

The Rock, Sunday 18th October 2020

Peter Walks on Water.

Warm up

Dance to, join in with the actions and sing our Rock song.

This video has the words:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcAG4PbNXaA>

This video has the actions: <https://youtu.be/8dbOgbRxC1M>



Getting started

Equipment

A large bowl of water, objects to throw in it made of a variety of materials.

Before putting objects into the water, children should predict whether they will float or sink. After giving them a few minutes to try out different materials, bring them back together.

- Ask them for examples of things that float, and then of things that sink.
- Ask them what about people – what would we do?

The Point: Just for fun, but also raising the idea of whether we float or not – which will be important later on.

Teaching time

Say to the children that as you tell today's story, they are going to pretend they are Peter. They need to think how Peter would feel, and every so often you will ask them to make the face Peter would be making at that time.



Tell the story:

It was the end of a long, busy day. Jesus had gone off to pray by himself and the disciples were rowing home. It was dark, and the wind had risen so the little boat was pitching and tossing on the small sea. Peter was hot and tired, pulling on a rope and trying to keep the boat on course.

- How was Peter feeling? (Allow for response). Show me.

The night grew darker and the wind became stronger. Suddenly, from the shadows, a figure appeared walking on the water! It was probably a ghost...

- How was Peter feeling? (Allow for response). Show me.

“Don’t be afraid!” called the ghost, “It’s only me!”

The disciples looked at each other, relieved.... It was Jesus!

- How was Peter feeling? (Allow for response). Show me.

Peter wasn’t convinced. “If it’s really you, Lord,” he called defiantly, “Then command me to walk across the water to you!”

“Come along then, Peter,” invited Jesus. “Out you come!”

Peter put his leg over the side of the boat and stood on the water.

- How was Peter feeling? (Allow for response). Show me.

For a few steps he walked toward Jesus. He couldn’t believe it! He was doing the impossible – walking on top of the water.

But then he heard the roar of the wind and noticed how big and black the waves had become. He didn’t feel safe.... He looked around wildly and began to sink.



- How was Peter feeling? (Allow for response). Show me.

“Lord, help!” cried Peter. And Jesus held out his hand for Peter to grasp.

“Where’s your faith, Peter?” he scolded, half teasing. “You know I am always with you. Why did you doubt me?”

Jesus and Peter walked together, across the heaving water and into the boat.

As they climbed aboard, the waves and the wind died down.

“You really are the son of God!” declared the disciples.

- How was Peter feeling? (Allow for response). Show me.

Ask the children when Peter started to sink? Why was that?

(It was when he looked away from Jesus and got scared.)

Say that we can often be scared, but if we look at Jesus, if we remember that he is always with us, then we can have faith and trust that He won’t let us down.

The Point: To tell the story and to see that Peter needed to be looking at Jesus in order to stay afloat.

Craft and activity ideas

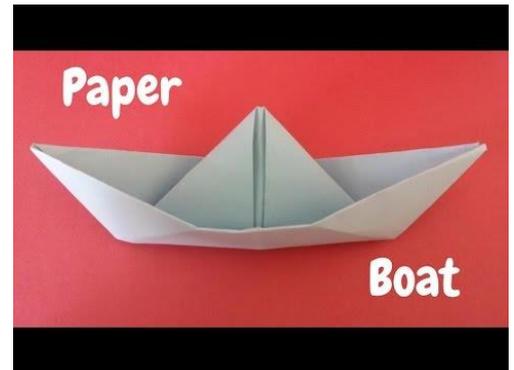
1.

Equipment

A sheet of A4 paper per child, crayons.

Make a boat from paper (this is the simple hat folding).

- Begin with the paper turned portrait. Fold it in half, with the fold farthest away from you.
- Take the top corners of the paper (where the fold is) and fold them in until they meet in the middle of the paper. You should have two right angled triangles which meet in a straight line down the centre of the paper. The triangle won't reach to the bottom of your paper.
- Fold the top flap of paper up over the base of the triangle.
- Turn the paper over and fold the other flap of paper up over the bottom of the back of the triangle.
- Pull the base of your triangle open slightly – you now have a basic paper boat!



Children may want to decorate their boats.

The Point: A reminder craft.

2.

Equipment

Blue paper, pencils, blue paint, glue, glitter.

The children need to take off their shoe, put their foot on the centre of the paper and draw round it.

Next, use blue paint to paint the outside of the paper so that it looks like sea all around the foot shape.

Put glue over the foot – not necessarily all over, maybe just across the toes or in a zigzag down the middle – and drop glitter on it.

They should now have a glittery foot in the sea, to remind them that God wants us to have faith in him, wherever we are.

The Point: A picture to remind us that God is there – and that we need to step out in faith!

Prayer



sweetclipart.com

Children to walk around the room

Suggest that as they walk around the room they could pray quietly and ask Jesus to help them to keep their minds fixed on him as they walk through their lives.

Pray for each child as they walk, eg. "Help Jenny to remember that you are always with her. Amen"

The Point: An opportunity to pray about applying today's teaching.

THE ROCK

(Material taken from Energize by Urban Saints - <https://www.energize.uk.net/>)