

Story: Walking on Water Matthew 14

This Lesson is designed to help children to understand that we are safe with Jesus. We are safer with Jesus in the storm than sitting on a curb in the calm without Jesus. Bad things still happen to us but what would we do without Him in times of trouble? He is our comfort and only He knows the reason why things happen and can help us grow through times of difficulty.

Lesson Intro:

Ask how many of the children know how to swim. Spend some time talking about fun that you have had in the water. Can anyone float? How do you float? Can anyone float on your back? Stomach? Knees? Can anyone float in the water standing up? Of course not! But someone in today's story could stand up and walk on top of the water.

Lesson

1. Read "Walking on Water" on page 380 to 385 of The Beginners Bible.

- As you read, ask children about each page.

After reading- discuss what happened in the story and how we need to keep our eye and trust in Jesus.

Prayer: Please pause after every few words to allow the children to repeat the prayer.

Dear God, please help us to always remember to keep our eyes on Jesus and trust in Jesus. Amen.

Activity: Keep Your Eyes on Jesus Game

Materials:

- Picture of Jesus
- Bucket
- Spoon
- Plastic Eggs

Directions:

1. Tape the picture of Jesus on the wall.
2. Put the bucket (empty) underneath the picture.
3. Have the children line up about 10-15 feet away from the bucket (distance doesn't really matter).
4. The first person in line holds the large spoon and puts the plastic egg in it.
5. They have to walk the egg over to the bucket without dropping it

*** The trick is – they have to keep their eyes on Jesus the entire time!!! If they take their eyes off of Jesus, they have to start over.

6. Once they drop the egg in the bucket, they get it and go back for the next person to do it.
7. What makes you doubt? What would make you sink?

** As Peter kept his eyes on Jesus and trusted in Him, he was able to do something no other man on earth did, walk on water. But, as soon as Peter took his eyes off of Jesus, he began to sink.



Activity: Jesus Walks on Water Picture

Materials:

- Blue Construction Paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Boat and wave cut outs
- Picture of Jesus
- Popsicle Stick
- Tape



Directions:

1. Print the template of the boat, Jesus and waves. One per child
 2. Color the templates.
 3. Glue the "Keep Your Eyes on Jesus" cloud to the top left corner of the paper
 4. Glue the larger strip of waves to the bottom of the paper.
 5. Assemble the boat on the bottom right corner of the paper, so it sits in the waves:
 - The half circle is the body of the boat
 - The rectangle is the mast
 - The two rectangles are the sails
- **OPTIONAL:** To make Jesus a puppet that the child can walk on the water:
 - Cut a slit in the paper about 3 inches long, about 1" from the bottom of the page
 - Tape a popsicle stick onto the back of the Jesus figure
 - Slip the stick through the slit. Once we glue the second waves over top, the Jesus figure will be able to walk along the water.
 - Put a rolled up piece of masking tape on the back of the project, under the stick, to hold it in place when you aren't using it as a puppet.



the dotted line shows where you would cut the slit in the paper.

- If you aren't making Jesus a puppet, glue him to the paper on the water
- Glue the second set of waves over top, so it's lined up with the bottom. Just put the glue in a thin line on the very bottom of this piece so you don't glue over the puppet slit.



the glue would go along the solid line in the image above

Activity: Keeping Your Eyes on Jesus

Materials:

- Two Toilet Paper rolls for each child or paper rolled into tubes
- Markers
- String
- Glue
- Paper: Keep your eyes on Jesus Sign

Directions

1. Glue the paper towel rolls together.
2. Punch holes on one side for string.
3. Add string to tubes.
4. Pass out one paper towel roll set per child.
5. Have the children decorate the tubes.
6. Glue the Sign "Keep Your Eyes on Jesus" sign.

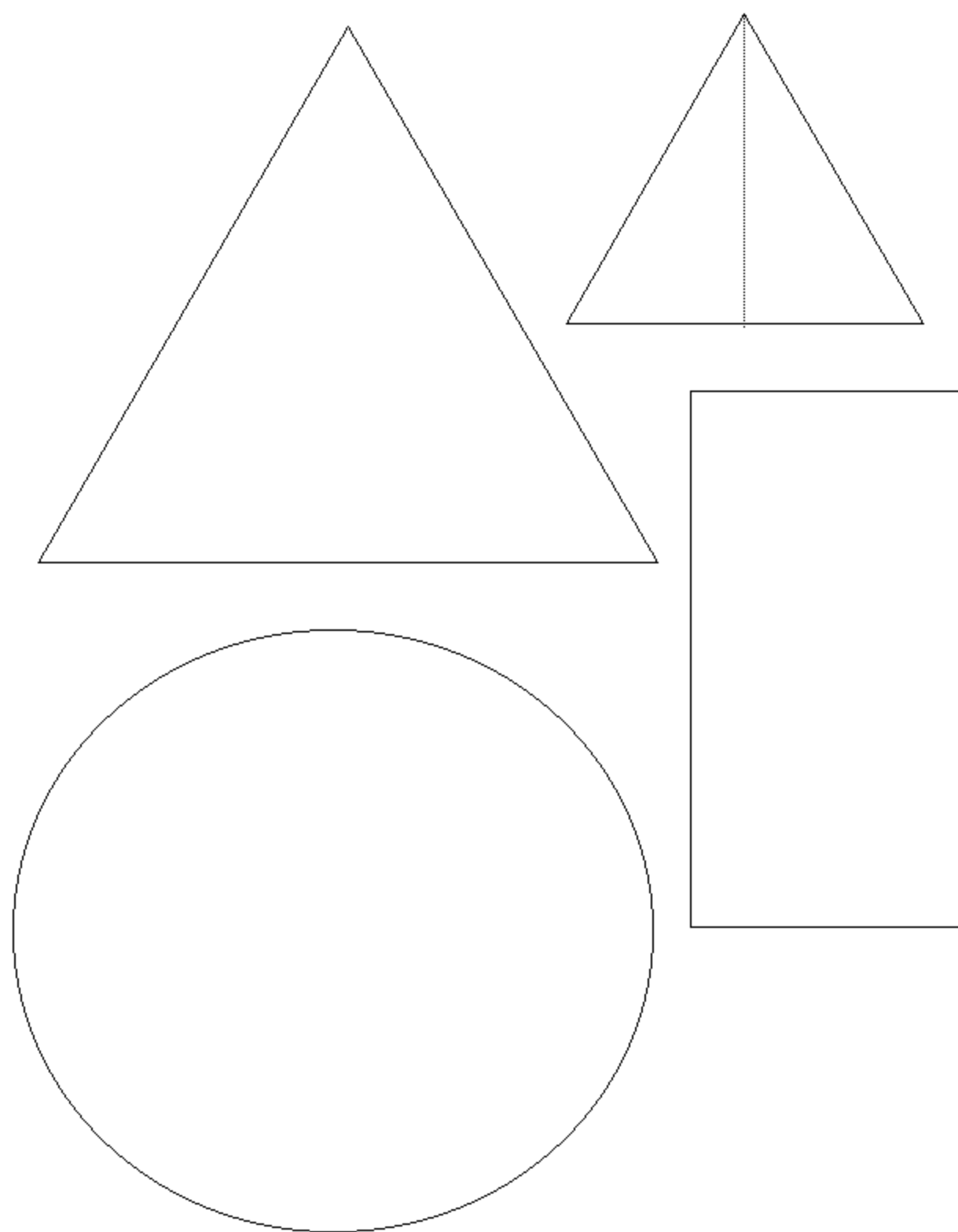
Discuss with the child the importance to keep his/her eyes on Jesus.



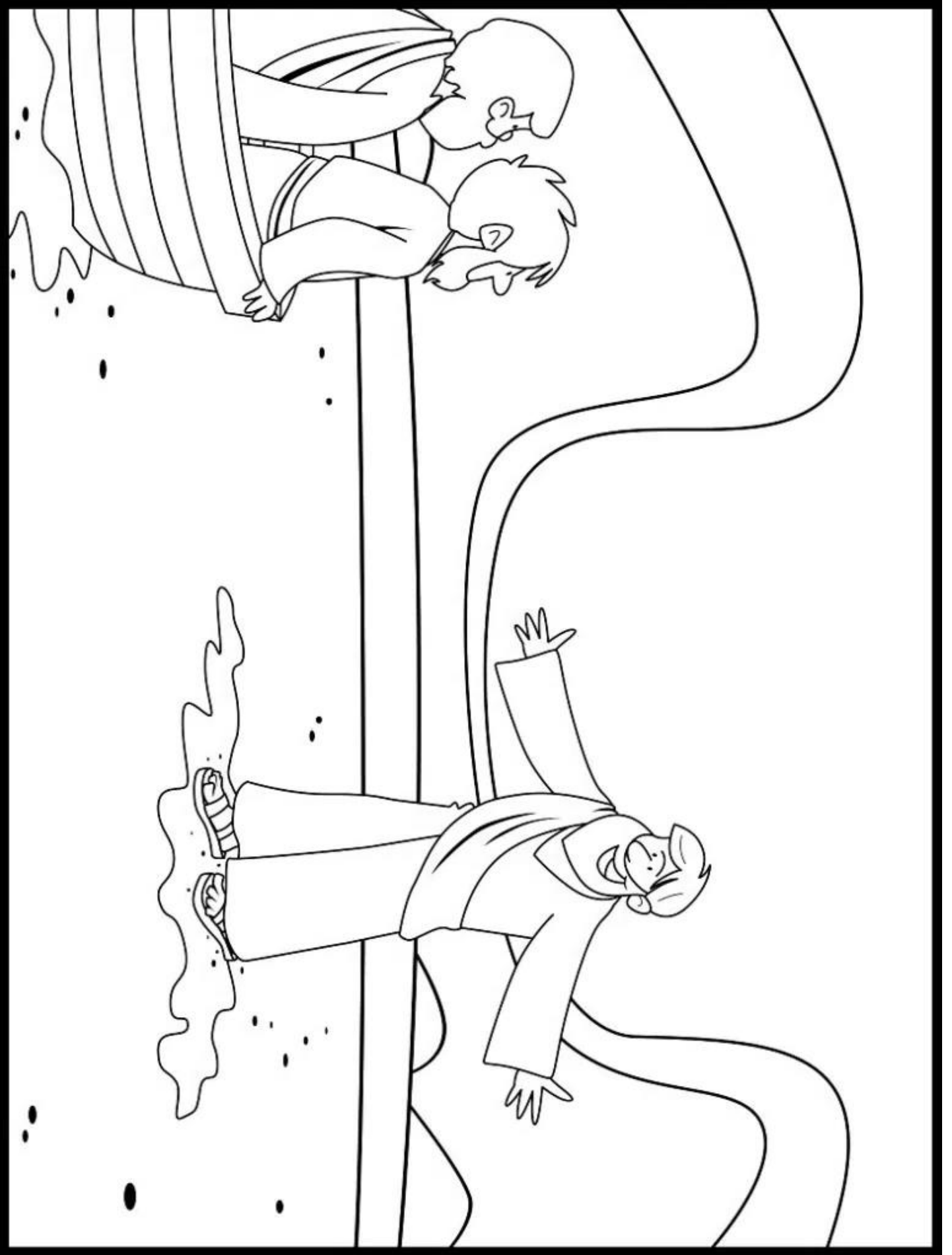
Young children will find it easier to cut around Jesus' halo than cutting out his arms.



Jesus Walks on Water
Template 1 of 2



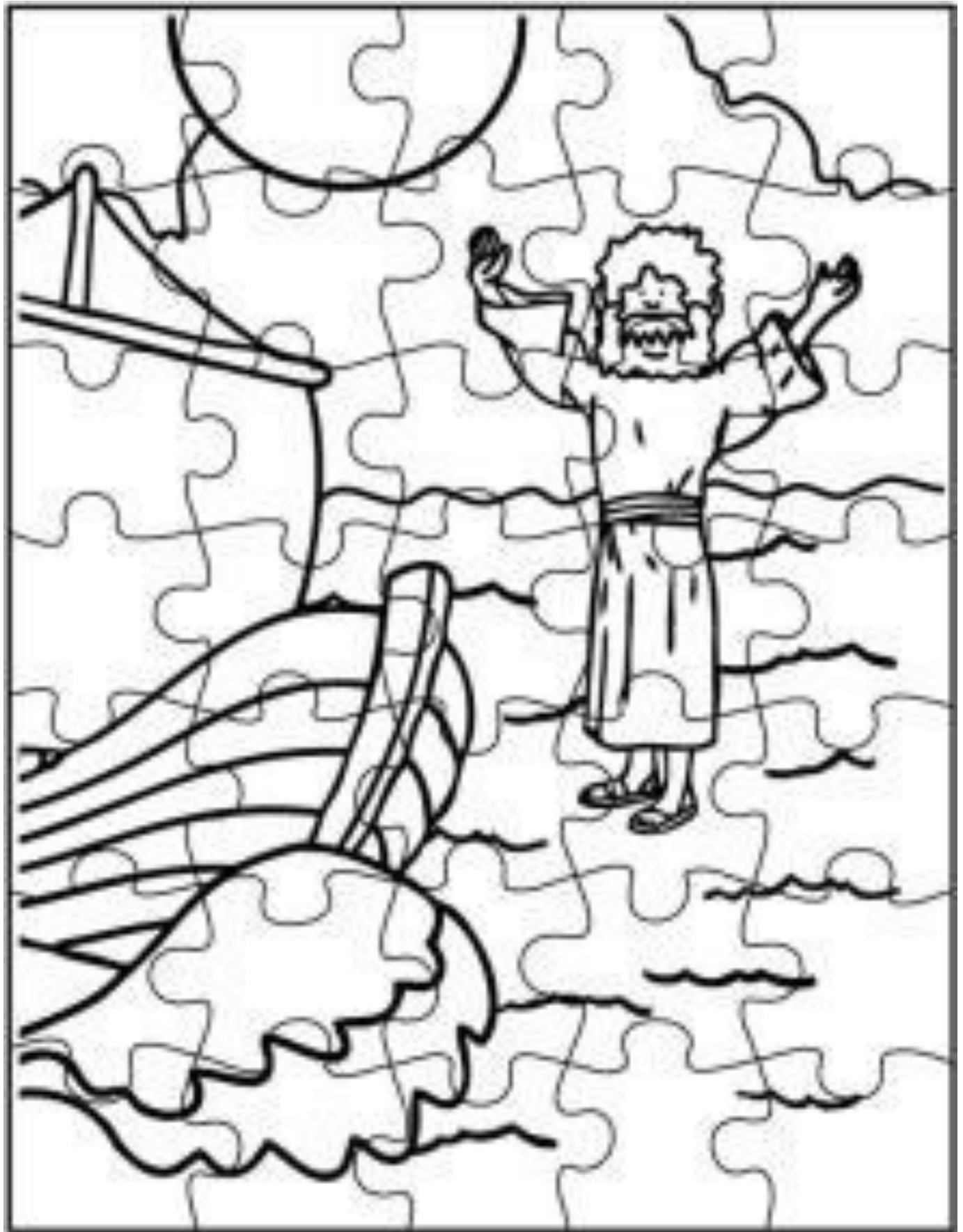
Fold each piece in half and construct a sailboat



Activity: Float vs Sink.

- – Put the bucket of water on the table
- – Talk with the children about the items you have to put in the water
- – Have them vote, as each item is put into the bucket of water, if it will float or sink
- – Have the children take turns putting the items into the water to see if they will float
- – Ask them if we can float on the water (on our backs?)
- – What about walking on water? Can we do it? Why or why not?
- – Talk with them about the story you are going to learn
- – Jesus walked on water
- – He didn't float on water (but that's the closest thing we can emulate)





Jesus Walks on Water

1. What did Jesus do while He was alone on the mountain?



2. Where were the Disciples?



3. What was the weather on the water?



4. How did Jesus get to the boat?



5. Who tried to walk on the water to Jesus?



John



Angel



Peter