

T Together @ Home

Here are some activities you could do together as a family, begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.



Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, the miracle of Jesus walking on water.

You can find it in your Bible in:

John 6 v 16–21

You can find a longer version which includes Peter walking on water in:

Matthew 14:22–33

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children’s story version which best suits your group.



A prayer to say together

Dear God,
Thank you for the story of Jesus walking on the water. Thank you that even in the most difficult and scary times you are with us.

Thank you for the example of Peter who wanted to be close to Jesus but struggled with fear. We ask you to help us be bold and brave in our own relationship with you.

We pray for all those who are scared in the world today that they would know you near them. Amen.

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

How did the disciples feel when they first saw Jesus?

How did they feel when Jesus was in the boat with them?

The passage says that Jesus’ friends were scared when they saw Jesus walking on the water, at first, they thought he might be a ghost! The lake was dark and stormy with strong winds.

When Jesus joined them in the boat a miracle took place, the winds and waves were gone, and the disciples had made it safely to where they were going. Jesus reminded them that they didn’t need to be afraid when they were with him.

Some questions for children to ask adults

Can you think of a time when you had to complete a challenge or activity even though you were scared?

What helped you make it through?

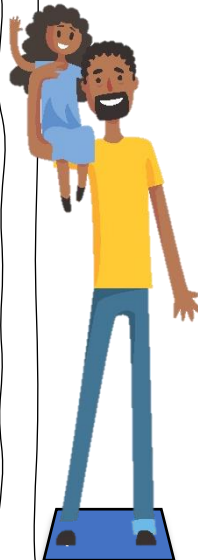
Family Activity 1

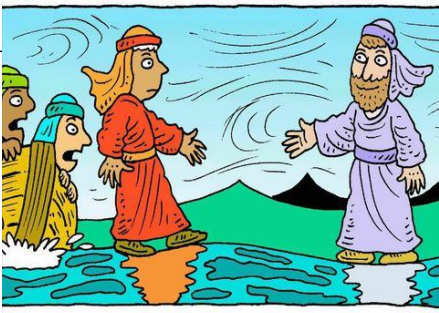
You will need: Two/three pieces of paper

Using just two or three pieces of paper can you get your whole family from one side of the room to the other?

You are only allowed to stand on the paper and not touch the floor. You will need to work as a team standing on one piece while you move the other.

In the story (in the book of Matthew) Peter got scared of the wind and waves and didn’t think he could make it across the water to Jesus. Just like the disciples in the story when we feel afraid we can remember that Jesus is with us.





A verse to remember

Isaiah 41:13

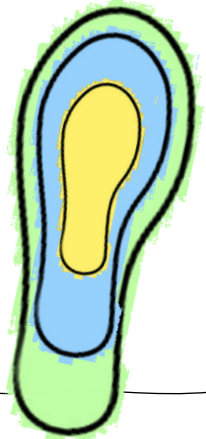
**I am the Lord your God, who holds your right hand,
and I tell you, 'Don't be afraid. I will help you.'**

Try to learn this simple together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.

Family Activity 2

Make your own **family foot picture**. Find a shoe for each family member. Draw around the smallest shoe first on a piece of paper. Then place the next size shoe on top and draw round that. Keep going until everybody's foot outline is on the paper, then decorate it together.

If you are feeling brave and have paints you could make a picture with actual footprints! Paint the sole of each person's foot in turn and let them walk over the paper to make a footprint picture!



Family Activity 3

Why not revisit the story at bath time? Can you act out the story using waterproof toys in your bath. Children could help make the stormy water and walk the toys across the surface of the bath.

Why not think about items which sink and items which float!



Helping Older Children

Peter was somebody who knew Jesus really well, he had the faith to ask Jesus if he could walk on water and HE DID! It was only when he allowed the wind and waves to distract him and took his eyes off Jesus that he began to sink.

Why not talk with older children about some of the things they can do to keep their eyes on Jesus and build their own faith. What are some of the distractions and fears that can get in the way of their own faith journey?

Active Prayer

You will need: A large container of water (or a bath!) and a range of waterproof objects, try to gather a mixture of items, some which will sink and some which will float.

Take it in turns to drop an object into the container of water – if the object sinks pray a "Help me" prayer and if it floats pray a "Thank you" prayer.

Thank you
God for my
friends

Help me to
be brave



A colouring page you could print and colour together

The picture on our colouring page today comes from www.thecolor.com if you don't have access to a printer you can colour the image online!

Isaiah 41:13

I am the Lord your God,
who holds your right hand,
and I tell you,

'Don't be
afraid. I
will help you.'



PUZZLE SHEET

Complete the picture to show what the disciples are seeing!



Can you fit these words from the story into the grid?

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Peter | Wind | Galilee |
| Jesus | Waves | Afraid |
| Water | Boat | |
| Walk | Lake | |

You can use logic to work out where the words fit or use some of the picture and number clues to get you started!

