

Kid's Slot ~ May 22nd – May 27th, 2011



“One Stormy Night”

OVERVIEW: The children will learn to trust God through the “storms” in their lives.

PREPARATION: You will need enough copies of the attached color sheet for every child, markers or colors, your NIV Bible

BIBLE STORY AND VERSES: Mark 4:35-41

ICEBREAKER: Would you rather look out of the window on a stormy day and watch the rain and lightening, or snuggle under a blanket and watch a movie?

READ: Peace ~ In the Middle of the Storm

Bible Story (On the other side)

Questions to Ask:

- 1. What was Jesus doing when the storm hit their boat?** (Sleeping)
- 2. Why were the disciples so afraid?** (The waves were so high and the boat so full of water, that they thought they were going to sink!)
- 3. When the shook Jesus to wake him up, what were they thinking?** (They probably just wanted Jesus to know what was happening on the sea around them; they never thought to ask Jesus to make the wind and waves stop!)
- 4. How DID Jesus make the wind and waves stop?** (He commanded them to, by speaking to them – and they obeyed)
- 5. Why do you think Jesus said, “Don’t you have any faith, YET?”** (Because they had been followers of Jesus for a while now, and had seen his power and his miracles in the past, but didn’t have faith enough to believe he could do the same powerful miracle for them!)
- 6. What about you? Do you have a storm that you are facing? Ask God to help you KNOW that he is with you – in YOUR boat!**

ACTIVITY: “Picture Me!”

Give the children a copy of the attached picture. Encourage them to draw themselves in the picture with Jesus and the children and then color it. Review the scripture memory verse on the color sheet. They can even write or draw the “storm” they have/are/will face.

Let the children share about something hard they went through or are going through or will be going through (sickness or death of someone or a pet closed to them; trouble in school; trouble with their parents or teacher; not getting along with their friends or brother/sister; parents getting/got a divorce; scared about something they have to do in the future (swimming lessons; going to a new school; surgery; someone close moving away....) Let the kids share freely. When they are finished coloring and sharing, pray with them and remind them that Jesus is ALWAYS with us – and never leaves us!

RETURN: Have the children return to the Life Group and display the pictures they have colored and drawn. Recite their Bible Memory Verse. Explain a little bit about the lesson. Perhaps, if the children don’t mind, they can share a bit about their “storm.” Allow the children to share in the prayer and fellowship time.

“Peace ~ In the Middle of a Storm!”

One day, it was late in the evening. They had been with people all day and Jesus decided it was time to leave. Jesus told his disciples that they needed to sail across to the other side of the lake. Many of the disciples were fishermen already, and were quite capable and comfortable sailing the boat. In fact, there were several boats with them, so when they set sail, so did many other boats. As they were sailing, all of a sudden, a huge storm, almost like a hurricane, hit the boat. The waves were crashing the boat and the sail so hard that even the experienced fishermen turned disciples were afraid.

They noticed that Jesus, probably tired from a long day of ministering to others, was sound asleep on a pillow in the back of the boat. Whether you are at the front or the back of the boat, that boat was surely rocking from side to side, so much so that the waves were filling the boat with water and the boat was about to sink. And there laid Jesus, at perfect peace, sound asleep. Finally, the disciples, so frightened they shook Jesus and woke him up to say, “Teacher, Don’t you care if we drown?”

Jesus immediately stood up and spoke to the waves, telling them with great authority, “Quiet! Be still!” Want to guess what happened? That’s right – just as soon as those words left the mouth of Jesus, the waves IMMEDIATELY stopped crashing and the sea was once again, calm as glass.

Then, Jesus said to his disciples, “Why are you so afraid? Don’t you have any faith at all yet?” I’m sure Jesus was thinking, “Hey guys, haven’t you seen me heal the sick and make the blind to see? Haven’t you heard me speak with great power about God? Why would even think for a moment that our boat was going to sink? I am with you – even in the middle of this storm and I will carry you through every other storm I your life, if you stick with me!”

The disciples saw the great power in Jesus words – that even the wind obeyed him, and they were terrified! Being afraid of the storm was one thing, but seeing Jesus command over the wind and waves was something else! The disciples were hoping that if they woke Jesus, he

would be able to ride out the storm with them; instead, Jesus took the storm away from them – which is a whole lot better than having to go through it, don’t you think?

After the winds and waves stopped, the disciples asked each other, “Who is this Jesus? Even the wind and waves obey him!”

Instead of having faith in Jesus to carrying them through their storm, they didn’t believe that he could actually STOP the storm and give them back their peace – peace in their boat, peace in their minds and hearts and peace on the water.

Jesus WANTS to give us his peace – whatever you have or will go through – even if you’re in the middle of a storm in your life right now.

Just ask him...and believe! Jesus has all authority and all power!





**Jesus said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid?
Don't you have any faith at all yet?" Mark 4:40**