

Kinder & 1st Grade

WEEK 3 - STARTER



Activity Name: Wind, Wind, Boat

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Gather kids and instruct them to form and sit down in a circle.
- Choose one kid to stand in the middle.
- Assign each kid one of three words: “Wind,” “Waves,” or “Boat.” (For example: “You’re Wind, you’re Waves, you’re Boat, you’re Wind, you’re Waves, you’re Boat...”)
- Explain the rules:
 - The person in the middle will shout out any one of the three words: “Wind!” “Waves!” or “Boat!”
 - If your word is called, you must get up and quickly find a new place to sit in the circle.
 - The kid in the middle will also try to find a seat (they don’t have to call out their own word).
 - If the kid in the middle shouts, “Storm!” EVERYONE must get up and find a new seat.
- The last kid to sit becomes the new person in the middle.
- Play for several fun and energetic rounds.

What You Say:

That was such a fun game to help us remember today’s Bible Story. The storm was big and wild that day! And then there was peace when it was all still. Jesus showed His friends that He is in control of everything—even big, scary storms. Jesus showed His friends that they could trust Him. We can trust Him, too. God is bigger and more powerful than any difficult thing you will ever face. God does not cause terrible things to happen, but He can work in and through all things for our good. And in the end, God will make everything right—even if we have to wait until heaven to see it. Because no matter what happens, **[Bottom Line] God is in control, so I can trust Him.**

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



Bible Story: Jesus Calms the Storm • Mark 4:36-41

Bottom Line: God is in control, so I can trust Him.

Monthly Memory Verse: *God is our place of safety. He gives us strength. He is always there to help us in times of trouble. Psalm 46:1 NIV*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What can you trust God with today?
- Why do you think Jesus could sleep during the big storm?
- Jesus stopped the wind and the waves. What does this teach us about Jesus?
- Sometimes God stops hard things. Sometimes He helps us through them. How can God help you when something is hard?

Activity Name: Courage Moves

What You Need: ☐ Bibles ☐ “Courage Moves” cards

What You Do:

- Pass out Bibles marked at Psalm 46:1, or look up the verse together.
- Read and repeat the Memory Verse out loud together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Gather the kids in a circle and place the cards in 2 stacks face down on the floor.
- Explain that you will take turns drawing one card from each stack. Read the cards aloud and put the actions together. Whatever silly challenge the cards describe, the WHOLE group will do together as they say the Memory Verse.
- Let the first child draw two cards. Read the cards aloud (e.g., “Stomp your feet and nod your head.”).
- Lead the group in doing the action for a few seconds.
- Then, lead the group in saying the verse while doing the actions: *“God is our place of safety. He gives us strength. He is always there to help us in times of trouble.”*
- Let the next child draw two cards and repeat the process. Continue until several challenges have been completed.

What You Say:

Great job with those challenges! Our Memory Verse is a super reminder for when we feel like we are in a storm. It tells us that God is our safe place, He gives us strength, and He is always there to help. That’s why we can trust Him! God is in control, and because He is good, we can trust Him with anything we face. **[Bottom Line] God is in control, so I can trust Him.**

EveryChild Pro-Tip: Based on the abilities of your group, discard any cards that would prevent a kid from participating.

Close in prayer/Invite kids to pray as well.