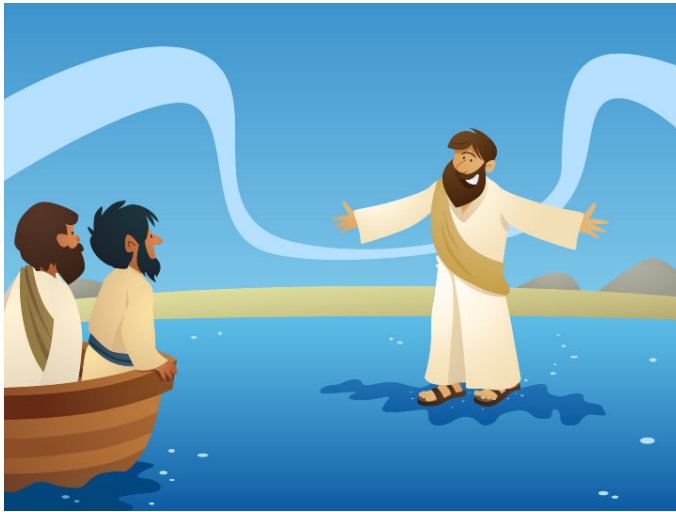
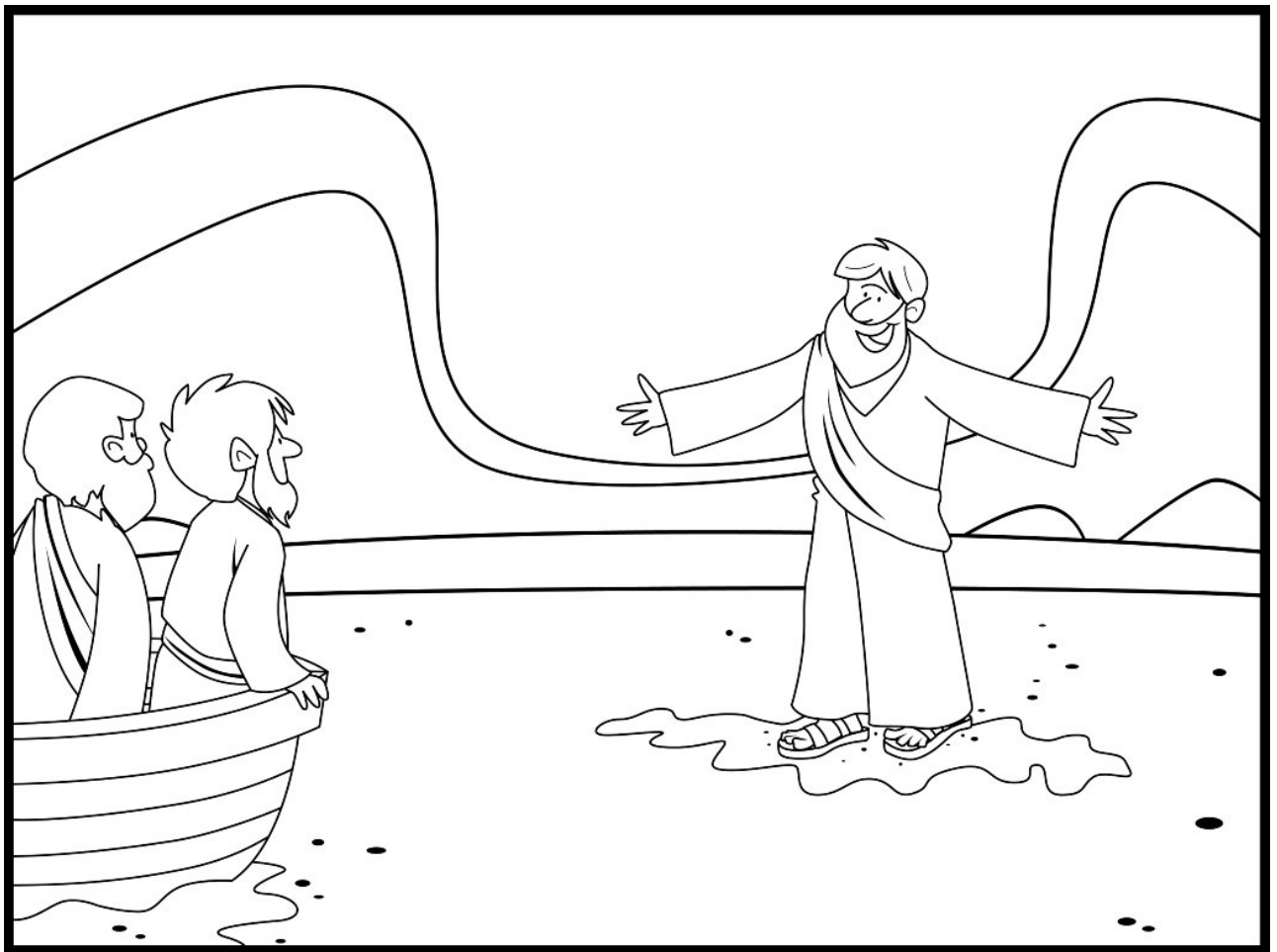


28 February 2016:

JUNIORS: JESUS WALKS ON THE WATER: Matthew 14:22-33



Here is a picture for you to colour in and bring to your teacher next week!



SENIORS: GOOD NEWS FOR THE POWERLESS: Luke 8:26-39



We like cartoon movies where the little guy wins. After watching that we feel brave! But it only lasts for a short while, doesn't it. We forget about the movie when real life begins again.

Today's good news is that when we belong to Jesus we have a power source available to us, far more powerful than anything in an animated cartoon movie

The first story takes place in a small fishing boat. Jesus was exhausted after preaching and healing, so while the disciples were sailing the boat, he fell asleep. And while he slept, the wind blew stronger and stronger. At first the men probably weren't very bothered. After all, they were skilled fishermen and they knew the Sea of Galilee – they could handle it. And they probably hoped to be on the other side before the worst came. But gradually they realised this was the worst storm they had ever known. That was saying something, because the Sea of Galilee was a pretty bad place for sudden storms. In fact, they thought they were going to drown for the boat was beginning to leak. Panic-stricken, they woke Jesus up. He simply stood up in the boat and told the wind and the waves to calm down. And they did! The disciples got a huge shock: even the wind and the waves obeyed him. This was no ordinary man!

But the story goes on:

As they landed safely on the other side of the lake, they were met by a mad man. He was so violent that his family had tried to chain him up and had set guards over him so that he would not hurt himself and others. But, when the fit came on him, he would just break the chains! Now he wandered around naked and lived among the caves where the dead were buried. As he saw Jesus, he shouted out, recognising that Jesus was God and begging Jesus not to torment him. He was probably used to people throwing stones at him! He didn't realise that Jesus loved him and was sorry for him.

When Jesus asked him his name, he said he was called 'Legion' which means over 4000! I suspect he felt that he had so many mood-swings that he felt like 4000 people in one! And, just as he had stilled the storm, Jesus told the madness to leave him. His evil spirits entered the pigs nearby become and they rushed off madly down the hill into the water where they drowned.

The men who had been guarding the pigs ran off to the village terrified and soon the whole village came out to see what was going on. There was the madman, sitting calmly and quietly – with clothes on – and listening to Jesus. Wow! But instead of being thrilled that the man was cured, the village people begged Jesus to go away. They couldn't cope with the idea of such power!

Whose side are you on? The villagers who were scared of being near Jesus or the healed man and the disciples who realised that Jesus uses his power for good?

I know what I choose. I want to know that I have someone as amazing as that who is my best friend. No matter what happens to me – illness, madness, storms. He will be there for me, enabling me as to cope. Good news indeed!

Puzzle (Bring this with you next Sunday or email it to me: moragventer@icon.co.za)

Peace! Be Still

When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Silence! Be still!" Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm. Mark 4:39 (NLT)

The puzzle is based on Mark 4:35-41



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D I S C I P L E S W C A Q K K
D C X J Q J L L M A Q T F E Y
J R A O S Y T C J V W I N D H
X E O L Z T E S L E E P I N G
K Y S W M C I Q I S X W O K E
O A L U N T S L B P C B D R J
L A K E S Z D N L O C H E S V
T A L L I I V Z Z Z A T E W S
S I K Z A Y T I M W K T B A W
S B P R S C C U S H I O N T D
X L F G T J D W F A I T H E F
T A H O O E O P X O T B L R U
Z W J Q R D B T Q Q A F T Q Y
S L J L M J E V E N I N G S Q
W W N Y D L Y T D L Y D J Q C

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DISCIPLES	SILENCE	WOKE	EVENING	FAITH
WATER	AFRAID	LAKE	BOAT	OBEY
JESUS	CALM	CUSHION	WAVES	WIND
DROWN	HEAD	SLEEPING	STORM	STILL