

## CITY LG – June 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>

**Theme:** Zapped – Plugging into God's power helps me see and do what I should.

**Bible Story:** Peter Walks on Water (Matthew 14:22-34)

**Bottom Line:** I have to keep depending on God's power in my life.

**Memory Verse:** God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life. (2 Peter 1:3a NIV)

*Host enters with goggles on his/her head, and a towel around his/her neck – like he/she is going to the pool.*

### **SFX: "Greeter Theme"**

#### **Host:**

I take swim lessons. I admit it. Look at me. A grown man (or woman) who can't swim. I know, it is a sad state of affairs. But my mom and dad never taught me how to swim when I was a kid, so I had to learn when I was a young adult.

It was, and still is, really embarrassing. If you have ever been to a swim lesson you know what I am talking about. How old are most of the people who take swim lessons? *(Pause for responses.)* Yeah! You are right; like six or eight or ten. But not me; no, I started swim lessons at twenty-four years old, and I am still taking them.

My swim instructor has been the same for years, her name is Helga. Here she is—

### **CG: Photo of Helga**

Helga is very nice, but she runs a strict swim school. Well, when I was just starting out with swim lessons, we started with the freestyle swim stroke. You know the freestyle, it is the one you see most often. *(Host shows the kids a freestyle swim motion.)* I was getting pretty good at it, and she finally told me that it was time for me to swim the length of the pool on my own.

I was really scared. I had never done anything like this before. I told her that I didn't want to do something like that, and that I wasn't ready for it, but she insisted. She said "Be brave!" And that's exactly what I decided to do. *(Host puts on goggles.)* So, I jumped in the water and started swimming. I was a little slow at first but I was doing okay. I was so nervous; I had never done this before! I got about a third of the way across the pool and started to slow down a bit. I was getting tired, but I was still going strong.

I looked up and I could see Helga walking along the side of the pool with me. She was cheering me on. I was getting more and more tired. Suddenly, out of the corner of my eye I looked up at Helga and waved, and lost my focus. *(Host enters into panic mode.)* I lost my focus because I was waving at Helga. I couldn't keep myself afloat. I was beginning to sink. I was kicking my legs, treading water, trying to stay afloat, but it wasn't working. I was drowning. Water was entering my lungs at a rapid rate. I just knew this was going to be the end.

Helga jumped in off the side of the pool and brought me to the surface. I could hear her asking me if I was going to be ok, telling me to breathe, and to breathe slowly. I got to the edge of the pool and sat with my feet dangling in the water. I looked at Helga and said "I really thought I could do it, but in the middle, I began to doubt."

Helga encouraged me to try again another day, and I did. I got back in the water and my swimming ability has improved greatly since that day. I think back on that day and I was scared. I almost drowned. I wish I hadn't gotten distracted and that I had kept my focus. Have any of you ever lost your focus on something? Peter sure did; you'll hear about it today.

But first, let's play a game to stay connected with each other. Today's ZAPPED game is called Changes in the Air.

**ZAPPED GAME: Changes in the Air** (This game can be done in three groups: one from each grade lever OR if there are a large number of kids they can divide into 2 or 3 groups per grade or even their small groups)

**What You Do:**

- Tell kids to sit in a circle, facing outward, with one kid in the middle of the circle. Kids should close their eyes.
- Change one thing about the middle kid's appearance. For example, untie shoes, tuck or un-tuck shirt, remove glasses, switch watch to opposite wrist, etc.
- Everyone turns around and tries to figure out what has changed.
- The kid who guesses correctly gets to be in the center of the circle next.

"Let's watch a video to see how we can change when we are plugged into God's power!"

**Video: Peter Walks On Water FULL Video**

## Host Wrap Up

**Sfx: Play "wrap up theme" music under the Host's monologue as he speaks to the audience.**

"Can you imagine walking on the water? Even for a minute or two? That would have to be pretty amazing! And then Peter got distracted—but Jesus saved him and pulled him back into the boat and calmed the storm as only Jesus could do. I think that may have been the moment that Peter learned that he needed to keep depending on Jesus. It's important for us to learn that we have to keep depending on God's power.

Can you say the Bottom Line with me? **I have to keep depending on God's power in my life.**

**CG – Week 2 Bottom Line God's Power slide**

You can do better than that! Let's say it together one more time, **I have to keep depending on God's power in my life.**

**CG – Week 2 Bottom Line God's Power slide**

Great job! One of the ways we can show that we're zapped with God's love is by helping others in need. We collect money for offering every week that goes to help kids in Kenya. WE send money every month to Africa so that \_\_\_\_\_ (names of kid/kids) can go to school, get medical and have food.

We can let God do something through us by helping kids in another part of the world! That's pretty cool, huh?

Before we dismiss, let's go over our memory verse. We're going to put it on the screen so we can say it together.

**CG – 2 Peter memory verse slide**

**“God’s power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life,” 2 Peter 1:3.**

Awesome! It's time to for Small Group you guys have a great time learning more about being zapped! See you next time!

Let's pray...

“Dear God, thank you for the story of Peter and how we need to depend on you just like Peter did, Help us to stay plugged into your power so that we can do all that you want us to do for you. We love you, Amen.”

*Dismiss to small groups*