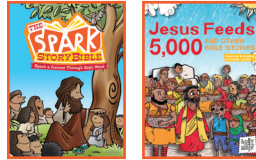


## Summer Bible Story Activities

# Jesus Walks on Water

### Where to find the story of Jesus Walks on Water

- Matthew 14:22-33
- *Spark Story Bible: Family Edition* pages 262-265
- *Jesus Feeds 5,000 and Other Bible Stories*



### This week's activities

- Craft activities
  - Where's Jesus? Binoculars
    - Kids make binoculars to help them remember to keep their eyes on Jesus
  - Walking-With-Jesus Magnets
    - Kids make special magnets to remember that Jesus walks with them wherever they go
- Cooking activity
  - Banana Boats in a Storm
    - Kids make Banana Boats to remember that God can calm our fears
- Game
  - Kids play a game with flashlights to help them remember to keep their eyes on Jesus
- Coloring pages
  - Let kids color their way through the story of Jesus Walks on Water

### Making faith connections

Here are a few suggestions for ways you can enrich your child's engagement and learning with the story of Jesus Walks on Water.

- Family conversations
  - What would it feel like and sound like to be in a boat during a big storm?
  - What can we do to help ourselves remember to focus on Jesus when we are afraid?
- All people are afraid sometimes. Draw a picture of Jesus taking Peter's hand when Peter began to sink. Give the picture to someone who you think could be one of Jesus' disciples.
- Act this story out in another way. Mix 1 cup of cornstarch with a 1/2 cup of water. Add a few drops of blue food coloring. Put it in a bowl and walk your fingers across the surface like Peter on the water. Stop and feel your fingers begin to sink. We must keep moving forward in faith!

### A Prayer to Say Together

Dear Jesus, we are so easily frightened and distracted even though you are ever-present. We pray that you continue to hold out your hand to us and help us know that we need not be afraid. Amen.

Find more great stuff at [sparkhouse.org](http://sparkhouse.org)



# Jesus Walks on Water Craft Activity

Scripture Reference: Matthew 14:22–33 or pages 262-265 in *The Spark Story Bible: Family Edition*.

Activity Focus: Keep your eyes on Jesus.

## Where's Jesus? Binoculars

### Supplies

- Empty toilet paper tubes, two for each kid
- Hot glue gun
- White craft paper
- Markers
- Crayons
- School glue
- Hole punch
- Yarn, 2 feet (61 cm) for each kid

**Set Up:** Measure and cut craft paper into pieces just large enough to cover the toilet paper rolls. Cut yarn into 2 foot (61 cm) lengths. Set out supplies.

### Activity Instructions

**We are going to make binoculars to help us keep our eyes on Jesus.**

1. Give each kid two pieces of the pre-cut craft paper. Help kids write "Keep your eyes on Jesus" with a marker on one of the pieces of paper. Encourage kids to decorate both pieces of paper, using the markers and crayons.
2. Give each kid two toilet paper tubes. Show kids how to glue one of their drawings onto each toilet paper tube using school glue.
3. Use a hot glue gun to glue each kid's toilet paper tubes together.
4. Help kids use the hole punch to put a hole on the top, outside edge of each toilet paper roll.
5. Give each kid a piece of yarn. Show them how to tie the ends of the yarn into each hole so they can hang their binoculars around their neck.

**It's so good to know that Jesus helps us. We don't need to be afraid. We can keep our eyes on Jesus and trust him! We can look for Jesus in the actions of people who help others. Our binoculars will help us remember to keep our eyes on Jesus.**

## **Prayer Time**

**Dear God,**

**Thank you for Jesus, who walked on the water.**

**Thank you for Peter, who asked Jesus to help him.**

**Thank you for all the ways you help us.**

**Please help us to keep our eyes on Jesus.**

**Amen.**

# Walking on Water Craft Activity

## Walking-With-Jesus Magnets

### Supplies

- Craft foam (size of a kid's foot)
- Scissors
- Roll of self-adhesive magnets
- Pencils
- Fabric paint in tubes
- Fine-tipped permanent markers
- Craft glue
- Craft jewels and/or sequins
- Paint shirts
- Plastic cover for table

**Set Up:** Cut self-adhesive magnets into 1" (2 cm) pieces. Each kid will need two magnets and one piece of craft foam (the size of a kid's foot). Cover work table with plastic cover. Set out supplies.

### Activity Instructions

**We are going to make Walking-With-Jesus magnets so we can remember that Jesus walks with us. You can put your magnet on your refrigerator. Every time you look at it, you can remember that Jesus walks with you.**

1. Have kids put on paint shirts.
2. Give each kid a piece of foam and a pencil. Instruct them to trace one foot on the foam with the pencil. They can do so with or without a shoe on.
3. Instruct kids to carefully cut out their foot shape and write "Jesus Walks With Me" on it with a marker.
4. Give each kid two magnets. Kids attach the magnets to the back side of their foam foot, at the top and the bottom.
5. Point out the paints, craft glue, and jewels or sequins. Kids can decorate their foam foot magnet.

### Prayer Time

Dear Jesus, help us remember that wherever we go, whatever we do, you are always with us. Help us to slow down and look to you for help. Amen

# Jesus Walks on Water Cooking Activity

Scripture Reference: Matthew 14:22–33 or pages 262-265 in *The Spark Story Bible: Family Edition*.

Read the story of Jesus walking on water together.

**How do you think the disciples felt when they found themselves in a storm out on the water? (*fearful, anxious*) Why do you suppose Peter asked Jesus to call him out onto the water? (*curiosity, courage, faith, we don't know*) Would you have been willing to walk out on the water? Maybe you've never been in a boat in a storm, but I'll bet you've been in scary situations. Jesus reached out to Peter and calmed his fears. Can you think of a time Jesus helped you feel less afraid?** Encourage them to share.

## Banana Boats in a Storm

### Supplies

- Bananas
- Chocolate chips
- Mini marshmallows
- Graham cracker bears
- Aluminum foil
- Permanent marker
- Plates
- Baking sheets
- Potholders
- Table knives
- Spoons

**Set Up:** Preheat oven to 300 degrees F (150 C). Tear off one piece of aluminum foil per kid, approximately a square foot (24 cm). Set out the ingredients and supplies.

### Activity Instructions

Have kids wash their hands first. **We are going to make banana boats to reenact this storm story.**

1. Give each kid an unpeeled banana, a piece of aluminum foil, a plate and a table knife. Kids carefully slit open their banana lengthwise, being careful not to cut all the way through it.
2. Kids spoon half of their banana out of the peel and eat it. Kids may need to

wash their hands again at this point. Kids stuff chocolate chips and marshmallows into the inside of the banana peel.

3. Kids wrap up their banana with aluminum foil and write their name on the outside with the marker.

4. Bake kids' banana boats on baking sheets for 5 minutes. While the banana boats are baking, kids tell the story again in their own words. They can look in their Bibles to guide them.

5. Remove banana boats from the oven and carefully open each boat with potholders. Puts boats on plates for kids. Kids arrange graham cracker bears in their boats to represent the disciples. Kids can eat their creations with spoons.

## **Prayer Time**

**Dear God,**

**In our boat of life, we sometimes feel afraid. Please calm our fears.**

**Thank you for giving us your peace.**

**Amen.**

# Jesus Walks On Water Game

Scripture Reference: Matthew 14:22–33 or pages 262-265 in *The Spark Story Bible: Family Edition*.

Activity Focus: I can keep my eyes on Jesus.

## Supplies

- Flashlight

**Set Up:** Place some obvious objects in the room for this activity. For example, use a picture of Jesus, a balloon, or a plant. Be sure the room is dark enough so the flashlight light can be seen.

## Activity Instructions

Have kids enter the room and welcome them by saying, "**I see you!**" with an emphasis on the word, see. With a flashlight on, darken the room, move the light around the room, and ask kids to follow the light with their eyes. Have some fun by moving the light slow and fast, up and down, or in circles.

Turn the lights back on and play a game in which you look at something in the room and the kids guess what it is. Give kids a chance to be the leader and use their eyes to look at something while others guess. No pointing!

## Follow up:

**Jesus calls each of us by name and loves us. Jesus gives us courage when we are afraid to do hard things. We can be like Peter, and keep our eyes on Jesus when we need to be brave.**

## Prayer Time

Dear Jesus,

Thank you that you love and care for us.

Help us to keep our eyes on your when we need to be brave.

Amen.

## Searching for Trust Activity Sheet

Trusting in Jesus can help make our lives better. When we trust in Jesus, we can?

\_\_\_\_\_ our relationships. Colossians 1:20

\_\_\_\_\_ on Jesus' behalf. Acts 23:11

\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_. 3 John 3

Give \_\_\_\_\_ to God. 2 Chronicles 7:1

Gain \_\_\_\_\_, which helps keep us close to God. Proverbs 3:13

Receive many \_\_\_\_\_ . 2 Corinthians 1:11

Be a good \_\_\_\_\_ to others. 1 Corinthians 4:1

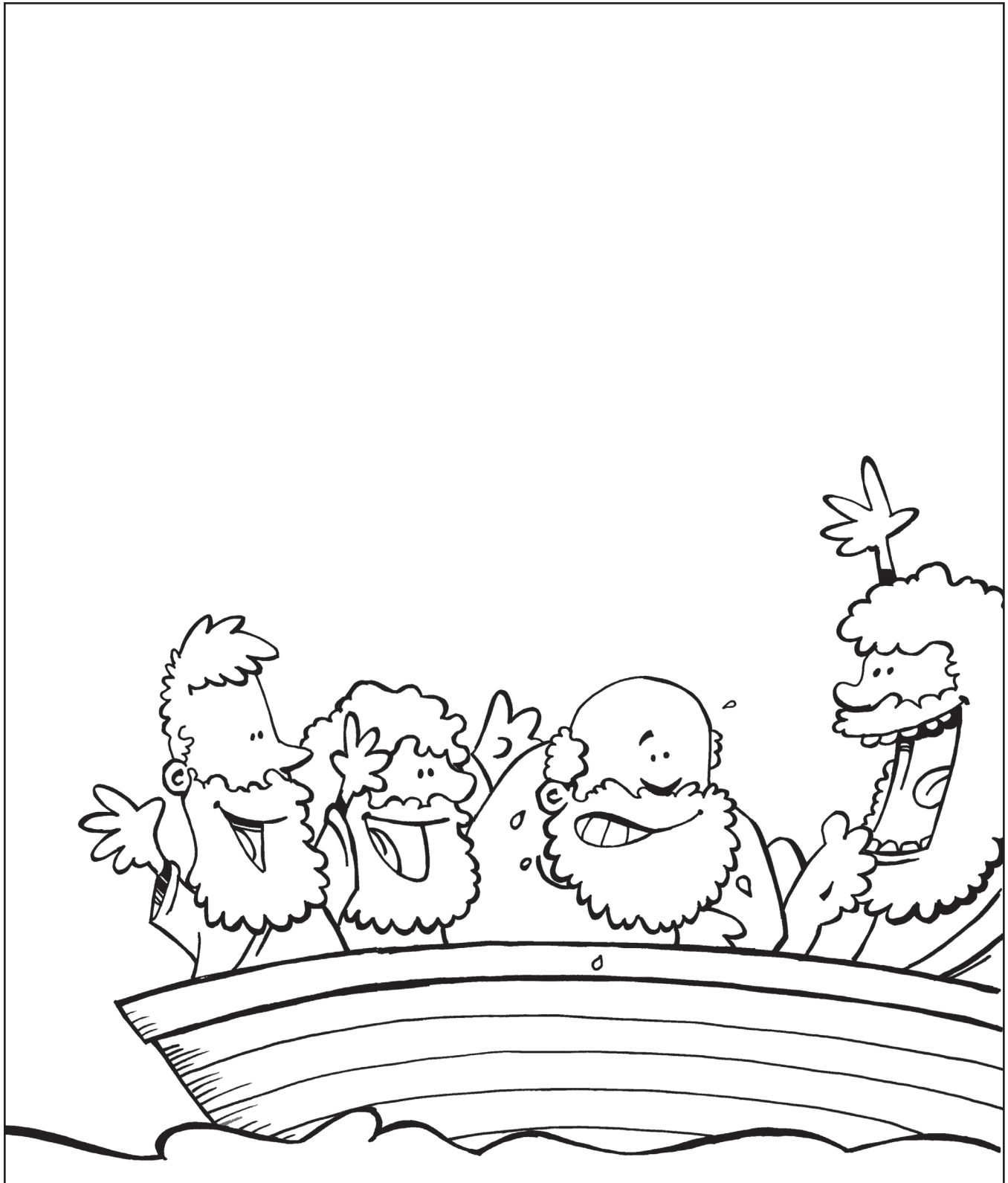


# Walking on Water



“Don’t be afraid! It’s just me,” Jesus said.

# Walking on Water



The disciples were excited to tell everyone they met about the power of Jesus.

# Walking on Water



“If it’s really you, Jesus, tell me to walk on the water,” Peter said bravely.

# Walking on Water



Gulp! Peter swallowed hard.

# Walking on Water



“You really are the Son of God!”

# Walking on Water



“You really are the Son of God!”