



**January 17, 2021**  
**Jesus and Peter Walk on the Water**  
**Matthew 14:22-33**

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In last week's story, we learned how Jesus made a paralyzed man walk again! This is what we call a miracle! A miracle is when something, that couldn't happen without God, happens! No doctor could make the paralyzed man walk again. Only God could heal the man, and He did! This week, we will take a look at another miracle Jesus did. Jesus helps someone else walk, but not in the way you would expect.

Watch the video to learn about this miracle:

<https://youtu.be/oVy9HGr3Qig>

How did the disciples feel when they saw Jesus walking on the water in the middle of the night? Who did they think He was at first? Why do you think they felt this way? Is walking on the water something people can usually do? Or, would this take a miracle from God?

When Peter realized it was Jesus, his friend, what did Peter ask Jesus to do? Would you like to try walking on water? Peter was not God, but Jesus gave him the power to walk on water, too.

At first, Peter had faith that Jesus could help him walk on the water. What made Peter begin to doubt that he could do it? Was Jesus still there?

Jesus was still there with Peter, but when Peter took his eyes off of Jesus and focused on the wind and the waves, he began to sink. Are the wind and waves bigger or stronger than Jesus' power? To find the answer, **read Matthew 8:23-27**.

Since even the wind and the waves obey Jesus, there was no reason for Peter to be afraid. Peter knew this, but he let doubt and fear creep into his mind. He let the flashy lightning and noisy thunder get in the way of his trust in Jesus. He forgot who Jesus was and how Jesus had helped him in the past.

Do you ever let other things get in the way of following Jesus? I know I do. Think of a few examples of things that can get in the way of following Jesus. (Hint: These can be good things or bad things.) Anything that takes so much of our time that we don't have any time left to spend with Jesus, or anything that makes us do things that Jesus would not want us to do are things that can get in the way of following Jesus.

Do you ever forget that Jesus has the power to help you? I know that I do that, too. Think of a time when you or, someone you know, was afraid or needed help. Did you remember to pray? It can be easy to forget to pray or to trust that Jesus can help.

When you lose focus on Jesus, you can feel like you're sinking like Peter did. To stay close to Jesus, take time to think about Him and pray to Him every day. Spend time reading Bible stories, going to Church, and doing your Sunday School lesson each week. Hide God's Word in your heart by memorizing Bible verses. This will help keep those doubts and fears away. It will help also you remember who Jesus is and what He has the power to do as the Son of God.

Take a look at this cool object lesson/science experiment on faith and the importance of resting on Jesus and not allowing doubt to take over:

<https://youtu.be/ggQB5PU7GCs>

The awesome thing that we can learn from this is that Jesus can help us do amazing things that we wouldn't be able to do on our own. And, sometimes when we do trust Jesus and He helps us do good things, the devil will try to break those good things up in our life and make us sink, just like the dish soap in the video did. That is why it is so important to keep resting on Jesus. Keep learning about Him and keep talking to Him. Keep doing the things He asks you to do.

### **Prayer:**

Dear God,

Keep my focus on Jesus. Help me to spend time each week reading and hearing about how much You love me. Remind me that I can talk to You in prayer every day. Help me to trust You to do amazing things in my life. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

You will find the following activity sheets linked with this lesson:

**Jesus Walks on Water Coded Message**

**Jesus Walks on Water Coloring Page**

**Jesus Walks on Water Crossword**

**Jesus Walks on Water Word Search**

**Daily Prayer Cards** – Remember to talk to God every day. Print these prayer cards and cut them out. Use them when you pray to help you know what to pray.

**ABC Scripture Memory Verses** – Hide God's word in your heart. Print these ABC scripture cards to help you memorize short Bible verses. Each one begins with a different letter of the alphabet to make them easier to remember. Parents: Consider offering an incentive for each verse your child memorizes.