or sink to the bottom. Ask the students what would happen if a person were to get into the tank. Would

they float or sink? Some may say float and others say sink. Would a person be able to stand on top of the water? The students should say that people can not stand on top of the water. Explain that in today's lesson someone will stand right on top of the ocean. The disciples were very nervous but then they realized who it was. Let's listen to today's lesson and find out who was walking on the water.



Out On The Water

Introduce today's setting by asking the students how many of them have been out on a boat in the ocean or on a lake. Possibly some of them have even tried to water ski. Discuss some of the things that people do out on the water. Now ask the students if any of them have ever walked out of the boat onto the water. In today's lesson the disciples will see a figure out on the water. They will think it is a ghost and be afraid. Let's find out what happens next.



Trust

Ask the students if they can explain what the word trust/faith means. Does it mean to be very afraid and try something carefully? When you came into the classroom this morning you were asked to sit down in a chair. When you were asked to sit did you check that the chair had all its pieces or that it was not broken underneath? No, you just came over and sat down. You had faith that the chair would hold you up and not let you fall on the floor. Next ask the students how someone can be saved. There will probably be some that talk about going to church or being good. Ask the students if that is trust. If trust is believing that something will protect you it is not faith if someone tries to get to heaven by their own work.



Miraculous Timeline

Materials: nine sheets of 8 1/2 x 11" cardstock, black marker, masking tape, crayons
Before Class: Write the following phrases on the bottom of separate sheets of cardstock with a black marker:

Jesus' disciples got into a boat

Jesus sent away the crowd

Jesus went up on the mountain alone to pray

The disciples were in a storm while in the boat

Jesus walked on water to the boat

Peter walked on water to Jesus

Peter began to sink

The storm ceased

The disciples worshiped Christ

Directions: As students enter the classroom, direct them to begin working in nine small groups to color a picture on the cardstock you prepared. The students should read the caption at the bottom of the paper, and draw a picture that illustrates the description. After each small group has finished their drawing, have one volunteer from each group hold up the illustration for the class to see while reading the caption. Ask the class which drawing they believe should go first in the sequence. Tape this drawing on the left side of a wall that is visible to the entire class. Continue taping the papers in the order the class gives. During the lesson, point out which papers were placed in proper order and which papers should be moved. Rearrange the order until the sequence is correct, according to the passage.

PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

“Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.” —Psalm 78:4

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included that you can use to proclaim your worship to God. Use the lesson questions to check the students’ understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use alongside the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done right from the Bible.

Bible Lesson

Introduction

Wow, what a miracle Jesus did during last week’s lesson. That He could feed five thousand men from only five loaves of bread and two fish truly showed Jesus’ power. At this point the disciples’ faith in Christ must have been amazing. They had witnessed Jesus do so many incredible things that would have otherwise been impossible if He was not the Son of God. Yet in today’s lesson the disciples display the exact opposite of trust, and that is doubt. Despite having seen the great power of their leader, the disciples prove to have little faith. Today Jesus walks on water, and the disciples show that they are still men of little faith.



Lead-Off Questions (LOQs)

LOQ: What did Jesus do after all of the five thousand men had eaten and were full?

Answer: Jesus knew that the five thousand men were going to respond incorrectly to the miracle that they had just witnessed by trying to make Him King (John 6:15–26). Since Jesus knew that now was not His time to be lifted up as king of the people, Jesus quickly began dismissing the crowd. In order to help in this effort, Jesus commanded His disciples to leave by boat and cross the Sea of Galilee.

LOQ: What did Jesus go to do as the disciples were rowing across the Sea of Galilee?

Answer: Matthew records that after the crowds had left that Jesus went up on a mountain by Himself to pray. The Bible does not record what Jesus prayed for, but that He went up on a mountain to be alone with His Father is important in understanding who Jesus is. Even though He is the Son of God, Jesus still lived as a man in a very sinful world. Because He was in the flesh, Jesus grew tired and weary and was often tempted just as every man is (as was seen in previous lessons—Matthew 4:1–11). Because of this, Jesus knew how important it was to continue to submit Himself to His Father’s will. Jesus’ sole desire was to please His Father by fulfilling fully that which He had sent Him on earth to do. In order to do this, Jesus knew the importance of relying on the strength of His heavenly Father.

LOQ: What had happened to the disciples while Jesus was praying?

Answer: While Jesus was on the mountains spending time with the Father, the disciples had run into a little trouble out at sea. The winds began to blow rather

fiercely and the disciples were finding it impossible to cross the Sea of Galilee. Even though they were experienced fishermen, the boat had been blown several miles off course.

LOQ: What did Jesus do after praying?

Answer: Matthew records that between three and six in the morning Jesus began walking on the Sea of Galilee toward His disciples. Even though the disciples had just seen Jesus feed the multitudes less than twelve hours before, they were terrified to see a man moving toward them across the surface of the water. Because of their limited faith in Jesus, the disciples doubted that a man could have the ability to walk on water. Due to their doubt, the disciples feared that a ghost was coming toward the boat.

LOQ: How did Jesus respond to the fear of the disciples?

Answer: Jesus could have easily rebuked the disciples for being fearful. After all, their being afraid proved to Him that they did not trust Him. However instead of rebuking them, Jesus chose to comfort them. In order to do this Jesus encouraged His disciples by saying to them “Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid” (Matt. 14:27). The disciples had no reason to fear because they followed the one who controlled the wind and the sea. That Jesus was now with them should not have resulted in fear but in them rejoicing.

LOQ: What did Peter’s walking out on the water reveal about his faith in Jesus?

Answer: Out of all the disciples, Peter took Jesus’ words to heart the fastest. Peter had no doubt that he was speaking with Jesus and was confident that because he was in the presence of his Lord, he too would be able to walk on water. This faith of Peter was put into action as he stepped out onto the Sea of Galilee to walk to Jesus. But even though Peter exercised faith in coming to Jesus, his faith was still weak. Before reaching Jesus, Peter took his eyes off Him and focused on the storm surrounding him. As Peter quickly went from being a man of faith to a man of fear, Peter began to sink into the Sea of Galilee. Lacking in faith, all Peter could do was fearfully cry to Jesus, “Lord, save me!” (Matt. 14:30).

LOQ: How did Jesus respond to Peter’s fearful request for rescue?

Answer: In hearing Peter’s cry for mercy, Jesus immediately reached out His hand and grasped Peter. After assuring Peter of safety, Jesus’ words revealed that Peter’s faith still needed to grow. He identified Peter as one of “little faith” and asked Peter why he doubted. Peter not fully putting his trust in Jesus had nearly cost him his life. Because he was a follower of the Son of God, Peter had no reason to fear.

LOQ: What occurred after Jesus pulled Peter from among the waves?

Answer: After pulling Peter to safety, Jesus walked Peter back to the boat to join the other disciples. Matthew records that immediately as Jesus and Peter entered the boat the storm ceased and the waves were calm. Jesus had once again proven His power over the physical world by calming the waters of the sea.

LOQ: How did the disciples respond to this display of Jesus’ power?

Answer: Matthew wrote that the disciples responded to these miracles by worshipping Jesus. They said to Him, “Truly You are the Son of God” (v. 33). Their faith had grown in response to what they had seen Jesus do. Before this

experience the disciples did not yet know Jesus as He truly is. Seeing Him walk on the water and calm the storm made them embrace the reality that Jesus was indeed the Son of God. The disciples were learning to grow in faith.

Summary

After feeding the crowd of five thousand, Jesus quickly dismisses all around Him, including His disciples. By commanding them into a boat to cross the Sea of Galilee, Jesus had left Himself to be alone with the Father. Meanwhile the disciples became troubled as the winds of a great storm began to blow them off course. Despite having just seen the miraculous power of their leader, the disciples grew fearful as they found it impossible to struggle against the massive storm. It was now time for Jesus to go back to His troubled disciples. The doubts and anxiety of the disciples really ensued as they saw what appeared to be a man walking out to them on the water. At such a sight the disciples became very afraid, thinking that what they were seeing was nothing more than a ghost. Jesus was quick to calm their fears by assuring them that it was Him that was walking out to them. In believing it to be truly Jesus, Peter began to walk out unto the water in faith. Such didn't last long as Peter took his eyes off Jesus and became afraid. Sinking into the water, Jesus heard Peter's cry for help and quickly reached out His hand to save him. Peter, like Jesus' other disciples, had proven to be people of little faith. After witnessing such an amazing event, all the disciples could do was to worship Jesus right there in the boat. They had finally realized that Jesus was indeed the Messiah, God's only Son.

Application

This record of Jesus walking on the water is a perfect example of how believers today are to respond to Jesus the Messiah. Like the disciples, Christians have no reason to fear or live in doubt. They serve a mighty Savior who is capable of doing all things through the power of God the Father. The only way one is to respond to Jesus' miracles is by trusting in Him and worshiping as the Son of God. Believers today must continue to grow in their faith in Jesus Christ and those who have not come to faith in Him must trust Him for salvation from sin. He alone who has the power to walk on water is the one who can forgive and save.

Presentation Ideas



A Beka Book® Flash-A-Cards®

Use appropriate A Beka Book® Flash-A-Cards® with the lesson.



Betty Lukens Flannel Graph

Use appropriate flannel graph pieces with the lesson.



Maps and Pictures

Use a map to bring this lesson to life. Show the students a map where the disciples traveled to and from on the boat. Explain where Jesus may have gone to pray and explain what the overall region was like. Another resource that may be helpful for illustrating this lesson to the students is pictures of the region. These pictures can be found on the internet, computer resources, pictorial encyclopedias, etc.



Time

Much time passes during the events in the lesson. Use a clock with movable hands to show the passing of time (maybe 6-9 hours). Or, start with the sun up in the sky, have it travel west and down, and bring out a starry moonlit sky. This can be done with a felt background, or paper sun and moon hanging from a stick or string from the ceiling. The teacher could also turn out the lights for the last part of the story that happens at night.

Praise and Worship

He Is Lord

King of Kings

Fairest Lord Jesus

I Love You Lord

PRACTICE THE TRUTH

“That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments.” —Psalm 78:7

Choose ideas from this section that review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



“Jesus Stretches out a Hand”

Materials: Photocopy of craft page, brad, waves, 2 arms, and glue

Jesus preformed an amazing miracle when He walked on the water. Because He is God He had the authority to allow Peter to walk out on the water to Him. As Peter walked out to Jesus he was distracted by the wind and the waves and sank into the water. Have the students create the scene using the given materials.

Directions: Give the students the base sheet and ask them to decorate and color the page. They may then take Peter’s arm and glue it reaching from the bottom left corner toward the top right. Jesus’ arm can then be attached to the top right corner with a brad. Finally, the students may glue or staple a wave across the bottom front of the page.



“Peter’s Faith Is Tested”

Materials: Peter, Jesus, disciples, boat (1/4 circle), waves and copies of “Peter’s Faith is Tested” on cardstock

Directions: Precut a slit on cardstock. Give the above materials to the students and ask them to color the background and individuals. The students should glue Jesus to the right side of the page. Attach Peter to a craft stick and then insert him through the slit. The student can move Peter across the water and have him sink. Attach the waves to the bottom of the page to cover the slit.



“Jesus walks on water”

Use this worksheet to reinforce the key truths of today’s lesson. The worksheet is located at the back of the lesson.



Small Group Activity: “Faith in Christ’s Power”

Use this worksheet in a small group. Lead the students in discussing the questions and their answers. The worksheet is located at the back of the lesson.

Coloring Pages

Give each child a copy of the coloring pages at the back of the lesson. He or she can color the pages in class or take them home to color.



MEMORY VERSE

“Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, ‘Truly You are the Son of God.’” —*Matthew 14:33*

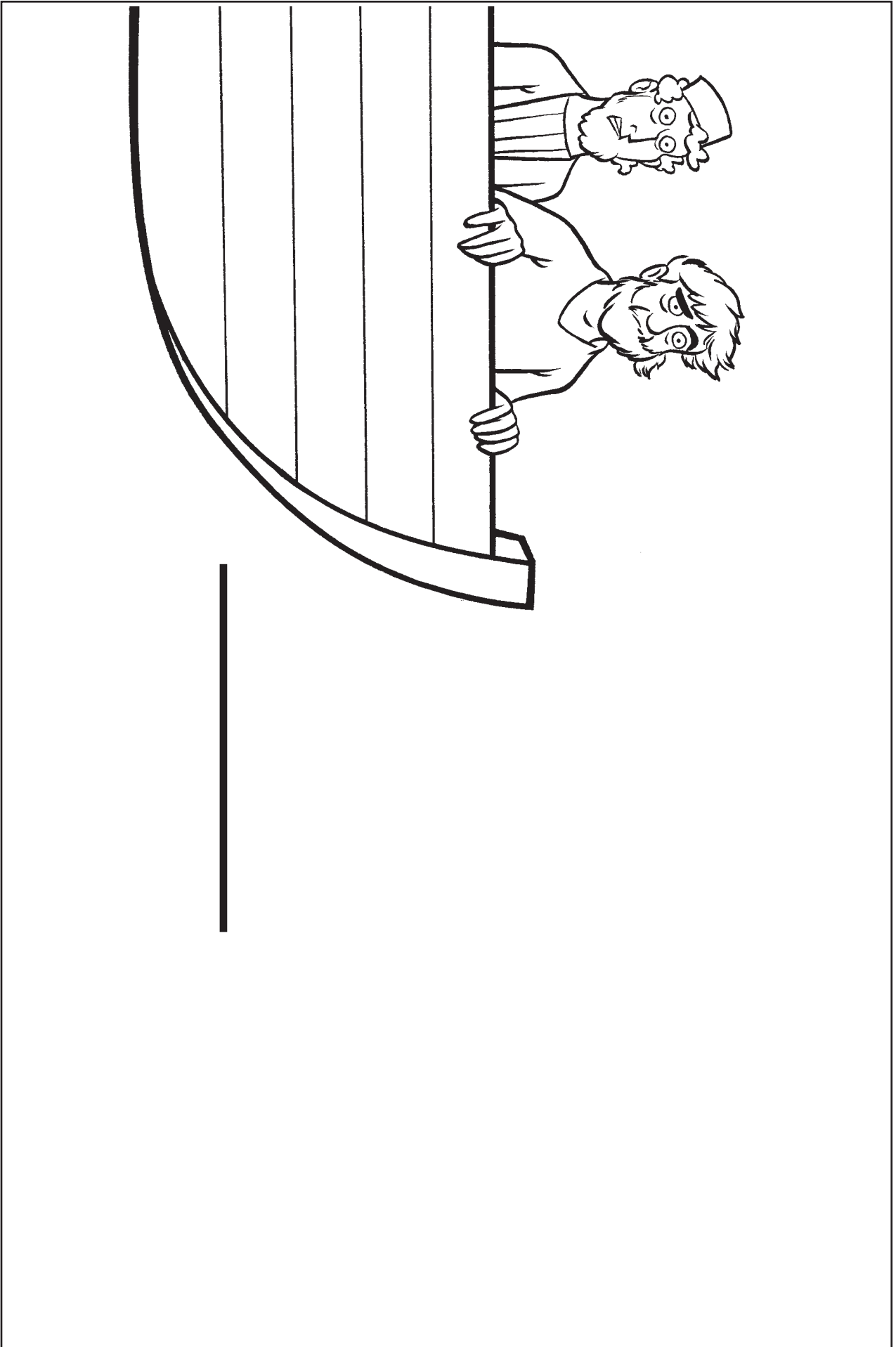
Jesus Stretches Out a Hand



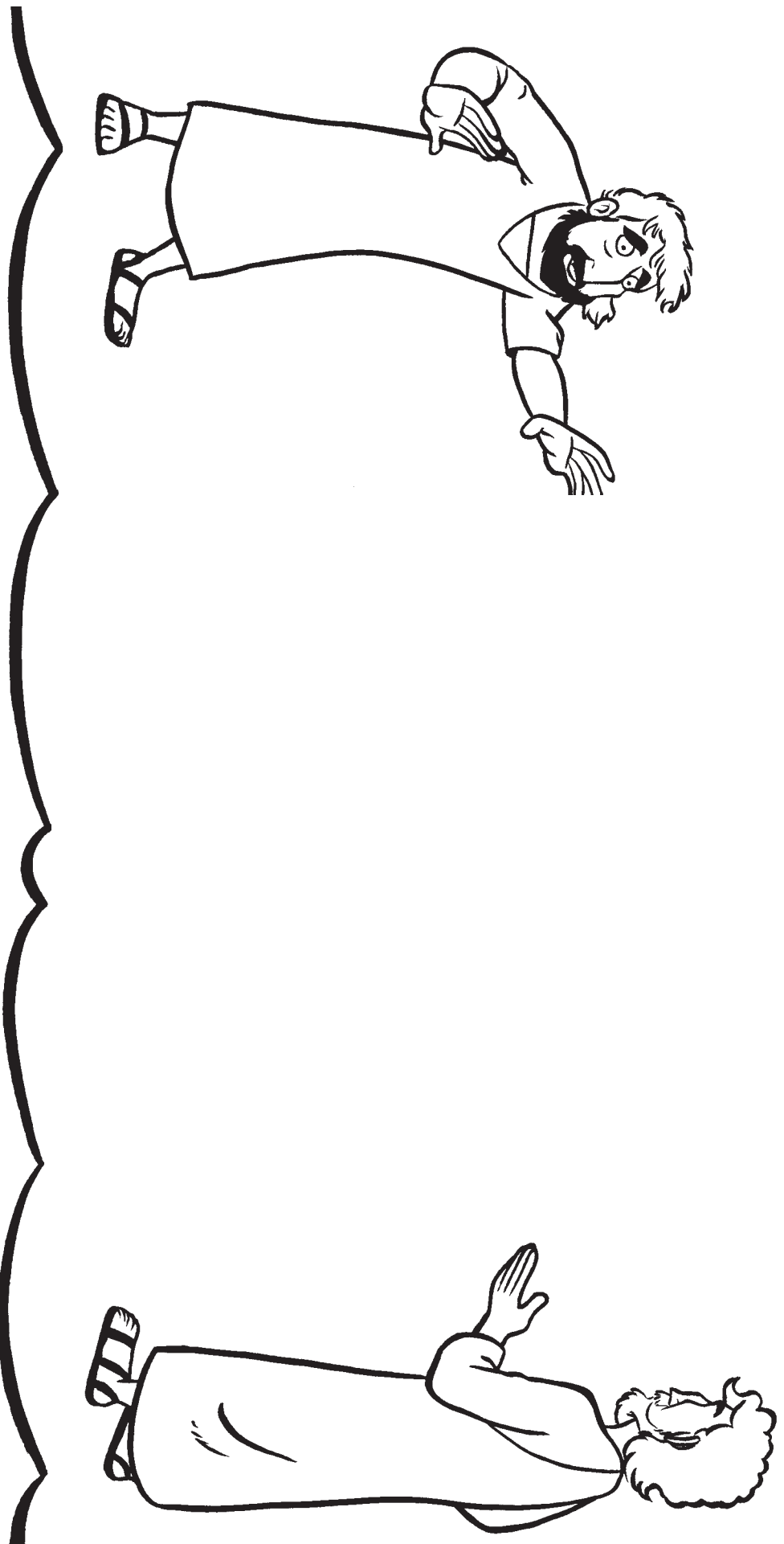
Jesus Stretches Out a Hand

“And when Peter had come out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, ‘Lord, save me!’ And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, ‘O you of little faith, why did you doubt?’”
—Matthew 14:30–31

Peter's Faith Is Tested



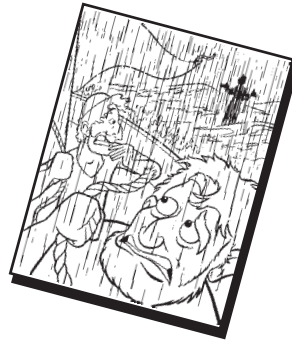
Peter's Faith Is Tested



"And when Peter had come out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, 'Lord, save me!' And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?'"

—Matthew 14:30–31

Jesus walks on water



Matthew 14:22-21

Name _____

1. While the disciples got into the boat, Jesus went on the mountain to _____.
2. True or False: The sea was calm that night. _____
3. How did Jesus go to the disciples? _____
4. When the disciples saw Jesus they were _____ and thought he was a ghost.
5. Why did Peter began to sink when he was walking toward Jesus? _____
 - a. He was too heavy.
 - b. He lacked faith.
 - c. He could not swim.
 - d. He did not have a life jacket.
6. Who saved Peter? _____
7. As soon as Peter and Jesus stepped into the boat, the wind _____.
8. The disciples worshiped Jesus, saying, "Truly You are the _____ of God" (14:33).

Faith in Christ's Power

"Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, 'Truly You are the Son of God.'" —*Matthew 14:33*

Imagine being in the middle of the sea in a little boat that is being tossed by the waves, and then imagine someone walking on the water toward you. If that were really happening to you, would you be afraid?

In today's lesson, when the disciples saw Jesus walking on the water they were afraid. But they did not have to be. Unscramble the words to find out why they did not have to be afraid.

Jesus has power over the **nidw** _____ and **ase** _____.
He is **dGo** _____.

In the space below, write three things from today's lesson that shows Christ has power over the wind and sea:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Unscramble the following word to find out how the disciples should have responded:

HTFIA = _____

Faith in Christ's Power

"Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, 'Truly You are the Son of God.'" —*Matthew 14:33*

Imagine being in the middle of the sea in a little boat that is being tossed by the waves, and then imagine someone walking on the water toward you. If that were really happening to you, would you be afraid?

In today's lesson, when the disciples saw Jesus walking on the water they were afraid. But they did not have to be. Unscramble the words to find out why they did not have to be afraid.

Jesus has power over the **nidw** _____ and **ase** _____.
He is **dGo** _____.

In the space below, write three things from today's lesson that shows Christ has power over the wind and sea:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Unscramble the following word to find out how the disciples should have responded:

HTFIA = _____

In Hebrews 11:6, the author of Hebrews states, "Without faith it is impossible to please Him."

It is highly unlikely that you will be in the same circumstance as the disciples, but it is not unlikely that you will have difficult circumstances. When you do, you don't have to be afraid, you can trust Christ. Just as He stretched His hand out to save Peter from sinking, He is willing to help you.

What are your difficult circumstances?

My difficult circumstance is:

I can trust Christ in this circumstance because:

I believe that Christ will help me because:

When I trust Christ in my difficult time it _____ Him.

PRAYER

Lord, You are powerful and have control over all circumstances. When I am afraid, I will trust You. Please help my faith to grow. Thank You for stretching out Your hand to help me.

In Hebrews 11:6, the author of Hebrews states, "Without faith it is impossible to please Him."

It is highly unlikely that you will be in the same circumstance as the disciples, but it is not unlikely that you will have difficult circumstances. When you do, you don't have to be afraid, you can trust Christ. Just as He stretched His hand out to save Peter from sinking, He is willing to help you.

What are your difficult circumstances?

My difficult circumstance is:

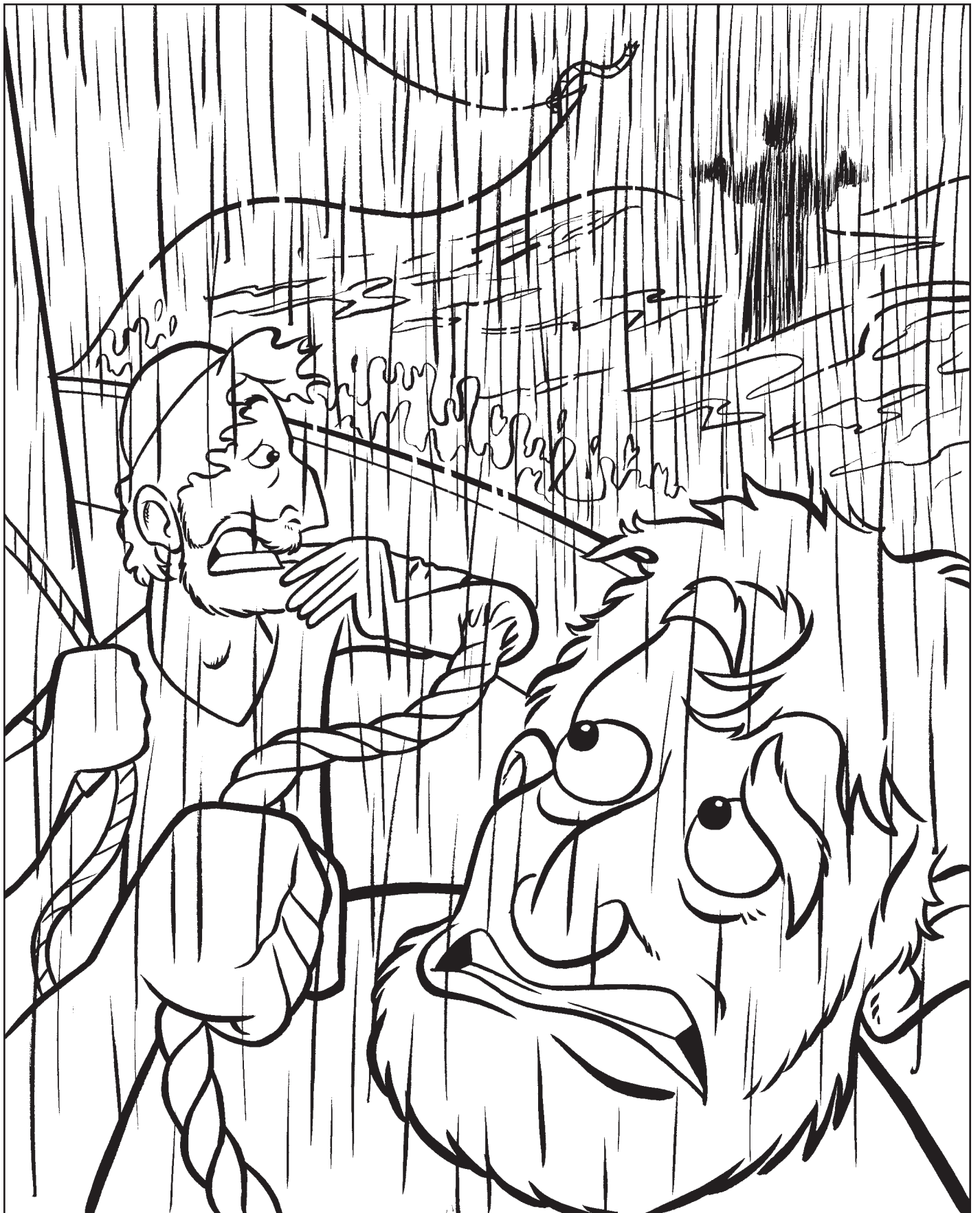
I can trust Christ in this circumstance because:

I believe that Christ will help me because:

When I trust Christ in my difficult time it _____ Him.

PRAYER

Lord, You are powerful and have control over all circumstances. When I am afraid, I will trust You. Please help my faith to grow. Thank You for stretching out Your hand to help me.



“Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, ‘It is a ghost!’ And they cried out for fear.” –Matthew 14:25–26



“...And when Peter had come out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, ‘Lord save me!’” —Matthew 14:29–30

