

Family Worship

Have Faith

17.1.2021

Opening Prayer

Our Heavenly Father, thank you for our family.

And thank you for the privilege of coming together for worship.

Help us to understand Your Word and obey it with a joyful heart.

In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

Give Thanks

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5waffTnMH6g>



Catechism Time!

Bible truths for teaching children

Question 31

Q: What do we believe by true faith?

A: The Apostles' Creed expresses what we believe in these words:

We believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,

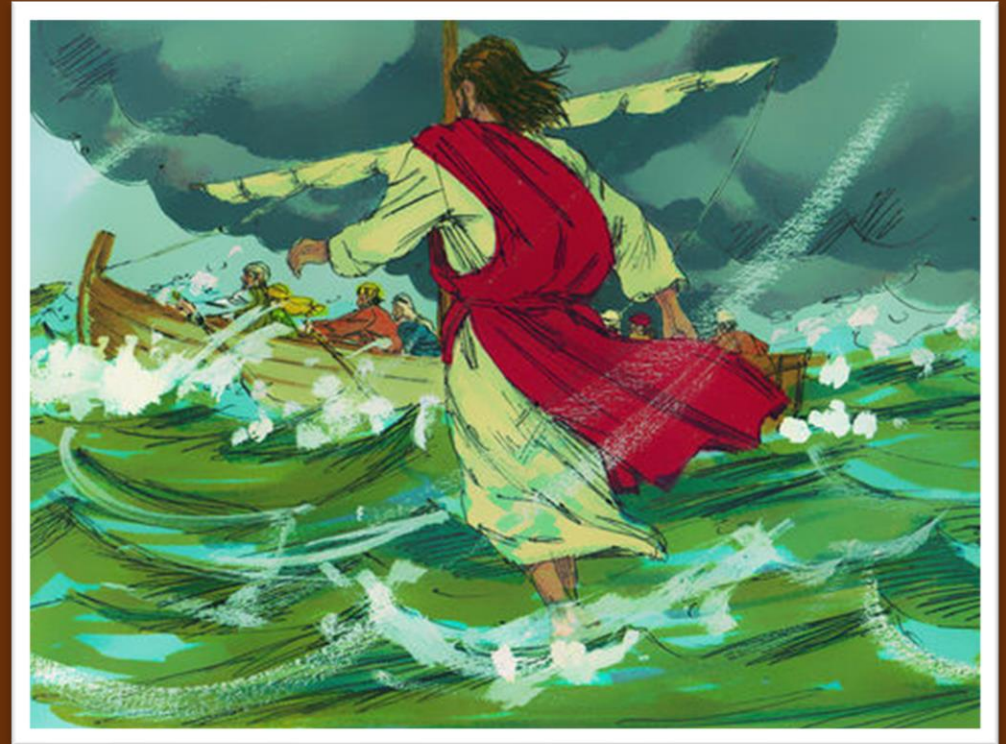
and is seated at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living
and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Today's Bible reading is from
Matthew 14:22-32.

We will read from the "Tree
of Life" translation of the
Bible.

You can also read from your
own bible.



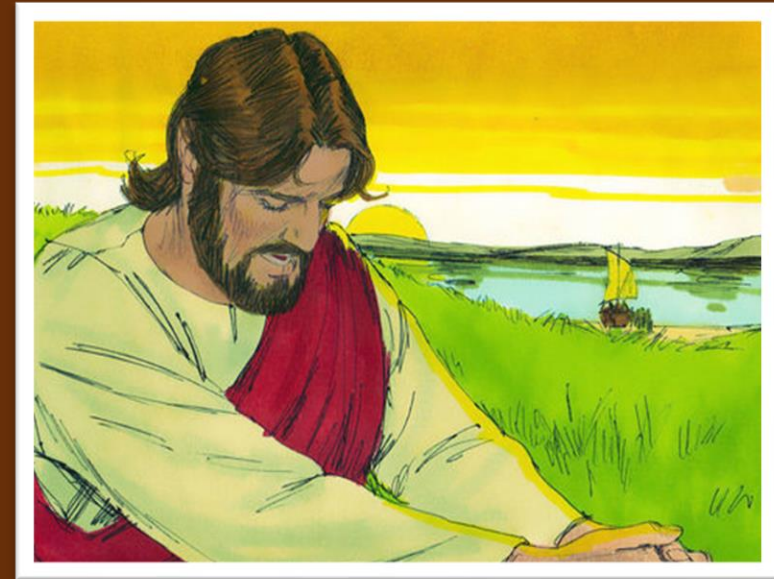
But first...close your eyes.

Imagine you are trying to cross a large lake in a boat at night. The wind is against you. You have battled the wind all night. You are exhausted from the hard work and lack of sleep. Then you see a shadowy figure coming to you...on water.

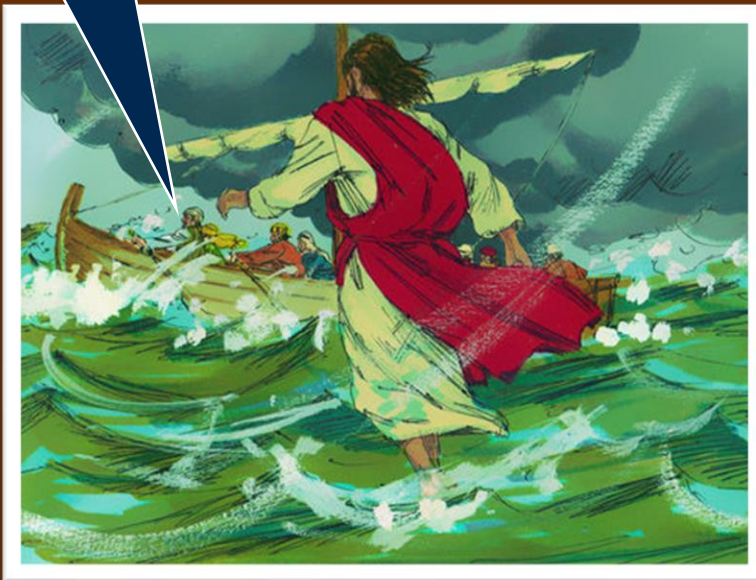
Now open your eyes.

Yeshua (Jesus) made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side, while He sent the crowds away.

After He had sent the crowds away, He went up on the hillside by Himself to pray. And when evening came, He was there alone.



It's a ghost!



But the boat was already a long way from land, tossed around by the waves, for the wind was against it.

Now in the fourth watch of the night (between 3am and 6am), Yeshua came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It's a ghost!" And they cried out with fear.



But immediately, Yeshua spoke to them, saying,
"Take courage!
I am.
Don't be afraid."



Answering, Peter said to Him, "Master, if it's You,
command me to come to You on the water."

And He said, "Come!"

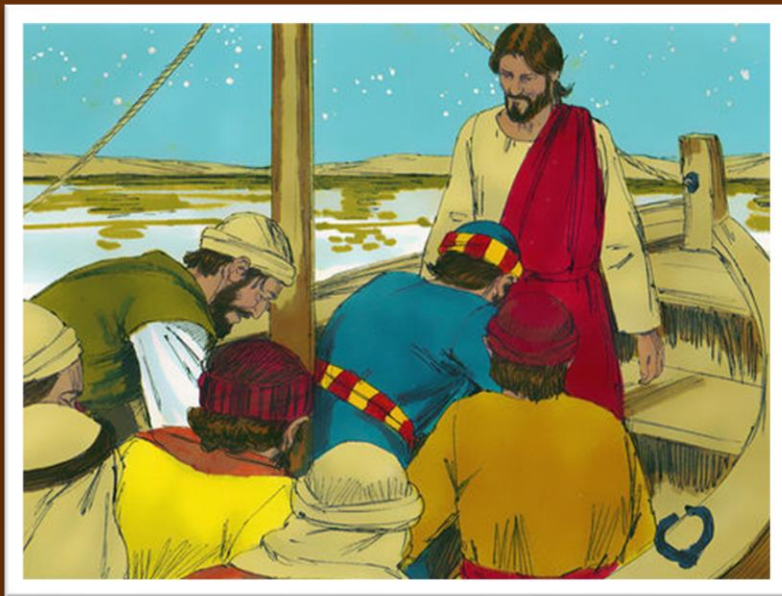


And Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water to go to Yeshua.

But seeing the wind, he became terrified. And beginning to sink, he cried out, saying, "Master, save me!"



Immediately Yeshua reached out His hand and grabbed him. And He said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"



When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "You really are Ben-Elohim! (Son of God)"

Object Lesson on Faith

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ggQB5PU7GCs>



Why did Jesus say "I Am"?

1. The disciples were terrified. Jesus told them, "Take courage, **I am**, Don't be afraid."
2. In Jewish culture, "**I am**" is unique to God. It is God's name. God introduced himself to Moses as "**I am**". No one in his right mind would describe himself as "**I am**", as he would be claiming to be God!
3. God also revealed himself as one who could tread on waves. Job 9:8 says "He alone spreads out the heavens, and treads on the waves of the sea."
4. Jesus claimed to be God and treaded on waves which only God could do. No wonder the disciples worshiped him! There is no need to fear when Jesus is around.



Family Discussion

1. Share with each other a most frightening moment in your life.
2. Peter said to Jesus, "Master, if it's You, command me to come to You on the water."
 - Why did Peter ask for that? (maybe he wanted to learn from his teacher, maybe he wanted to exercise his faith in Jesus?)
 - Did he believe he really could walk on water with Jesus' help? Why?
3. Peter started walking towards Jesus (Read the story again, carefully).
 - What did he look at which caused him to fear? What happened next?
 - Jesus said, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" - what did Jesus see as Peter's problem?
 - If Peter had fixed his eyes on Jesus, would he have sunk?
4. Often we are like Peter, wavering between faith and doubt.
 - From this story, how can we have faith in Jesus?

Family Discussion

5. Share an experience where you were able to overcome difficulties by trusting Jesus from beginning to end?

Peter's experience does not mean that you can do anything and expect God to help you. Jesus clearly told Peter to "come" - learn to walk on water - and he obeyed Jesus. With sustained faith, he could have walked over to Jesus.

So, if Jesus wants you to accomplish something, do not be afraid. Have faith and keep your eyes on Him. He will give you success. He is God.

Family Prayer Time

1. Thank God for His Word and help so we may learn from Him.
2. Ask your children to pray for what they have learned just now.
3. Ask your family how you can pray for them specifically.

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJDELcuYX3g>

