



TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Peter Walks on Water
Matthew 14:22-33

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Jesus invited people
to follow Him.

KEY QUESTION

What makes Jesus
worth following?

MEMORY VERSE

**"Whoever believes in me . . .
rivers of living water will flow
from within them."**
John 7:38, NIV

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

LARGE GROUP

COME TOGETHER TO RECAP EVERYTHING YOU'VE LEARNED AS YOU PREPARE TO DISMISS KIDS TO THEIR FAMILIES. (5-10 MINUTES)

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS ENTER.
VIDEO: MAKE WAVES THEME LOOP

Host is on stage, welcoming the kids as they enter.

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES HYPE VIDEO
or
VIDEO: MAKE WAVES 30- OR 60-SECOND TIMER

OPENER

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES THEME LOOP

HOST: "Hey there, party people! It's great to see you. It's another perfect day for us to make some waves! When we say 'make waves,' we're not just talking about catching the perfect wave out on the water.

Make a surfing pose.

"You can 'make waves' when you share God's love with others.

SLIDE: MAKE WAVES THEME DEFINITION

"After all, **what you do today can change the world around you!**

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES THEME LOOP

"You see, all of us were made in God's image! Because of that, we get to reflect God and show the world what God is like. On top of that, God gave you your very own unique personality, your skills and talents, and the things you like to do . . . and you can use all of those things make a difference for others. And here's the best part: when you put your trust in Jesus, you have the power of His Spirit working through you! As Jesus said:

SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE

"Whoever believes in me . . . rivers of living water will flow from within them." (John 7:38, NIV)

"Isn't that so cool? When we follow Jesus, we can REALLY make some waves in this world!

"I thought we could kick things off today by trying a few super-fun wave motions together. Yes, friends—let's have a 'Make Waves Dance Party'!



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SLIDE: "MAKE WAVES DANCE PARTY"

AUDIO: "MAKING WAVES" INSTRUMENTAL, ON REPEAT (FULL VOLUME AT FIRST, THEN BRING DOWN AS THE HOST EXPLAINS THE GAME)

Do a few quick swim/wave dance moves.

"This is something we can ALL do. EVERYONE'S invited! Go ahead and stand up on your feet!

Worship Leaders enter, to help the Host demonstrate the different dance moves.

(Reference the Worship Leader) "My friends and I will show you a few wave-style dance moves. We'll all do the moves together, and I'll walk around the room to see how you're doing. I'll pick one person for each move to come up on stage. Then at the end, those people will lead ALL of us as we put all the moves together.

"Sound like fun? Are you ready? Here's our first move: the Surf Sway.

AUDIO: MUSIC VOLUME UP

Make a surfing pose. Rock back and forth, with your arms out to the sides, on the beat. (Worship Leaders should demonstrate the move too.)

Host: Move through the audience and react to the kids as they dance. Find a kid who's really going for it and ask, "Do you want to go up on stage?" If the kid says yes, send him/her up to the stage.

Worship Leaders: Welcome the kids that the Host has chosen as they come up on stage. Line them up across the stage from left to right (from the audience's perspective).

"Nice job, everyone! Next move: the Freestyle Swim.

Do a freestyle swimming motion (alternating arms, over your head), on the beat.

Host: Select another kid, ask if he/she wants to go on stage, then send/him her to the stage.

"Let's see if you can do this next one: the Scuba Nose!

Hold your nose with one hand. Flail with the other hand as you crouch up and down (on the beat). Switch hands back and forth.

Host: Select another kid, ask if he/she wants to go on stage, then send/him her to the stage.

"Next? The Double-Arm Wave!

Wave one arm and then the other, so it looks like a wave traveling back and forth (on the beat). Have some fun with this one; let the kids combine and make longer waves by holding hands and doing the move together.

Host: Select another kid, ask if he/she wants to go on stage, then send/him her to the stage.



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“The last move is my personal favorite: the Water Spout!

With your hands curled inward, curl your arms in front of your torso so that they’re alternating quickly up and down. Move the rest of your body back and forth on the beat.

Host: Select another kid, ask if he/she wants to go on stage, then send/him her to the stage.

“You all are such amazing dancers! Let’s put all the moves together, with our friends up here as our leaders. (Reference the five kids on stage.) And we’ll all dance along. Are you ready? Let’s go!

Host: Go through the five moves in quick succession, calling out each move and focusing on the kid on stage who you chose for each one. You can even repeat the sequence a couple of times, getting faster and faster.

Worship Leaders: Stand on the sides of the stage for this part, so the five kid leaders are the focus. But still do the motions along with them.

When you’re done, thank the kid leaders and dismiss them to their seats.

AUDIO: FADE OUT MUSIC

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES THEME LOOP

“Wow. That was SO much fun! Stay on your feet, because we’re just getting started with our dance moves. Let’s sing and worship God together!”

Host exits—or he/she can go into the audience to participate.



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WORSHIP LEADER: ““We can ‘make waves’ when we share God’s love with the people in our lives. And we don’t have to wait around for a chance to do that. We can be on the lookout every single day for an opportunity to make a difference. We can choose to make a move! Sing this with us.

VIDEO: “MAKE A MOVE” LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

“We’re never alone in this world, because God is always with us. We can run to God and find the help we need. As David wrote in Psalm 18:2: ‘*The Lord is my rock and my place of safety. He is the God who saves me.*’ (NIRV) Remember, **[Basic Truth] we can trust God no matter what.** Let’s sing to God now. Let’s thank God for being so trustworthy—through anything we might face. Here we go!

VIDEO: “I RUN TO YOU” LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

“That’s right! God is always faithful and ALWAYS good. You can have a seat.”

Worship Leaders exit.



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INTRO VIDEO

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES ELEMENTARY INTRO VIDEO, DAY 2

BIBLE STORY (LIVE OR VIDEO)

NOTE: If you choose to tell the Bible story live, use the script below. We have also provided a Bible story video, with the same content, that you can show here in place of the live Bible story script.

OPTIONAL VIDEO: MAKE WAVES ELEMENTARY BIBLE STORY VIDEO, DAY 2 (IF YOU CHOOSE TO USE IT IN PLACE OF THE LIVE BIBLE STORY SCRIPT)

SETTING UP THE STORY

SLIDE: BLANK THEME

Storyteller enters.

STORYTELLER: “Hi, everyone! I think it’s so amazing that God can use us to ‘make waves’ in the world around us. It makes sense, if you think about it. We were made in God’s image. We get to show others what God is like with the way we live.

“There’s one Person who showed us EXACTLY what God is like with the way HE lived each day. Any guesses? *(Pause for response.)* Right! Jesus—God’s Son. Jesus showed love to everyone. He performed amazing miracles and showed people a completely new way to think about God. He made everyone feel like they were important and valuable—because they were!

“Not only that, Jesus invited OTHER people to be part of the work He was doing in the world. Jesus had a group of close friends, the disciples, who traveled with Him and saw all the amazing things He did. Even after Jesus died and came back to life, the disciples would go on to ‘make waves’ by sharing Jesus’ love with others. With the power of God’s Spirit, they truly changed the world!

(Hold up Bible.) “I’ve got an amazing story to share about something that happened with Jesus and His disciples—and I’d love it if you can help me tell it! How does that sound? Can you help me? *(Pause for response.)* Great! First, we’ll need some props.

Host and Worship Leaders bring out the props. They set up the blue tarp(s) in the middle of the room, cueing the kids to make some space if necessary. They set the inflatable boat on top of the tarp(s) and put the oars, life jackets/floaties, and blue streamers inside. They also bring out the step stool and set it by the boat (folded up). Then they exit.

Note: If you have fixed chairs or pews in the middle of the room, you could just act out the story on stage and bring up some kids when you need them to move the tarp(s), streamers, etc.

“While they’re getting set up, let me get one of you to play Peter . . . and also some more of you to play the disciples. Raise your hand if you want to play a part.



Choose one kid to play Peter, and several other kids to play the disciples. (You don't necessarily need to have 12 total, although it would be fun if you can.) The kid playing Peter should be an older boy who you know will be comfortable in front of the audience. Put the "Peter" name sign around his neck so that he'll be easily identifiable.

WIND AND WAVES

STORYTELLER: "Jesus had just done an amazing miracle, where He fed over 5,000 people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. After everyone had eaten, Jesus told the disciples to go ahead of Him in a boat to the other side of the Sea of Galilee.

(To the kid actors) "Okay, disciples. You can go ahead and get in the boat. Make sure you put on your proper flotation devices. Safety first!

Kid actors step into the inflatable boat, on top of the blue tarp(s). Cue them to pick up the oars and put on the life jackets/floaties.

"Jesus sent the crowd away, and then He went up on a mountainside to pray.

Unfold the step stool, then step up on it.

"Later that night . . . when the disciples were a long way from land . . . a strong wind was blowing against their boat. They were being pounded by the waves!

Step down from the stool. Make eye contact with the kids who are sitting around the blue tarp(s). Use your hands to cue them to start waving the edges of the tarp. Hand the blue streamers to some other kids who are close by, and cue them to start waving them.

"Wow. You're really good at making waves. I know I wouldn't want to be on the water on a night like THAT!

(To the kids who are making the waves) "You can bring the waves down for now . . . but just remember, they were still going strong while all of this was happening!

WALKING ON WATER

STORYTELLER: "Just before the sun came up, the disciples saw something on the water.

Slowly start to walk on the tarp(s) toward the boat . . . but don't get closer than about 10 feet away.

"It was Jesus, but they didn't recognize Him at first. He was walking on TOP of the waves, and He was coming right toward them!

Open the Bible to Matthew 14:26 (NirV) and read.

"It's a ghost!" they said.

Nod at the "disciples" to cue them to repeat the line. (You might have to repeat your line first.)



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KIDS (AS DISCIPLES): "It's a ghost!"

STORYTELLER: *And they cried out in fear. (NirV)*

Nod at the "disciples" to cue them to cry out in fear.

KIDS (AS DISCIPLES): "Aaaaahhhh!"

STORYTELLER: "But Jesus called out to them:

Open the Bible to Matthew 14:27 (NirV) and read.

"Be brave! It is I. Don't be afraid." (NirV)

"Then Peter did something very brave. He wanted to be sure that it was really Jesus. (Point to the boy playing Peter.) He said:

Open the Bible to Matthew 14:28 (NirV) and read.

"Lord, is it you? . . . If it is, tell me to come to you on the water." (NirV)

"Jesus simply said, 'Come.' (Matthew 14:29, NirV)

Using your free hand, beckon to "Peter" to come toward you.

"Sure enough, Peter got out of the boat. He started walking on the water toward Jesus!

The boy should step out of the boat and walk across the tarp toward you. (Cue him to do this if necessary.)

THAT SINKING FEELING

STORYTELLER: "This was unbelievable! Peter was actually walking on top of the water. But it didn't last . . . because Peter looked away from Jesus. He looked at the wind instead. And by the way, the wind and waves were still going strong!

Look at the kids around the tarp. Cue them to wave the tarp and the streamers again. Then, using your hands, cue them to "bring it down."

"Peter was scared. He started to sink into the water!

Whisper to the boy playing Peter to get on his knees, so it looks like he's "sinking."

"He yelled out, 'Lord! Save me!' (Matthew 14:30, NirV)

Nod to "Peter" to cue him to repeat the line.



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KID (AS PETER): "Lord! Save me!"

STORYTELLER: "Immediately, Jesus grabbed Peter's hand.

Grab "Peter's" hand.

"Jesus said:

Open the Bible to Matthew 14:31 (NirV) and read.

"Your faith is so small! . . . Why did you doubt me?" (NirV)

"Jesus pulled Peter up from the water, and together, they climbed into the boat.

Pull "Peter" up and get into the boat with him, along with all the other "disciples."

"After Jesus and Peter were in the boat with the other disciples, the wind died down completely.

Cue the kids around the tarp to completely stop the "waves."

"The disciples worshipped Jesus. They said, 'You really are the Son of God!' (Matthew 14:33, NirV)

"Let's give a big hand to our actors, everyone. (To the kid actors) You all did an amazing job!

Collect the props (in the boat), and dismiss the kid actors to their seats.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "It's pretty amazing that Jesus asked Peter and the disciples to be part of what He was doing in the world.

SLIDE: DAY 2 BOTTOM LINE

"Jesus invited people to follow Him.

"And you know what? Jesus is inviting US to follow Him too! That means we get the chance to 'make waves' and show everyone what Jesus is like. We can follow Jesus by living His way and showing His love to others.

"Of course, we might not always get it right. We might feel like we're starting to 'sink,' like Peter did. That's why it's good to remember that Jesus is always there to help us and pull us back up.

"Let's pray and thank God for letting us be part of what He's doing in the world."

SLIDE: BLANK THEME



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PRAY

STORYTELLER: “God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus. Thank You for the way Jesus showed Your love to the world. Thank You for giving us the chance to follow Jesus, just like the disciples did. Please help us to be courageous like Peter, and to put our trust in You. Show us how we can share Your love with the people You’ve put in our lives. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

OUTRO VIDEO

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES ELEMENTARY OUTRO VIDEO, DAY 2

As the video plays, Storyteller, Host, and Worship Leader(s) take the boat, props, tarp(s), and step stool backstage. Storyteller and Host exit. Worship Leader(s) stay on stage to lead the theme song.



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THEME SONG

WORSHIP LEADER: "It's SO cool that we can choose to be part of what God is doing in the world. We can 'make waves' by following Jesus and choosing to live His way. Let's sing our theme song and tell everyone that we're here to share God's love around the world!"

VIDEO: "MAKING WAVES" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"YES! We're making waves! You can have a seat."



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CLOSER

SLIDE: BLANK THEME

Host enters as Worship Leaders exit.

HOST: "It's been a great day so far! Here's what we need to remember:

SLIDE: DAY 2 BOTTOM LINE

"Jesus invited people to follow Him."

"Can you say that with me?"

HOST AND KIDS: "Jesus invited people to follow Him."

HOST: "I don't know about you, but I always feel SO good when I get invited to something. I love it when I get invited to a birthday party, or to go somewhere fun with a friend.

"It's pretty amazing when you think about how **Jesus invited people to follow Him**. And that didn't just happen back then. Jesus is still inviting people to follow Him—even today!

"Let's go to Small Group now and talk about how we can 'make waves' by following Jesus. Show me some of those wave dance moves as you go!" *(Demonstrate some of the wave moves from the dance party.)*

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

Note: If you used the video for the Bible story instead of telling it live, take a moment to lead everyone in a prayer before dismissal. (See the prayer at the end of the scripted story for an example.)

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.

VIDEO: MAKE WAVES THEME LOOP



GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

1. OPENER/CLOSER

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Host
- Worship Leader(s), to help demonstrate the dance moves
- Index card with the names of the moves, which the Host can use for reference:
 - Surf Sway
 - Freestyle Swim
 - Scuba Nose
 - Double-Arm Wave
 - Water Spout

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- "Making Waves" Instrumental

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Make Waves Theme Loop Video
- Make Waves Hype Video OR 30- or 60-Second Timer
- Make Waves Theme Definition Slide
- Memory Verse Slide
- "Make Waves Dance Party" Slide
- Blank Theme Slide
- Day 2 Bottom Line Slide

WHAT YOU DO:

- Download and print the tech sheet for everyone helping with Large Group.
- Download the slides and videos and have them ready to use. If you do not have screen capabilities, you have Orange's permission to enlarge and print the slides on paper.
- Download music from a resource such as iTunes® and have it ready to play.
- Write down the names of the dance moves on an index card.
- Have your Host and Worship Leaders practice the moves together ahead of time so that you're all in sync.

2. WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Worship Leader(s)

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- "Make a Move" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video
- "I Run to You" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video
- "Making Waves" Live Lyrics or Dance Moves Music Video

WHAT YOU DO:

- Download the videos and have them ready to use.

3. BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED:

If you're telling the story live instead of on video, you'll need the following:

- Storyteller
- Host and Worship Leader(s), to bring out the props and then take them backstage at the end
- Several kid volunteers
- Bible
- Blue tarp(s)—either one giant tarp, or several of them (see "What You Do")
- Inflatable boat
- Oars
- Several life jackets and/or floaties (enough for all of the kid volunteers playing the disciples)
- Lots of blue streamers
- "Peter" name sign (around-the-neck style)
- Step stool

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Make Waves Elementary Intro Video, Day 2
- Blank Theme Slide
- Day 2 Bottom Line Slide
- Make Waves Elementary Outro Video, Day 2



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GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

If you're using the Bible story video instead of telling the story live, you'll need the following:

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Make Waves Elementary Intro Video, Day 2
- Make Waves Elementary Bible Story Video, Day 2
- Make Waves Elementary Outro Video, Day 2

WHAT YOU DO:

- Download the slides and videos and have them ready to use. If you do not have screen capabilities, you have Orange's permission to enlarge and print the slides on paper.
- *(For the live story)* If possible, tape off a section in the middle of the room where the tarp will go. Make sure the kids sit around that section instead of inside it.
- *(For the live story)* Plan for enough tarp space that the boat can be in the middle, with ideally about 15 feet of tarp on all sides.
- *(For the live story)* Explain to the Host and Worship Leaders how they should bring out the props when the Storyteller calls for them, then gather them up and take them backstage as the outro video plays.