

he goes; and I order that one, 'Come!' and he comes; and I order my slave, 'Do this!' and he does it."

**10** When Jesus heard this, he was surprised and said to the people following him, "I tell you, I have never found anyone in Israel with faith like this. **11** I assure you that many will come from the east and the west and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob at the feast in the Kingdom of heaven. **12** But those who should be in the Kingdom will be thrown out into the darkness, where they will cry and gnash their teeth." **13** Then Jesus said to the officer, "Go home, and what you believe will be done for you."

And the officer's servant was healed that very moment.

### Jesus Heals Many People

**14** Jesus went to Peter's home, and there he saw Peter's mother-in-law sick in bed with a fever. **15** He touched her hand; the fever left her, and she got up and began to wait on him.

**16** When evening came, people brought to Jesus many who had demons in them. Jesus drove out the evil spirits with a word and healed all who were sick. **17** He did this to make come true what the prophet Isaiah had said, "He himself took our sickness and carried away our diseases."

### The Would-Be Followers of Jesus

**18** When Jesus noticed the crowd around him, he ordered his disciples to go to the other side of the lake. **19** A teacher of the Law came to him. "Teacher," he said, "I am ready to go with you wherever you go."

**20** Jesus answered him, "Foxes have holes, and birds have nests, but

the Son of Man has no place to lie down and rest."

**21** Another man, who was a disciple, said, "Sir, first let me go back and bury my father."

**22** "Follow me," Jesus answered, "and let the dead bury their own dead."

### Jesus Calms a Storm

**23** Jesus got into a boat, and his disciples went with him. **24** Suddenly a fierce storm hit the lake, and the boat was in danger of sinking. But Jesus was asleep. **25** The disciples went to him and woke him up. "Save us, Lord!" they said. "We are about to die!"

**26** "Why are you so frightened?" Jesus answered. "What little faith you have!" Then he got up and ordered the winds and the waves to stop, and there was a great calm.

**27** Everyone was amazed. "What kind of man is this?" they said. "Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

### Jesus Heals Two Men with Demons

**28** When Jesus came to the territory of Gadara on the other side of the lake, he was met by two men who came out of the burial caves there. These men had demons in them and were so fierce that no one dared travel on that road. **29** At once they screamed, "What do you want with us, you Son of God? Have you come to punish us before the right time?"

**30** Not far away there was a large herd of pigs feeding. **31** So the demons begged Jesus, "If you are going to drive us out, send us into that herd of pigs."

**32** "Go," Jesus told them; so they left and went off into the pigs. The



## Jesus Helps Us in Times of Trouble



Matthew 8:23-27

**23** Jesus got into a boat, and his **disciples** went with him. **24** Suddenly a **fierce** storm hit the lake, and the boat was in danger of sinking. But Jesus was asleep. **25** The disciples went to him and woke him up. "Save us, Lord!" they said. "We are about to die!"

**26** "Why are you so frightened?" Jesus answered. "What little faith you have!" Then he got up and ordered the winds and the waves to stop, and there was a great calm.

**27** Everyone was amazed. "What kind of man is this?" they said. "Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

**disciple** a close follower of Jesus

**fierce** very strong, powerful

Miracles of Jesus

1

Reading Plan



## Understand It!

When something terrible happens, it's like we're in a storm. We're frightened and feel helpless. Matthew's story of Jesus calming the sea is comforting. It reminds us that God is in charge of the world. In the story, Jesus is sound asleep in a boat. He is so tired that a storm doesn't wake him. Jesus wakes up only when the frightened disciples come to him.

Jesus says that they should have faith and trust that they are safe with him. Then Jesus orders the storm to stop. Just like that, all is still. The disciples wonder how Jesus could have such power. We know that it's because Jesus is God. We also know that he is our friend, who is with us in any trouble.

STORY  
Matthew 8

## Live It!

Imagine yourself in the boat on the stormy sea with the disciples. What feelings would you have? It is okay to be afraid sometimes. Just remember that Jesus is there to help you.

## Tell It!



Using the pictures above, retell this story in your own words.

