

The Day Of The Storm

Key Word: Trust

Key Verse: He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" *Mark 4:40*

The first thing Jack saw in church Sunday morning was a bright red octopus. It seemed an odd animal to be in church, but Jack was excited. Surely the preacher would have an exciting talk this morning. It was only a paper octopus, but it filled Jack's mind with thoughts of the sea and strange sea creatures and coral reefs and snorkeling and all those things you never usually thought about in church. Jack imagined himself at the bottom of the sea dressed in a diving suit, while the octopus squirted Jack with ink.

Then he heard, "Would the children like to come up?" Jack was the first to the front of the church. When there were about a dozen children gathered together, the preacher brought over the bright red paper octopus. Jack noticed he had in his hand more smaller octopuses. "Now children," the preacher began, "do you know what day this is?" All the children were silent. "Have we all forgotten?" the preacher asked brightly. Jack wondered whether it was Octopus Sunday, but he wasn't sure whether there was such a thing. Jack put up his hand and asked loudly, "Is it Octopus Sunday?"

The congregation laughed, but the preacher looked angry. "You're holding it the wrong way," he said. "This is a flame," he responded, impatiently. "Today is Pentecost, the church's birthday. Do you know what happened at

the first Pentecost? We've just had the story read to us."

Jack hadn't been listening to the Bible story, so he had no idea, but he knew the preacher would tell them, because that's what preachers always did. He soon learned that on the first day of Pentecost after Jesus had died, the Holy Spirit had hovered over the heads of each of the disciples, just like tongues of flame. He also learned that the preacher had spent a long time cutting out over a hundred tongues of flame from bright red paper, and that he wasn't very pleased when Jack thought they looked like octopuses.

Jack prayed to God to make everything right and he somehow felt better. It was as though he became still and calm. The next week he went to church and Jack apologized to the preacher. "That's okay, Jack," the preacher said, "I learned a whole lot from last week, too." And he smiled at Jack. Inside his head he whispered, "Thank you, God."

Questions

Why wasn't Jack listening to the readings? What was he thinking about?

Why were the disciples afraid of the storm?

- PICTURE DIFFERENCES**
- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| 1. MOUTH | 6. EYES |
| 2. HAIR | 7. MAT |
| 3. SASH | 8. OAR |
| 4. HAT | 9. WAVE |
| 5. COLLAR | 10. NOSE |

"WHO THEN IS THIS, THAT EVEN THE WIND AND THE SEA OBEY HIM?"

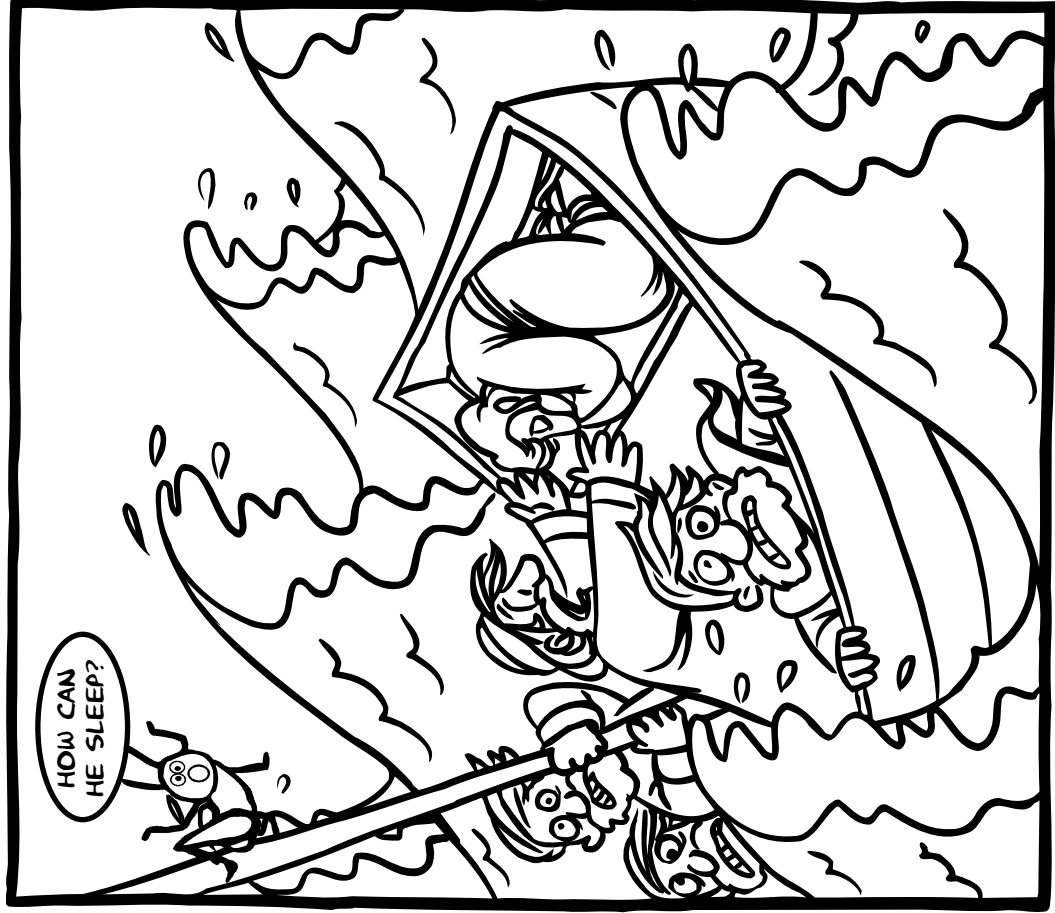
Answers

LETTER FIND

E	V	E	L	I	N	I	N	G
L	A	M	A	S	H	A	C	E
W	I	N	D	S	T	O	R	M
P	E	A	C	E	S	U	U	U
F	R	I	A	I	D			
C								

Gospel Grams

Today's Gospel Story is from **Mark 4:35-41**



Crossword Puzzle

Complete this crossword puzzle using the clues from today's Gospel story. Read the clues. Then fill in the squares below with the answers.

ACROSS

- Jesus asked, "Why are you _____?" (vs. 40)
- Jesus said to the sea, "_____! Be still." (vs. 39)
- A great _____ arose, and the waves beat the boat. (vs. 37)
- They left when _____ had come. (vs. 35)

DOWN

- The wind ceased and there was a dead _____. (vs. 39)
- Jesus woke up and _____ the wind. (vs. 39)
- Jesus was in the stern asleep on the _____. (vs. 38)
- The boat was already being _____. (vs. 37)
- They were filled with great _____. (vs. 41)

Letter Find Puzzle

Match the letters to the numbers under each box to reveal a message from today's Gospel story.

" 3 15 16 22 15 10 21 6 20 22 15 6 20', 22 15 14 22
 10 24 10 21 22 15 10 3 6 21 11 14 21 11 22 15 10
 ?"
 20 10 14 16 9 10 5 15 6 2

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	9	12	11	10	13	8	15	6	17	4	19	2	21	16	23	18	25	20	22	1	24	3	26	5	7

Picture Differences Puzzle

Below are two drawings from today's Gospel story. There are 10 differences in these drawings. How many can you find? Circle each one as you find it.

