

Wow (Pre-K)

Week 4

BIG IDEA

Wow! Jesus has the power to save.

BIBLE

Jesus Walks on Water: Matthew 14:22–36

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Worship Playlist

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *During free time, use one of our Spotify playlists for background worship music.*

PLAY | Free Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Tables will be set with toys and activities for kids to play until the lesson begins. This is a great opportunity to get to know kids and build relationships.*
 - *Get on the floor and be silly*
 - *Play along with what they're playing*
 - *Ask get-to-know-you questions*
 - *Learn names and use them as you interact*

CLEAN UP

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before moving onto the lesson content, play the "Clean Up" song and work together as a class to put all toys and activities away.*
 - *Place all toys in labelled tubs.*
 - *Place all tubs away in labelled cabinets Invite kids to find a "sit spot"*

INTRO

ACTIVITY | Jumping Over Waves

- Welcome to church today, friends! I am so glad to be here with all of you. All month long we've been learning about the most powerful thing in all the world. It's Jesus! There's lots of water in our Bible story today, so I have a question for you:
 - **Has anyone ever floated in the water before, maybe with a floaty?**
- In today's Bible story, we'll learn about the time Jesus floated on the water, too. But he wasn't wearing a floaty. He wasn't swimming, either . . . He walked on the water! I can't wait to tell you about it.
- Let's play a game together to see how well you can jump the waves.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Use one or two large jump ropes (you will need a leader or helper on each end of the ropes). With the ropes on the ground, move each end side to side to create an "S" pattern on the ground. Have kids line up and take turns jumping across the "waves" from one side of the room to the other.*
 - **TODDLER HACK:** *Create waves by creating a zigzag pattern on the ground with blue painter's tape. Allow toddlers to have fun jumping from one side to the other and back. You can also have them walk along the tape to set up the story of how Jesus walked on water.*
- Great job jumping over all the waves! Today we are learning about a time when Jesus didn't just jump over waves, but walked on the water!

WORSHIP | Music Videos

- Now we get to do one of my favorite things! We are going to worship God together by singing and dancing.
- **Will you dance and sing to God with me?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play the worship music videos on the TV. Invite kids to participate by dancing and singing along.*
- Thank you for worshipping God with me! You all have such beautiful voices and God loves to hear them!
- Let's head to our tables for a little snack before we get into our Bible story.

SNACK

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Gather kids around the tables and serve snacks, telling the story while they eat - OR - have kids find a sit-spot on the floor and pass out snacks to eat during story time.*
 - **IMPORTANT NOTE:** *Don't forget to check name tags for food allergies.*

PRAYER

- Before we enjoy our snack, let's pray together.
- **Can you show me you're ready to pray by folding your hands together and closing your**

eyes?

- Wow, Jesus! You have the power to save us. Thank you for being there for us whenever we run into trouble. Amen.

STORY TIME

(OPTIONAL) VIDEO | Wow!, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *If you'd like, you can play this week's [Bible story video](#).*

SCRIPTURE | Matthew 14:22–36 (Jesus Walks on Water)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read this story out loud in a preschool-friendly translation or a preschool storybook Bible. You can also retell the story using the talking points below. Use the provided images as visuals while you tell the Bible story. Invite kids to say "Wow!" with you throughout the story.*
- **Who's ready to hear today's Bible story?**
 - **If you are, shout, "Wow!"**
- **Who is Jesus?** Jesus is God's son. A long, long, time ago, he was living on this earth. He taught people about God, and he healed people who were sick. He could do anything!
 - **Wow!**
- There was one day Jesus and his disciples came to the Sea of Galilee. Jesus wanted to pray by himself for a little bit, so he sent the disciples in a boat to cross the sea by themselves.
 - **Let's pretend we are rowing ourselves on a little boat and sing this with me:**
 - "Row, row, row your boat
 - To the other side
 - Of the Sea of Galilee
 - Jesus is right behind."
- So all the disciples got in, and off they went! Wait a minute. If the disciples have the boat, how is Jesus going to get to the other side?
 - **How do you think Jesus got across the lake?**
- He didn't rent another boat. He didn't swim. He walked. That's right! Jesus walked. On the water. Toward the boat the disciples were in.
 - **Wow!**
 - **Everyone stand up and tiptoe like you're walking on water.**
- The disciples saw someone walking on the water, and they thought it was a ghost. Jesus said, "Don't be afraid, it's me!" Peter called out to Jesus, "If it really is you, tell me to walk on the water, too."
 - **What do you think Jesus said?** He told Peter to come walk toward Jesus!
 - And guess what? Peter did it — he was walking on the water, too!
 - **Wow!**
- But then the wind blew, and that made Peter afraid. He began to sink in the water. Oh no!
 - **Who can save Peter?** Jesus!
- Right away, Jesus reached out his hand and caught Peter so he wouldn't drown.
 - **Wow!** What a rescue!

- That was an amazing true story of Jesus. Jesus is so powerful!**Wow!**

BIG IDEA | Wow! Jesus has the power to save.

- In our Bible story today, Jesus did something amazing. He walked on the water. No one can do that, but Jesus did.
- Then, Jesus told Peter to walk toward him and guess what?!? Peter was able to walk on the water, too. But then, Peter took his eyes off Jesus and got kind of scared and what happened? Peter started to sink.
- But Jesus reached out and saved Peter when he started to sink in the water. Jesus saved him right away!
- That reminds me of our Big Idea.
- **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!** (*Place hands on either side of your face.*)
 - **Jesus** (*Point up to the sky with both hands.*)
 - **Has the power** (*Flex biceps.*)
 - **To save** (*Stand with hands on waist and feet apart, like a superhero.*)
- Jesus saved Peter from drowning in the water, but Jesus also came to save us from our sins. Not long after this day, Jesus would die on the cross to take the punishment for our sins. He did that so that we could be saved and live forever with him in heaven. **Wow! Jesus has the power to save.**

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

- Ok, now everyone stand up on your feet. We have a brand new memory verse to learn together.
- We learn a verse together each month so that we can learn and know God's words! This verse reminds us that God is powerful and he can help us to be strong, too!
- Here's what it says:
- **"In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all."**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read the memory verse to the kids. Review the verse using the motions below.*
 - **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*)
- Great job, everyone!

SHARING TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Distribute the [coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse.

DISCUSSION | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Check in with kids and pray with them for anything on their hearts. Then, discuss the Bible story with the following questions. Feel free to repeat questions so that everyone has a chance to respond.
 - **How did the disciples get across the lake?** On a boat.
 - **How did Jesus get to his friends on the lake?** He walked on the water.
 - **Who asked Jesus to tell him to join Jesus on the water?** Peter.
 - **Then Peter got scared and began to sink, but who saved him?** Jesus.
 - **Who has the power to save?** Jesus!
- Remember, Jesus loves you! That's why we can pray to him to help us with anything we are having trouble with. It makes me want to say . . . **Wow! Jesus has the power to save.**

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

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Review the memory verse, then award prizes to kids that can recite the verse.
- Let's practice our new memory verse together.
- Here's what it says:
 - **"In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all."**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the memory verse to the kids. Review the verse using the motions below.
 - **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)
- Great job! You can keep practicing at home this week, too. Maybe you could teach the verse to your family!

PLAY TIME

EXTRA TIME ACTIVITY | Jumping the Waves

- Let's play a game together to see how well you can jump the waves.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Use one or two large jump ropes (you will need a leader or helper on each end of the ropes). With the ropes on the ground, move each end side to side to create an "S" pattern on the ground. Have kids line up and take turns jumping across the "waves" from one side of the room to the other.*
 - **TODDLER HACK:** *Create waves by creating a zigzag pattern on the ground with blue painter's tape. Allow toddlers to have fun jumping from one side to the other and back. You can also have them walk along the tape to set up the story of how Jesus walked on water.*