

# Windy Weather

## God's Grace to Us

*Today's Reading: Mark 4:35-41*

They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and waves obey Him!" Mark 4:41

### Faith Walk

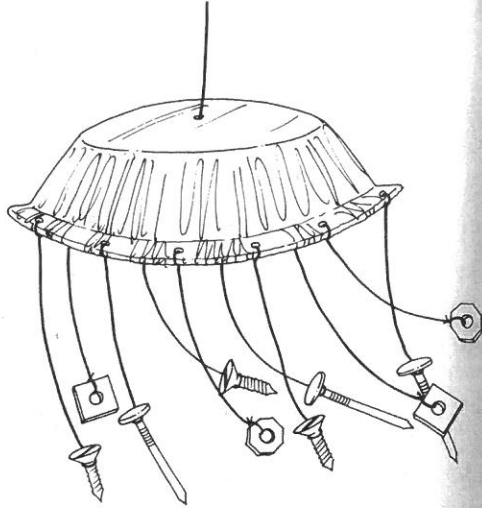
On a windy day, take a walk around your neighborhood looking for ways the wind makes its presence known (for example, waving tree branches and tinkling wind chimes). Try running with the wind and against the wind. Imagine God's power—stronger than the wind!

### Faith Talk

- ✧ Reread the entire Scripture selection. Imagine the power of the wind and waves. Only God, the creator of the wind and the waves, has the power to make the wind stop and the waves be still. What does this story tell us about Jesus?
- ✧ What fears do you have? How can this story be a comfort?
- ✧ How does Jesus show His power in your life?
- ✧ Jesus' most powerful act was to win the fight against Satan when He died on the cross. If Jesus is powerful enough to stop sin, death, and the power of Satan, He is powerful enough to overcome all our fear!
- ✧ When friends or family members are worried or afraid, gently comfort them with a reminder of the power of God.

### Follow-up Activities

- ✦ Look for man-made sources of wind in your home, such as a fan or a hair dryer. Use them to create a few moments of wind. After each yell, "Jesus is more powerful than the wind!"
- ✦ Act out the story of Jesus stilling the storm.
- ✦ Make wind chimes by hanging metal objects, such as nails and screws, from individual-sized pie tins. Hang your wind chimes outside on a windy day as a reminder of Jesus' strength.
- ✦ Have fun in the wind. Blow bubbles. Which direction do they float? Fly paper airplanes with the wind and against the wind. What does it mean to be for God and against God?
- ✦ Finish the phrase, "Jesus is more powerful than ..."



### Our Response to God's Grace

Dear Jesus,

*You are more powerful than storms. You are more powerful than nightmares. You are more powerful than my greatest fears. Comfort me with Your power and help me to share Your strength with others. In Your powerful name. Amen.*

### Ponderings

- ☞ Reread Mark 4:35-41. The Sea of Galilee was in a basin surrounded by mountains and susceptible to sudden severe storms. Imagine the disciples' fear as their boat filled with water and tossed wildly about. What sudden storms have raged in your life? How did you handle them? In the light of this passage, would you handle them differently now? Why or why not?
- ☞ While this storm raged, Jesus was in the boat but was sound asleep. Where has Jesus been in the storms of your life?

- ☞ Why was Jesus sleeping? Read Luke 8:25 for a clue. Examine the storms in your life for the ways God tests and strengthens your faith.
- ☞ In the few short verses of this story, both the humanity and the deity of Jesus are revealed. The human Jesus, after a tiring day preaching to the crowds, escaped the masses and fell asleep, exhausted, in a boat. But Jesus is also God. He is in control. And with a few short words He quieted a raging storm. How can the duality of Jesus as both God and man be a comfort and strength for you in your life?
- ☞ Read in John 11:1–44 another example of Jesus as both God and man. Take comfort in a God who has felt your pain. Find strength in a God who is bigger than all the storms in your life, a God so big He even conquered death by His death on the cross.

### **Journal Jottings**