



Captain of Our Salvation By Deborah Wassenberg

Interesting fact: Any naval officer who commands a ship is addressed as 'Captain' while aboard regardless of their actual rank. The Captain is in command! Jesus is called the Captain of our Salvation. He wants us to trust Him. He will not abandon us.

Song Suggestions:

- With Christ in My Vessel I Can Smile at the Storm (Traditional)
- We Lift You Higher (KPTV Fearless Band)
- Never Let Go of Me (Shipwrecked VBS)

Memory Verse: John 16:33

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

Bailing Relay: Divide your children into teams. You'll need two buckets per team. One full bucket for the start of the water relay and one empty bucket for the end of the relay for water to be tipped into. The end bucket needs 5 water levels marked on it. You'll also need a smaller bucket or cup per team. On the word go the first team member scoops water in their small bucket or cup from the full bucket and passes it along the team and the last team member tips it into the empty bucket. As the water meets a water level mark on the bucket, the team receives a part of the Memory Verse, written on a strip of cardboard. The first team to fill the bucket, reaching all the water level marks and collecting all the words, wins. Arrange the words in the correct order and recite the Memory Verse together. Use Lifesaver lollies as rewards!

1st level: I have overcome the world.

2nd level: But take heart;

3rd level: In the world you will have tribulation

4th level: that in me you may have peace.

5th level: I have said these things to you,

Bible Lesson: Jesus Calms the Storm

Bible References: Matthew 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41;
Luke 8:22-25

Visuals for Flashcards or PowerPoint

See Free Bible Images for illustrations: <http://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/qnpi-043-jesus-storm/>

- Visual 1:** Naval Captain
- Visual 2:** Jesus by the Sea of Galilee
- Visual 3:** Jesus sleeping in the boat
- Visual 4:** A huge storm came up
- Visual 5:** Jesus rebukes the storm
- Visual 6:** Jesus asking the disciples, 'Where is your faith?'
- Visual 7:** Disciples ask 'Who is this?'
- Visual 8:** Storm clouds: sickness, fighting with family of other kids, divorce

Words:

Visual 1:

A Captain is the person in command of a ship. A Captain is someone who is...

- Is trustworthy
- Is responsible
- Takes ownership
- Takes the initiative
- Has good judgement
- Speaks with authority
- Strengthens others
- Remains optimistic and enthusiastic
- Never compromises
- Leads with his life

Visual 2:

In Hebrews 2:10, Jesus is called the 'Captain of our Salvation'. He has gone before us. He suffered and died on the Cross so He could lead us to glory. He is the perfect Captain. We can always trust Him.

Visual 3:

One day Jesus was teaching near the Sea of Galilee. Even though it is called a sea, it's actually a big lake. Afterwards, he wanted a rest from the crowds so decided to take a boat with the disciples to the opposite shore where there were no large towns. Jesus said, 'Let us cross over to the other side.' When they first got into the boat, Jesus must have been exhausted. Jesus was fully God, but He was also fully human. He had been walking all over, teaching, and healing hundreds of people. So when He was finally away from the crowds, He went to the back of the boat, laid His head on a cushion and fell asleep.

Visual 4:

A huge storm came up. Some of Jesus' disciples were professional fishermen and they were familiar with the ways of the sea. This was not the first storm they would have been in because the Sea of Galilee was known for its sudden raging storms. Even these professional fishermen were frightened by this storm. They thought they were going to die!

The wind didn't wake Jesus. The waves coming into the boat didn't wake Jesus. But when his disciples cried out to Him, He woke up instantly. 'Don't you care if we drown?' they yelled.

Visual 5:

Jesus stood up and rebuked the wind and the sea. 'Peace, be still!' He spoke and the sea obeyed. The wind stopped and the water was still.

Visual 6:

The storm had not bothered Jesus at all. But the disciple's lack of faith disturbed Him. 'Why are you so fearful?' he asked. 'How is it you have no faith?'

The disciples had no faith because Jesus had said, 'Let us cross to the other side.' But they thought they were going to sink before they got there. The disciples had no faith because they thought Jesus didn't care if they drowned.

Visual 7:

The total calm of the sea should have made the disciples feel very peaceful. But they were terrified. They asked each other, 'Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey Him! The disciples had seen Jesus as a tired man who needed to sleep. And now they had seen Him as God who could calm the sea. (Psalm 89:8-9)

Ministry to the Children:

Visual 8:

Jesus never promised you will never have a storm in your life. It will not always be smooth sailing. What are some stormy situations you may have to face?

The storms in our lives can help us see how much faith we have. We need to have complete trust in Jesus, knowing for certain that He is in control. Have faith! Jesus keeps His word. Have faith! Jesus cares about you. Have faith! Your boat cannot go down. Captain Jesus is on board!

Bible Story Revision Fun: Whenever I Say...

- Whenever I say '**boat**' everyone say 'creeek' and pretend you're pulling hard on the oars
- Whenever I say '**disciples**' all the boys count to 12 really fast!
- Whenever I say '**wind**' all the girls cup their hands around their mouths and blow
- Whenever I say '**waves**' put your hands side by side and make waves in front of you
- Whenever I say '**Jesus**' point upward and say, 'Christ, the Lord.'

The **disciples** were just exhausted. All day crowds and crowds of people had been following **Jesus**, listening as he taught and watching as he healed the sick. Now the sun was beginning to set over the Sea of Galilee. **Jesus** said, "Let's get in a **boat** and go over to the other side of the lake." It would be good for all of them to get away from the crowds for a while. The **disciples** rowed away from the shore while **Jesus** went to the front of the **boat** and lay down on a cushion. The **waves** lapped gently against the side of the **boat**, lulling **Jesus** into a peaceful sleep. But suddenly a **wind** began to blow dark clouds across the sky. The **waves** weren't so gentle anymore. The little **boat** began to pitch and rock. The **disciples** began to get a little worried. But **Jesus** still lay sleeping in the front of the **boat**. Then the **wind** grew stronger still. The spray from the **waves** got the **disciples** all wet. This was getting to be a bad storm! But **Jesus** still lay sleeping in the front of the **boat**. By the time the fishing **boat** reached the centre of the lake, the **wind** had turned into an angry gale that whipped the **waves** so high they washed right over the **boat**. The **disciples** were terrified. They thought they might drown. But **Jesus** still lay sleeping in the front of the **boat**.

Finally, someone went and shook **Jesus**. "Master," he cried, "don't you care if we drown?" **Jesus** looked around. He listened to the howling **wind**. He felt the cold, stinging spray as **waves** crashed over the little **boat**. He saw the fear in the faces of his **disciples**. Then **Jesus** stood, stretched out his arms to the **wind** and the **waves**, and commanded: "Peace! Be still!" And all at once the **wind** died down and the **waves** became completely calm. Then he asked the **disciples**: "Why are you so afraid? Where is your faith?" **Jesus** showed his power over the **wind** and the **waves** that day on the Sea of Galilee. Just as he cared for his **disciples** in that little storm-tossed **boat**, he will care for you.

Game: Captain's Coming!

A child is chosen as the Captain. The Captain call out orders to the rest of the children who are the crew. If a child does not follow an order correctly they are out. This decision is made by the Captain who is always right!

Captain's Orders:

To the ship: all players run and stand to the right of the captain

On land: all players run and stand to the left of the captain

Down on the deck: all players lie down on their stomachs

Attention on deck: all players salute and say "Aye, aye Capitan"

Three men in a boat: all players make groups of three

Scrub the deck: all players run around circles on their knees

Man over board: each player looks for a partner. One lies on the ground on their stomach. The other places their foot on his partner's back

Starboard: all players run to the left side of the boat

Port: all players run to the right side of the boat

Stern: all players run to the back

Bow: all players run to the front

Sick seagull: each player sits down and flaps their hands and feet around in the air

Row the boat: each player looks for a partner. The two players hold hands facing each other and make rowing movements

In the crow's nest: each player looks for a partner and the lighter of the two jumps onto the back of his partner

Shark: everyone must run to a designated base (multiple bases can be used). The last player to the base is out

Craft: Rope Pencil Holder

You will need:

Tin cans or any other container that can hold pencils and can be wrapped in rope (one per child)

Glue (tacky craft glue, PVA or glue gun under adult supervision)

Scissors

Rope

What to do:

Glue the rope to the base of the tin.

Give it some time to dry.

Wrap the rope around the tin, continuing from the bottom and moving upwards.

When the tin is wrapped, cut the rope and glue the end in place

You might like to add a picture of a ships wheel with the Memory Verse written on it. Photocopy onto white card. Ask the children to colour and cut it out and glue it to their rope pencil holder.