

JESUS WALKS ON WATER

At that time, Jesus told the disciples to get into the boat and to cross the sea. When He finished teaching the crowds, He went up a hill by himself, to pray.

When it was getting dark, the boat was in the middle of the sea. It was getting beaten by waves because the wind was strong. When it was night, Jesus came to the boat. He was walking on the top of the sea. The disciples said, "It is a ghost!" Jesus said, "Do not be afraid, it is I."

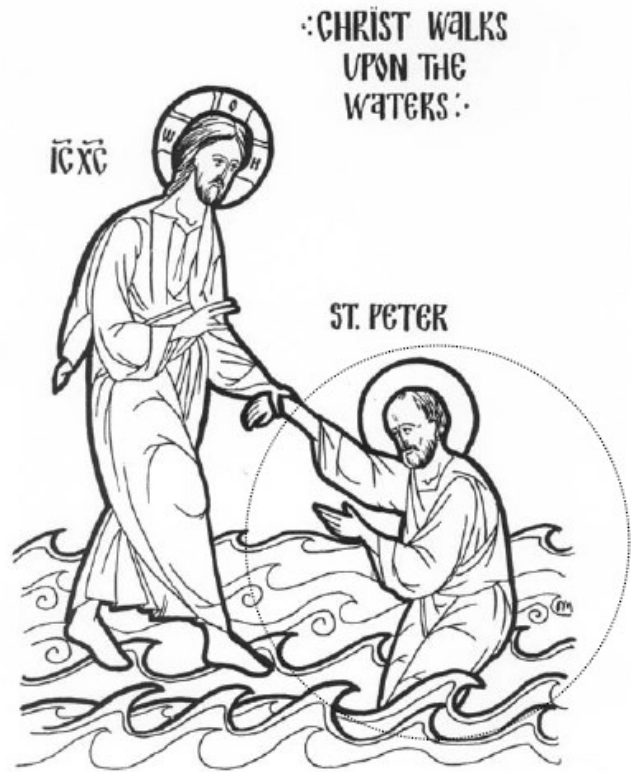
Peter said, "Lord, if it is you, ask me to walk on the water to meet you."

Jesus said, "Come."

So Peter began to walk on the water. When the wind became strong, he was afraid and cried,

"Lord, save me." Jesus reached out his hand and saved him. When they reached the boat, the wind and sea became quiet.

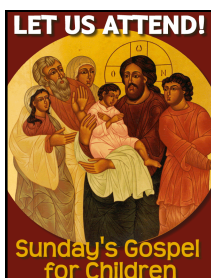
The disciples knew that only God could command the sea and the wind. They worshipped Jesus and said, "Truly You are the Son of God."



Icon courtesy of Iconographics (www.theologic.com)

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. The disciples were in a boat on the sea. Jesus was praying on the hillside.
2. When it became night, was the sea calm or stormy?
3. The disciples were afraid. Then they saw Jesus. What was Jesus doing?
4. In the icon, what is Jesus doing? How did Peter get to Jesus?
5. When Jesus came into the boat, the storm stopped.
6. If you were a disciple in the boat, how would you feel then?
7. Have you ever felt scared when it is stormy? You can sit by an icon, or bring an icon to where you are. Jesus is always with us.



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Pre-12



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·:CHRIST WALKS UPON THE WATERS:·



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CROSSING THE SEA

One evening, our Lord Jesus Christ had his disciples get into a boat and go to the other side of the sea. While they went, He sent away the crowd that had come. Then, He went up into the hills, to pray.

While He was praying alone, the wind came up against the boat and waves beat against it. Very late at night, Jesus came to His disciples. He was walking on the sea! When the disciples saw that, they were very afraid. They thought He was a ghost. They screamed because they were afraid.

Jesus spoke to them, “Relax! It is I! Don’t be afraid!”

As he heard this, Peter said, “Lord if it is really you, call me to come to You on the water!”

Jesus said, “Come!” So Peter got out of the boat. He walked on the water and came to Jesus! But then he saw the wind and was afraid. He began to sink.

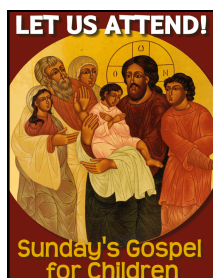
As he began to sink, Peter said, “Lord, save me!” Jesus reached out, grabbed Peter’s hand, and asked him why he doubted.

Peter and Jesus got into the boat. When they did, the wind became calm. Everyone in the boat worshiped Jesus, saying, “You must be the Son of God!”



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Why did Jesus go up into the hills by Himself?
2. What happened to the disciples and the boat while Jesus prayed?
3. How did Jesus come into the boat? How did the disciples feel about that?
4. What did Peter try to do? Did it go well?
5. What did Jesus do when Peter asked Him to save him?
6. Why do you think the people in the boat began to worship Jesus? Would you have done the same?



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At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up into the hills by Himself to pray.

When evening came, He was there alone, but the boat was in the middle of the sea, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against it. And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus came to them, walking on the sea.

But when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a spirit!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately, Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear."

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is You, bid me come to you on the water." Jesus said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the mighty wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind became calm. And



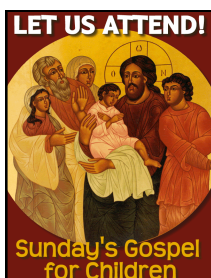
Image courtesy of sxc.hu

those in the boat came and worshipped Jesus, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God."

And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennes'aret.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. At the beginning of this Gospel, where did the disciples go? Where did Jesus go?
2. What happened to the boat? Why?
3. How do you think the disciples felt when they were in the boat, in the waves? How did they feel when they saw Jesus?
4. Who walked on the water to meet Jesus? How did that go?
5. What happened when Jesus got into the boat?
6. Why do you think those in the boat responded like they did, when Jesus came into it?



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JESUS WALKS ON WATER

Characters: Narrator, Disciples, Jesus, Peter

Narrator: At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He dismissed the crowds. And after He had dismissed the crowds, He went up into the hills by Himself to pray.

When evening came, He was there alone, but the boat was in the middle of the sea, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against it. And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus came to them, walking on the sea.

But when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying,

Disciples: It is a spirit!

Narrator: And they cried out for fear. But immediately, Jesus spoke to them, saying,

Jesus: Take heart, it is I; have no fear.

Narrator: And Peter answered him,

Peter: Lord, if it is You, bid me come to you on the water.

Narrator: Jesus said,

Jesus: Come.

Narrator: So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the mighty wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out,

Peter: Lord, save me.

Narrator: Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him, saying to him,

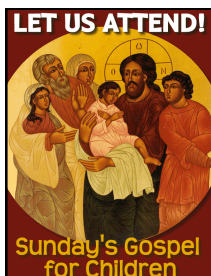
Jesus: O man of little faith, why did you doubt?

Narrator: And when they got into the boat, the wind became calm. And those in the boat came and worshipped Jesus, saying,

Disciples: Truly You are the Son of God.



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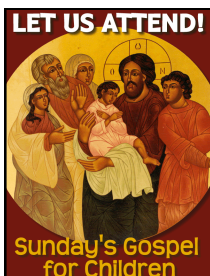
Image courtesy of sxc.hu

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And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennes'aret.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What are the weather conditions at sea? How would you feel if you were in a boat that was being battered by the waves?
2. What could the waves represent in our lives?
3. Where is Jesus when the boat is being battered by the waves?
4. What does this say about life without Jesus?
5. Where is Jesus when the winds stop?
6. What does this say about Jesus?
7. What does this say about how Jesus can affect our lives?
8. What do you think about this idea that Jesus calms the storms in our lives? Do you think this is true? Why or why not? Do you think he makes the storms go away completely or just changes our ability to deal with them?



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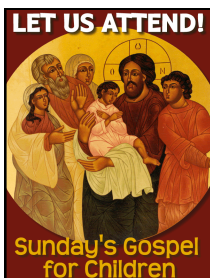


Image courtesy of sxc.hu

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. What does Peter say when he knows Jesus is coming toward them on the sea?
2. What does this suggest about faith?
3. How does Jesus respond to him? What does Peter then do?
4. What do you think about what Peter did? What would you think if you saw someone do that? Do you think you would do what Peter did? Why or why not?
5. What does Peter's action suggest about faith? What is it a response to?
6. What happens when Peter notices the strong wind? How does he feel? What does he say?
7. What does this say about faith? What happens when we take our focus off of Jesus?
8. How does Jesus respond to Peter's fear? What does this suggest about how Jesus will respond to our faith and fear?



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