

ALLEY SG – Feb 13th/14th

Bible Story: Without a Paddle (Peter walks on water) • *Matthew 14:22-33 (Supporting: Matthew 14:13-21)*

Bottom Line: When I experience what God can do, it helps me face my fears.

Memory Verse: “Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being certain of what we do not see.” *Hebrews 11:1, NIV*

Life App: Faith—believing in what you can’t see because of what you can see.

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

Before kids arrive, pray for each regular attendee by name. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Thank God for loving us and knowing us. Ask God to protect the kids from fear and doubt. Pray the kids will find their safety and courage in God’s power.

Letters Of Love *(Please do this activity first)*

What You Need: Letters of Love Stationary, writing prompt

What You Do:

Pass out a piece of stationary and writing prompt to each child. Make sure to collect the prompts to be used by the next group

What You Say: We are going to be writing some letters to kids in Africa. These are kids who go to the same school as _____ and _____ who we sponsor with our offering. We just want to send them a letter to tell them we are thinking of them way across the world in the United States.

If kids are willing, have them write two letters (we need LOTS☺)*

Lesson Review *(review the Bible story)*

What You Need: Bibles, index cards, pens

What You Do:

Form two teams. Give each team Bibles, pens, and index cards. Ask kids to turn to Matthew 14:22-33 in their Bibles. Have kids read over today’s lesson passage and then allow a few minutes for each team to create five or six review questions based on the Bible story. Instruct kids to put the question on one side of the index card and the answer on the other.

When finished, collect the index cards from both groups and mix them together. Combine the groups and form a circle in an area. Explain that they will be taking turns answering review questions. Read a review question from one of the cards and let the student answer it. Continue until everyone has had a turn if there are enough questions.

What You Say:

We can’t experience God in exactly the same way Peter and the other disciples did, but we can still trust Him with the same kind of faith when we face a tough or scary problem. Any time you see Jesus

help you face your fears, whether it's through normal, everyday stuff or through miraculous events, it can build your faith in Him. Why? Because, when I experience what God can do, it helps me face my fears. When you see Him at work in your life and in the lives of others, it'll give you courage to believe that He will carry you through anything you face."

[Personalize] What scares you? Share it with the kids. How do you face a fear? Let the kids make suggestions of ways to trust God with fears.

Pictionary (application activity)

What You Need: Bag with quarter sheets of cardstock with these words printed on each them: *The Dark, Spiders, Snakes, Bad Dreams, Clowns, Rollercoasters, Dogs, Bats, Haunted Houses, Needles, Storms*. Small white board, dry erase markers, eraser

What You Do:

Tell the kids that everyone has things they are afraid of. Explain that in the bag are some common things that SOME PEOPLE are afraid of. Invite one kid at a time to draw a piece of paper from the bag, secretly peek at what is written (leaders will have to help the younger kids read it) and draw the item on the board while the rest of the group guesses.

What You Say:

"Fears are real. But the truth is, each of us has something very real that freaks us out. Jesus doesn't want us to be afraid. When He walked on the water, it wasn't a magic show. It was real. He was showing the disciples His amazing power so they would trust Him when they felt afraid. That miracle was for us, too. **[Apply] Jesus wants us to understand that if He has the power to walk on water and tell the wind and waves what to do, He has the power to help us with anything we fear. We can count on Him to help us overcome our fears because of who He is: God's Son. That's why [Impress] when I experience what God can do, it helps me face my fears.**"

Pray

What You Need: No supplies needed.

What You Do:

Ask them to think about any situations coming up this week that may cause them to be afraid, such as a test at school, an important game, or a family problem. Invite those who are willing to share with the group. When finished, invite everyone to pray silently asking God to help them face their fears this week.

Give each child a GodTime card and encourage them to do them this week