



**TODAY'S
BIBLE STORY**

Peter Walks on Water
MATTHEW 14:22-33

MEMORY VERSE

"Lord, you are more powerful
than the roar of the ocean.
You are stronger than the
waves of the sea."
PSALM 93:4 , NIrV

KEY QUESTION

Who can help you change
the world around you?

BOTTOM LINE

God can help me change
the world around me.

BASIC TRUTH

God made me.

LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS'S HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE
WORSHIP, BIBLE STORY, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE
IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED: paperclip the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Psalm 93:4 (NIrV); music player and the worship songs, "Making Waves," "My Forever Friend," and "Everyone Everywhere"

WHAT YOU SAY:

WORSHIP LEADER: "Welcome, everyone! Do you know what time it is? It's worship time! All week long, we're learning that God made us and can help us change the world around us. Who can help you change the world around you?"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "God can help me change the world around me."

WORSHIP LEADER: "You've got it! Let's stand and sing our song for this week!"

Lead children in singing "Making Waves."

WORSHIP LEADER: "So fun! I love worshipping with you. The Bible teaches us: 'Lord, you are (point up) more powerful than (muscle arms) the roar of the ocean. (Hands by mouth.) You are stronger than (muscle arms) the waves of the sea,' (Arms make waves.) Psalm 93:4, NIrV. (Open hands like a book.) Say it with me!"

Say the verse and do the motions several times together.

WORSHIP LEADER: "God loves us SO much that He sent Jesus to be our friend forever! Jesus is the BEST friend ever. Sing this out with me."

Lead children in singing "My Forever Friend."

WORSHIP LEADER: "Jesus IS our forever friend because Jesus loves everyone, everywhere! Let's sing this together."

Lead children in singing "Everyone Everywhere."

WORSHIP LEADER: "That was awesome. We can tell all our friends that God sent Jesus! He is special because He is God's Son. When we share that good news, we can change the world. **Who can help you change the world around you?"**

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "God can help me change the world around me."



INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: table, large waterfall toy, container of water

Check out our Pinterest board for waterfall toy ideas: https://bit.ly/VBS2022_Preschool_Pinterest

The table will already be in the center of your storytelling area. The container of water will be sitting on the floor beside the table. You may need more than one container of water. It will depend on how much water you pour each time.

The Host enters carrying the waterfall toy and places it on the table.

WHAT YOU SAY:

HOST: "Hi friends. I'm [Host's name], and I've been putting together this super-cool new toy. I think it's finally ready to go! Do you want to see how it works? (Pause.) Yay!"

"Okay, first, we need some water.

The Host looks around, sees the container of water on the floor, and picks it up for the children to see.

"Ah-ha! We have water!"

"Next, we need to make sure every piece of the toy is in the right place.

The Host examines the toy and straightens a piece on it.

"There. Now for the fun part! We slowly pour water like this . . .

The Host begins pouring water onto the top of the waterfall toy.

". . . and we follow the water with our eyes all the way down to the bottom.

"Whoa! That is so cool! Did you see how the water followed the path all the way down to the bottom? Hmm . . . I wonder what other paths we can make for the water to follow.

The Host moves some of the toy pieces to make a new path for the water.

"Okay, I moved some of the pieces to make a new path. Let's follow the water again!"

"We have water.

Host holds up the container of water.

"Our pieces are ready.

The Host quickly looks over the toy.



DAY
TWO
SUMMER 2022

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

ROTATION

HOME

"Let's pour the water!

The Host begins pouring water onto the top of the toy waterfall again.

"Look! The water is following the new path! Wow! This toy is so fun!

The Host steps away from the toy and looks at the children.

"Thank you for following the water with me. (Pause.) You know, following the water as it followed the path makes me think of Someone very special we can follow. [Storyteller's name] has an amazing story about Him. So, put on your best listening ears! I'll be back later. Bye!"

The Host exits with the container of water and the waterfall toy.



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STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible; small, inflatable boat; rolled-up piece of blue fabric that's about five feet long (long enough for the Storyteller to take a few steps on it)

The Storyteller enters carrying a Bible. The boat, with the blue fabric rolled up inside of it, will be out of sight to the side of the storytelling area.

WHAT YOU SAY:

STORYTELLER: "Hi everyone! I'm [your name]! I am here to tell you a true story from the Bible . . .

Hold up the Bible and lay it open on the table in the center of the storytelling area.

". . . about Someone very special we can follow. His name is Jesus! If you're ready to hear a story about Jesus, on the count of three, yell, TELL ME A STORY! 1 . . . 2 . . . 3!"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Tell me a story!"

STORYTELLER: "Wow! You sound ready to me!"

"A long time ago, God sent His Son, Jesus, to live on earth and teach us very important things—like how to love God and love others. People followed Jesus everywhere to hear Him teach.

"Today's story is about a man named Peter who followed Jesus and one of the times he got to see how special Jesus really is.

"Our story begins with a . . .

Storyteller runs and gets the boat and drags it to one side of the storytelling area. The blue fabric is rolled up inside of the boat.

". . . boat! Yes, our story begins with a boat . . . out on some water . . . at night.

Storyteller gets inside the boat and begins gently rocking side to side, like the boat is on water.

"Peter and some of Jesus' friends, the disciples, were out in a boat. They were sailing along and then they saw something they had never seen before!

Storyteller puts their flat hand over their eyes like they are looking at something.

"Put your hand over your eyes like this and look with me. (Pause.) Good job!

"Peter and the disciples looked out and they saw a Person . . . WALKING . . . ON . . . WATER!

Storyteller puts their hand down and grabs the sides of the boat like they are afraid.

"The Person got closer . . . and closer . . . and closer. Peter and the disciples were so afraid! Show me your afraid face.



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Storyteller makes an afraid face and looks around at the children.

"Yes! That's it! They were afraid! Then, all of a sudden, the Person said: 'It's Me! Don't be afraid!'

"Guess who is was! (Pause.) It was JESUS walking on the water!

Storyteller stands up in the boat.

"Right away, Peter said, 'Jesus, if it really is You, tell me to walk out on the water to You.' And Jesus said, 'Come.'

Storyteller takes the blue fabric and rolls it out away from the boat across the storytelling area, making a blue path of "water" to walk on.

"Peter looked at Jesus, and then he stepped out of the boat.

Storyteller will slowly step out of the boat onto the blue fabric.

"Guess. What. Happened. (Pause.) Peter started walking on the water too! It was amazing! But then Peter stopped looking at Jesus and started looking around at the wind. When he saw the wind blowing, he got scared and started to sink in the water!

Storyteller will crouch down, like they are sinking in the water.

"But don't worry. When Jesus saw Peter sinking in the water, Jesus reached out and grabbed him and they got into the boat together.

Storyteller stands up and gets back in the boat.

"Peter and Jesus' friends were amazed at what Jesus could do! They saw that Jesus is super-special and has the power to do anything! They looked at Jesus and said, 'You are God's Son,' and they worshiped Him.

Storyteller gets out of the boat and walks to the front center of the storytelling area.

"God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to change the world and be our friend forever. That's what Jesus did! Jesus loved everyone and made waves that changed the world. When we follow Jesus, God can help us change the world around us!

"So tell me . . . **Who can help you change the world around you?"**

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "God can help me change the world around me!"

STORYTELLER: "Louder! Who can help you change the world around you?"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "God can help me change the world around me!"

STORYTELLER: "You got it! Okay, it's time to pray. Let's close our eyes and talk to God together."



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PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to show us how to love one another and to be our friend forever. I hope every person here today will follow Jesus, because when we follow Jesus, You can help us change the world around us. We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

"Thanks for being such great listeners. I'll see you next time. Bye!"

The Storyteller exits with the Bible, boat, and blue fabric.

The Host enters smiling and carrying an empty container.



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OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: the empty container

WHAT YOU SAY:

HOST: "Wow! God sent us His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever, and when we follow Jesus, we can make waves that change the world around us. I think I got the story. Did you get it? If you did, say: 'Got it!' Get it?"

Host points to the audience.

CHILDREN AND HOST: "GOT IT!"

HOST: "Good!"

Host gives two thumbs up.

HOST: "Uh-oh. I'm out of water."

Host turns the empty container upside down and shakes it.

HOST: "Looks like I'm off to get more water so I can keep playing. See you next time!"

Host exits with the container, waving at the children.



GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

Gather children for a Large Group time that includes interactive worship, the introductory sketch, and the Bible story. The Stage Script is written for those who gather their preschoolers together from multiple rooms and have a larger space on which to present the Bible story.

WORSHIP: INVITING PEOPLE TO RESPOND TO GOD (10 MINUTES)

A Worship Leader and live instruments are recommended to sing along with the music tracks. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

STORY: COMMUNICATING GOD'S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS (10 MINUTES)

Choose an adult or teenager who relates well to preschoolers to tell the Intro and Outro Sketch—to be the host. If possible, use two different hosts throughout VBS and alternate them each day.

Choose an engaging adult to tell the Bible story. This person should be able to command the attention of preschoolers and control the group through animated storytelling. These scripts are written to be "told" and not "read." Advanced preparation is necessary.

1. WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Leader(s)
- Live instruments
- Music player
- "Memory Verse Card" paperclipped in your Bible at Psalm 93:4 (NIV)

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- "Making Waves," "My Forever Friend," and "Everyone Everywhere," which are included in your files

OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE):

- Dance Moves Music Video for both songs are available in your files

WHAT YOU DO:

- Download all songs and have them ready to use.

2. INTRO/OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Table
- Large waterfall toy
- Container of water

WHAT YOU DO:

- Before story time, place the table in the center of the storytelling area.
- Fill the container with water and place it next to the table.
- Give the Host the waterfall toy.

3. BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible
- Table
- Inflatable boat
- Blue fabric (about five feet—long enough for the Storyteller to take a few steps on it)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Put the rolled-up fabric inside the boat.
- Pull the boat out for the children to see.

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES

Bible Story Videos: There are Bible story videos available for each day in your files. These can be used in addition to or as a replacement for a live telling of the story.

First Look Pinterest Page

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. https://bit.ly/VBS2022_Preschool_Pinterest