

Jesus Walks on Water

Supplies (not included):

- Cornstarch (1 cup)
- Water
- Casserole Dish or Large Bowl

Watch: <https://youtu.be/oVy9HGr3Qig>

Read: Matthew 14:22-33

Ask:

What did Jesus do in this story? (Prayed by himself; walked on the sea; told disciples to not be afraid; invited Peter to also walk on the water; saved Peter)

How did the disciples react to what Jesus did? (went on a boat in a storm; were scared when they saw Jesus walking on the water; Peter walked on the water; Peter stopped having faith and sunk; all the disciples saw that Jesus was the Son of God)

What is something that you can learn from this story? (having faith in Jesus is important; Jesus was the Son of God; Jesus helped people who were in trouble; etc.)

Lesson:

Jesus needed some time to himself after he had fed all of those people by multiplying the bread and fish for more than 5000 people, so he went to pray by himself. Even Jesus needed some alone time to focus on his relationship with God. But when the disciples got into a storm, Jesus came to meet them. They were afraid to see Jesus walking on the waves. Even though they had seen Jesus do plenty of miracles, this walking on the water thing was something they never expected, and that's probably why they were so afraid – they didn't recognize Jesus. Only one out of the 12 disciples had a lot of faith though! Only Peter asked if he could try walking on water too. And his faith in Jesus let him walk on the water – for a minute at least – then he got scared, stopped trusting in Jesus, and almost drowned, but Jesus saved him. When all the disciples had seen the awesome power of Jesus, they knew that he was more than only a human. He was the Son of God. The disciples all believed, but only Peter had a different kind of faith to ask Jesus if he could also walk on the water. What do you think? Do you think you would have trusted Jesus and asked to walk on the water too?

Activity:

This is a science experiment that illustrates how we might be able to explain walking on water with science. It takes a little bit of time and effort, but it goes to show how amazing it is that Jesus could walk on water, because in order for us to even sort of try to mimic the possibility of walking on water, we have to do so many things!

Put 1 cup of cornstarch into a small casserole dish or wide bowl.

Slowly add about ½ cup water – you will probably have to mix with your hands in order to get it to mix well.

Once it is combined well and goeey, take a spoon and smack the liquid. Does it splash? Or did it seem to get hard, like a solid? But it is still a liquid if you touch it! Squeeze it hard in your hand; did it feel solid?

Do you think that you would be able to walk or run across a liquid like this if you had a lot of it? Here is a quick video showing what that would be like! <https://youtu.be/RIUEZ3AhrVE>

(Cleanup: 1. Use warm water in a bucket to clean off hands.

2. If some gets on clothes, just wait until it has dried, then it will be easy to brush off.

3. Do NOT dump the cornstarch solution down the drain – it will clog the drain! Put it in the trash or compost.)