

City LG - July 14-15, 2018

Bible Story: On Top of the Sea (Peter Walks on Water) • *Matthew 14:22-33*

Bottom Line: Stay focused on Jesus.

Memory Verse: “Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” *Philippians 1:6, NIV*

CG: 2-Minute Countdown Video

CG: Future Force VBS Promo Video

(Point students to look for VBS Central at your Campus to sign up for Future Force VBS. Cost is \$10)

CG: Welcome Video Loop with Backing Track

(Invite children to stand to their feet as Worship Leader/Team takes the stage to lead Worship)

WORSHIP: “Brighter” and “Let it Be Known”

(Worship Leaders prays after Worship)

LARGE GROUP LEADER WELCOME:

“Hey, everyone! Today I want to tell you about something amazing that Jesus did! Now, Jesus did a LOT of amazing things. He performed a lot of miracles. He healed blind people and made it so they could see again. He cured people of all kinds of diseases. He even brought people back to life!

“There was one time when Jesus was teaching a group of over 5,000 people. Everyone was hungry, but no one wanted to leave. Everyone wanted Jesus to continue to teach them. Jesus took five loaves of bread and two fish, He thanked God for the meal, and He fed ALL those people. I bet I could eat five loaves and two fish by myself! Jesus performed a miracle and multiplied the food so that everyone was full. They even had leftovers!”

“After everyone had eaten, Jesus told the 12 disciples to take a boat across the Sea of Galilee without Him. Jesus wanted to stay behind so He could pray and talk to God alone. The disciples did what Jesus told them to do. They got in a boat and began their journey across the water. This is where the story gets REALLY interesting! Jesus did something so amazing, that one of his disciples wanted to do it too! Let’s take a look!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 6:00)

“Jesus helped Peter climb back into the boat. And immediately, the wind died down. The sea became calm and quiet. All you could hear was the sound of the boat creaking. After seeing all this, the disciples worshipped Jesus. They were confident that what Jesus said was true and He really was the Son of God. Let me hear you say, ‘WOO-HOO!’

Invite the kids to cheer.

“NOTHING matters more than staying focused on Jesus. Peter learned that for sure! When he was focused on Jesus, he was full of confidence. He was brave enough to get out of the boat and walk on water! But when he was distracted and focused on the wind and waves instead, he lost confidence. He sank into the water.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

“Just like Peter, you and I need to **[Bottom Line] stay focused on Jesus**. We might not be able to SEE Jesus like Peter could. But we can stay focused on what we know is TRUE about Him. We can think about how much He loves us and how He’s always with us. Then we’ll have the confidence to be able to live the way He wants us to. Let’s pray and ask God to help us.”

Pray: “God, we want to stay focused on Jesus just like Peter did when he first climbed out of the boat. Help us to not get distracted by the things around us that make us worried or afraid. Help us to focus on You so we can stay confident and strong. Help us to remember how much You love us and to trust You in the middle of anything we might face. We love You, and we pray in Jesus’ name, amen.”

“There are lots of ways we can focus on Jesus. One way is to read our Bibles and think about Him. (*Hold up Bible.*) We can focus on Him by talking about Him with our friends. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can obey what He says to do. We can talk to God and pray. And we can even ask God to help us focus on Jesus. Sometimes figuring out how to focus on Jesus takes some work, but your Small Group Leader is here to help. You’ll talk more about how to stay focused on Jesus back in Small Group. Before we head there, let’s take some time to worship God with our offering!”

Offering Time:

“Offering time is a chance for us to bring our money to God, so he can use it to make somebody else’s life better. For us, here in the City, we give our offering to an organization called ‘Missions of Hope’ to help kids in Kenya have food, clothes, and learn about God’s love for them. Here’s a picture of Kenya!”

CG: Picture of Kenya

Here at (your Campus name), we bring our offering to help support:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Rose

CG: Picture of Child

If you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now and place it here (*show offering container*).”

“Thank you for your kindness and generosity City! Have fun in Small Groups!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.