

Luke 8:22-39

Jesus: The God-Man

Scripture: Luke 8:22-39

Memory Verse: Luke 8:25b *“And they were afraid, and marveled, saying to one another, “Who can this be? For He commands even the winds and water, and they obey Him!”*

Lesson Focus: Jesus looks very much like a superhero in this passage as He exhibits supernatural power over nature and over evil. Yet, we want the kids to see that Jesus is much greater than a mere superhero. He is the God-man! But merely knowing this isn't enough. We must also believe and trust in Him. Therefore, we will close the lesson challenging the kids to evaluate whether Jesus is truly welcome into their hearts.

Activities and Crafts: Coloring Picture of Jesus Calming the Storm, Word Search of different terms from lesson, Bring it Home Discussion for 3rd – 5th.
Craft for 1st/2nd grade: Sailboat

Starter Activity: Superhero Quiz

Consider getting the lesson started by taking the kids through a superhero quiz. Below are a few questions that you can use, but feel free to add your own! *

- 1) Which superhero is known for his shield?
A: Captain America
- 2) Which superhero is also known as Peter Parker?
A: Spider-Man
- 3) Which superhero has bulletproof bracelets and a magic lasso?
A: Wonder Woman
- 4) Which superhero's favorite food is pizza?
A: The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
- 5) Which superhero owns “Stark Industries”?
A: Iron-Man
- 6) When angry whom does Bruce Banner become?
A: The Incredible Hulk
- 7) Which superhero protects Gotham City?
A: Bat-Man
- 8) Which superhero is known as “the man of steel”?
A: Super-Man

Now transition into the lesson with one more question.

Q: Which “superhero” has power over nature, evil, and even death?

A: Jesus Christ! He is going to display some of His “powers” in our lesson today. But as we will see Jesus is more than just a mere “superhero”. Let's see why!

Bible Study:

Luke 8:22: Jesus had finished teaching the multitudes and apparently needed a break from the crowds. Therefore, He instructs His disciples to get into a boat and go to the other side.

Q: How many of you have ever been on a boat before? * I want you to imagine yourself on the boat with Jesus right now. Pretend that you are there. This is the Sea of Galilee which you can visit today. It is surrounded by large hills and valleys. * Jesus had just finished a long day of teaching and now you are alone with Jesus and His disciples on the boat. *

Luke 8:23a: But as you set out, Jesus immediately takes a nap! This teaches us something really important about Jesus. It reminds us that He is truly human, just like us!

Luke 8:23b: And then immediately a violent windstorm appears! Such windstorms still happen today on the Sea of Galilee due to its unique landscape. So imagine you are there and crazy Colorado-like winds suddenly take over and threaten to sink the boat. *

Q: How would you feel right now? A: If you are honest, you would probably panic!

Luke 8:24a: And that is exactly what the disciples are doing! **Mark 4:38** adds an interesting detail where the disciples sort of point their fingers at Jesus suggesting He doesn't care that they are going to drown. But does Jesus care?

Luke 8:24b: Wow! Of course He cares and He proves it here. But again, imagine you are there and how stunning this must have looked! **Mark 4:39** adds another detail that Jesus actually spoke out loud and commanded the wind and the sea to "BE QUIET"! *

Q: Have you ever tried telling the wind or the rain to stop? What happened? *

A: NOTHING! Because we do not command the wind and the rain.

Q: Who ultimately does? A: God! Read **Psalm 33:6-9**.

Boys and Girls: When Jesus commanded the wind and the sea, He was making a very clear statement about who He was: God Himself in human flesh.

We've already talked about how Jesus being asleep on the boat shows He is truly human, but this shows He is also truly God. You know what that makes Jesus? **The God-man!** *

Luke 8:25a: Jesus points His finger back at them and wonders why they didn't trust Him! * Again, imagine you were there and Jesus looked you in the eye and said this to you! Well, if you are going through a storm in your life, Jesus is asking you the same question right now. Will you trust Him?

Luke 8:25b: You should because of Who He is: The God-man! * The disciples were just starting to figure this out. They were both afraid and marveling at the power of Jesus! *

Luke 8:26: They finally make it to the other side of the sea where another marvelous experience awaits them. Buckle your seatbelts for this one!

Luke 8:27: Whoa! This madman approaches them who is under the control of demons or evil spirits. * Demons are angels who were once good, but who joined the devil in rebellion against God.

Boys and Girls: These same spiritual forces of darkness and evil still exist today and while believers in Jesus must not ignore them, believers must not fear them either. Why not? Because as we will see, Jesus is more powerful than these demonic forces! *

Luke 8:28: Notice the demons already know that Jesus is the God-man and bow down before Him! * Q: Who is the one in charge here so far? A: Jesus!

Luke 8:29-30: This poor man needs help! It appears that there are many demons controlling him, maybe even thousands. Q: But are they any match for Jesus? NOPE!

Luke 8:31-32: Notice that the demons cannot do anything without Jesus's permission! They are begging * Jesus to have mercy on them by sending them among a nearby herd of pigs rather than banished into this "abyss" or prison where they belonged.

Luke 8:33: Whoa! Jesus permits them to go among the pigs and they immediately run off the cliff and drown! (Teachers: Consider taking a quick break and have your class act this scene out for some fun) *

Luke 8:34-36: Imagine being there and seeing this! Wouldn't you also run and tell others about what you had seen? But perhaps the most remarkable thing is that this madman, who was controlled by evil, was suddenly healed and in his right mind! And He was sitting at the feet of Jesus right where He belonged.

Q: How do you think the crowd will respond? Worship? Gratitude? Celebration?

Luke 8:37: No! They asked Jesus to leave. Can you believe it? It appears they were more upset about losing their pigs than glad that this poor man was healed. *

Luke 8:38-39: But not the healed guy. The God-man had come to his rescue and now he wanted nothing more than to be with his Rescuer. But Jesus had a job for him to do.

Q: What was his job? A: To proclaim to his people what God has done for him! *

Key Point: We started our lesson by talking about superheroes. * I think one reason we like superheroes and their stories so much is that we all long to see good triumph over evil. That is exactly what Jesus did in this passage and then ultimately with His death and resurrection when He made a way for all of us to be rescued from sin, death, and hell! *

But ask yourself this: Who are you more like?

- 1) The healed man who wanted nothing more than to be with Jesus. This guy loved Jesus and wanted others to know about Jesus. * Do you?
- 2) Or the others who asked Jesus to leave. Jesus was annoying and unwelcome to them. Is this how you see Jesus?

Boys and Girls: Welcome Jesus, the God-man, into your hearts and tell others about Him!

BRING IT HOME

Read Luke 8:24-25
How can you better trust Jesus thru the "storms" in your life?



Read Luke 8:39
What great things has God done for you that you can share with others?

Parent Signature:

Parent Challenge:
Who is your favorite superhero? How is Jesus greater?

