

Wow

Week 2

BIG IDEA

Wow! Jesus has the power to calm our fears.

BIBLE

Jesus Calms the Storm: Luke 8:22–25; Psalm 50:1–6

WELCOME

MUSIC | Worship Playlist

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *During free time, use one of our Spotify playlists to play background music while kids play OR stream the main worship service on your classroom TV to participate in the worship happening in the Auditorium.*

QUESTION | "What makes our fears go away?"

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *This question will be written on the board as a conversation starter during free time.*
 - **What makes you feel better when you're afraid?**

PLAY | Free Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tables will be set with games and activities for kids to play until the lesson begins.*
 - *This is a great opportunity to get to know some kids and work on building relationships.*
 - *Have kids go to the bathroom prior to class beginning*
 - *At the end of Free Time, have kids work together to clean up toys/activities and then join you for the lesson - either on risers or on the floor.*

LARGE GROUP TIME

INTRO

- Welcome to church today, friends! Are you ready to continue exploring the incredible power of God this month? The world is filled with all kinds of outrageous inventions designed to help humans do all sorts of things.
- But this month, we're learning that there is someone who is way more powerful and helpful than anything we can ever come up with!
- Before we get into God's word together, I have a question for you.
 - **Have you ever felt afraid?**
- We all feel scared sometimes, about all different kinds of things.
- Did you know that the scientific name for fear is "phobia"? When you're afraid of heights, it's called "acrophobia," and when you're afraid of being in tight, crowded spaces, it's called "claustrophobia." There are lots of inventions out there that were made to help people who have different phobias.
- I'm going to show you an invention and I want you to try to guess what fear each of these inventions were designed to help with.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Show the kids various inventions that were developed to combat common fears, and ask kids to call out what fear they think each invention matches. You'll need photographs or props of inventions, such as a [nightlight](#) (fear of the dark), [bug spray](#) (fear of bugs), [noise-canceling headphones](#) (fear of loud noises), or [security systems](#) (fear of unknown danger).*
- We'll learn today that no matter what we're afraid of, there's someone who can calm our fears!

WHAT? What are we talking about today?

ACTIVITY | Catapults of Courage

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Pass out a piece of paper with "fear" printed on it to each child. Split kids into two teams. Have teams form a single file line and place a trash can a few feet in front of each line. At your signal, the first person in line with crumple up their "fear" and toss it into the trash can. When they've made it into the can, they will move to the back of the line. Compete until each person has had a chance to trash their fear. Have kids return to their seats.*
- Great job! In our game, it was easy to get rid of your fear, right? You just crumpled it up and tossed it in the garbage. If only it was that easy to get rid of our real-life fears!
- Our real-life fears can't always be catapulted out of our lives so easily. In those situations, what can we do?
- In today's Bible story we'll see that there is someone that we can turn to no matter what.

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

VIDEO | Wow!, Episode 2

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *While telling the Bible story in person is preferred, you may choose to play [this week's Bible story video](#) and re-cap the story with the script below.*

SCRIPTURE | Luke 8:22–25 (Jesus Calms the Storm)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read the passage or tell the Bible story using the provided script below. If you'd like, dress up (or ask another volunteer) as a quirky researcher named "Scientist Sam" who says "Wow!" a lot. Scientist Sam likes to say "Wow" a lot, and whenever Sam does, encourage kids to make a "W" with three fingers on both hands and hold them up beside their face.*
 - *To lean in to the science theme, play a short clip from a video like [this](#) of a soap tower as a teaching tool toward the end of the lesson.*
- *Wow! Hello again, friends! If we haven't met, my name is Scientist Sam, and I cannot wait to share with you all the biggest, strongest, greatest power I have ever known, inside or outside of a lab.*
- **Any guesses about what power I'm talking about?** *The power of Jesus!*
- *Wow! That's right! Let's examine another example of how Jesus made his friends go "wow" at his great power.*
- **Let's read Luke 8:22–25 together.**
 - *Wow! Imagine being on a boat out in the middle of the sea. **Would any of you be afraid to ride in a boat?** I understand! That can be a really scary thing to do. Then add to that a huge storm — Jesus and the disciples were on this boat in the middle of the sea when a storm came out of nowhere, tossing the boat. It was filling up with water and looked like it could flip over and sink! Wow — but like a *bad* wow! That sounds super scary!*
- **But what was Jesus doing?** *Sleeping.*
 - *Jesus was asleep while everyone else was scrambling on deck, terrified by the storm. They must have felt like they didn't have any control over it and they didn't know what to do. When they finally woke up Jesus, he stayed calm and full of peace. Wow! Everyone else was so afraid of that storm!*
 - *Jesus got up and told the wind and the sea to calm down. And guess what? They stopped! Jesus is so powerful that he could stop a giant storm with just his words! Wow!*
 - *Then, Jesus asked his friends, "Where is your faith?" They had forgotten whom they were with — Jesus, who has power over everything! Jesus was with them on the boat, but their fear got in the way of their faith.*
- *Speaking of fears, I had a scary moment in my lab one day. I was doing my latest experiment when suddenly, something went wrong.*
 - *(Show the soap tower video - pt. 1)*
 - *I was scared I would blow up my lab! I'm not Jesus, so I couldn't just tell the foaming mess to calm down, but I did the next best thing — I calmed down and prayed for God to help me see the solution.*
- *Wow! I had made a new discovery of how to make a soap bubble tower, but more than that, I had learned that Jesus gave me the power to remain calm! This reminds me of how Jesus has the power to do anything, like helping us when we are afraid.*

BIG IDEA | Wow! Jesus has the power to calm our fears.

- That reminds me of our Big Idea today!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Show the Big Idea poster on the white board while you have kids repeat*

after you.

- Let's say our Big Idea together: **Wow! Jesus has the power to calm our fears.**
- The same God who commands all of the heavens and all of the earth, who tells the sun when it should rise and when it should set, is the very same God who cares about you! In addition to overseeing the entire universe, God sees you and me.
- Fear can make you feel out of control and make it hard to stand firm in your faith. Even when we know perfectly well that Jesus has the power to calm our fears, we still feel afraid at times.
- That's exactly what happened to the disciples while they were on the boat with Jesus himself. The next time you feel afraid, remember this story and call on Jesus. **Wow! Jesus has the power to calm our fears.**
- He has the power to do anything — like calming storms — but also, **Jesus has the power to calm our fears** . . .and he cares enough to do that for us!

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

MEMORY VERSE | 1 Chronicles 29:12b (NIV)

- We have a new memory verse we're learning together this month. Each month, we memorize some of God's word, straight from the Bible because God's word shows us how to live and reminds us of who God is.
- This new verse reminds us of God's power and shows us that we can always turn to him.
- Here's what it says:
 - **"In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all."**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Using the printed colorful pages of the memory verse on the wall, recite the verse together a few times. Then, take each "element" down and invite a few kids to put the verse in the correct order.*
- Let's practice our verse together.
 - **In your hands** (*Hold out both hands in front of you.*)
 - **Are strength** (*Flex right arm.*)
 - **And power** (*Flex left arm.*)
 - **To exalt** (*Lifting motion.*) This word, "exalt," means to lift up. Can you pretend you are lifting something up as you say this word with me?
 - **And give strength.** (*Flex both arms.*)
 - **To all.** (*Sweep your arms out in front of you from your waist, palms facing up.*)
 - **1 Chronicles 29:12b** (*clap hands together, then open hands like a book*)
- Nice work, friends! When we memorize God's word, we let it live in our hearts and remind us of who God is and what he does.

PRAYER

- Now, we're going to have a chance to talk with our friends in small groups about everything we learned today and ask any questions you might have. Before we do, let's pray together.
 - Wow, God, you are powerful! The wind, the storms, and all of creation are at your command, yet you care about us most of all. Thank you for your power that calms our

fears. Help me to remember you are with me whenever I am afraid. Amen.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *If you haven't already, split kids into smaller groups, ideally by grade. Use the following questions to help reinforce the lesson. Invite kids to share any questions they might have.*
- **SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS**
 - **What was Jesus doing when the storm came?** *Sleeping.*
 - **How did Jesus calm the storm?** *He spoke to it, rebuking the wind and sea.*
 - **What did Jesus say to his disciples afterwards? What do you think he meant by that?** *He asked them where their faith was. They might have let their fear cause them to forget that Jesus was with them or what Jesus can do.*
 - **Read Psalm 50:1. How does this psalm remind you of today's Bible story?** *Jesus spoke to the storm because he can command all of nature.*
- **APPLICATION QUESTIONS**
 - **What are some things that cause that feeling in you?**
 - **Whenever you were afraid, what would you do in response to your fear?**
 - **Now that we know Jesus has the power to calm our fears, what can we do when we face our fears?**
 - **How might you ask Jesus to calm your fears?**
 - **How can you help others when they are feeling afraid?**

MEMORY VERSE | 1 Chronicles 29:12b (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Review the memory verse, then award prizes to kids that can say the verse from memory.*
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- This new verse reminds us of God's power and shows us that we can always turn to him.
- Here's what it says:
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- Let's practice our verse together.
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 - **1 Chronicles 29:12b** (*clap hands together, then open hands like a book*)
- Nice work, friends! When we memorize God's word, we let it live in our hearts and remind us of who God is and what he does. You can practice your verse all week long at home, too. Don't forget to take a memory verse card home!

