

Children and family talk for 20th June 2021

Hello everyone, it's good to have you with me as we explore more of the Bible together and praise God. We will start by reading from Psalm 107, verses 1-3, 23-32:

Say “thankyou” to the Lord, for being so good, for always being so loving and kind. Has the Lord rescued you? Then speak out! Tell others God has saved you from your enemies.

God brought the refugees back from the farthest corners of the earth.

And then there are the sailors sailing the seven seas, using the trade routes of the world. They too, see the power of God in action. God calls to the storm winds; the waves rise high. Their ships are tossed to the heavens and sink again to the depths; the sailors cringe in terror. They reel and stagger around and are at their wits end. Then they cry to the Lord in their trouble, and God saves them. God calms the storm and stills the waves. What a blessing is that stillness, as God brings them safely into harbour! Oh, that they would praise the Lord for the loving kindness and for all of God’s wonderful deeds! Let them praise God publicly before the leaders of the nation.

What a picture that paints of the ships going up and down in the storm with the people on board staggering around trying to keep their balance! And the wonderful calm after God steps in and brings them safely to shore.

Let’s sing; **My Lighthouse CCLI Song Number 7002032**

In my wrestling and in my doubts
In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea
You are the peace in my troubled sea
In the silence, you won't let go
In the questions, Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea
You are the peace in my troubled sea
My lighthouse, my lighthouse
Shining in the darkness. I will follow You
My lighthouse, my lighthouse
I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)
Safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh) X2
Safe to shore
I won't fear what tomorrow brings
With each morning I'll rise and sing

My God's love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea
You are the peace in my troubled sea
My lighthouse, my lighthouse
Shining in the darkness, I will follow You
My lighthouse, my lighthouse
I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)
Safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)
Safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)
Safe to shore
Fire before us, You're the brightest
You will lead us through the storms
Fire before us, You're the brightest
You will lead us through the storms
Fire before us, You're the brightest
You will lead us through the storms
Fire before us, You're the brightest
You will lead us through the storms

My lighthouse, my lighthouse
Shining in the darkness, I will follow You
My lighthouse, my lighthouse
I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)
Safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)

Safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)
Safe to shore

Songwriters: Gareth Gilkeson, Chris Llewellyn

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Our Bible reading today is from **Mark 4.35-41**

In the evening, after teaching all day from a boat, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let's cross over to the other side of the lake.' * So, leaving the crowds behind them on the shore, they sailed across the water. Some other boats sailed with them.



Suddenly, a fierce and violent storm began. The wind roared and huge waves crashed into the boat, threatening to sink it. Jesus was fast asleep in the back of the boat, with his head on a cushion, and seemed completely unaware of the danger. But the disciples were terrified! They woke him up saying, 'Jesus, wake up! Don't you care that we are about to drown?'

Jesus got up and rebuked * the roaring wind and said to the angry sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Immediately the wind dropped and the sea became completely calm. Jesus turned to his disciples and said, 'Why are you so frightened? Do you still have no faith?' The men stood in awe and amazement and said to each other, 'Who is this man? Even the wind and the waves obey him.'

Mark 4:35-41

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Now let's sing again; **Will your anchor hold?**

This song was written by Priscilla Adams in 1882. She was a Sunday school teacher and wrote it for her pupils after reading a bible passage from Hebrews that talked about God being reliable and trustworthy – steadfast. We haven't sung many old hymns recently, but I thought this one fitted right in with our bible passage today.

1. Will your anchor hold in the storms of life,
When the clouds unfold their wings of
strife?
When the strong tides lift and the cables
strain,
Will your anchor drift, or firm remain?

- *Refrain:*
We have an anchor that keeps the
soul
Steadfast and sure while the
billows roll,
Fastened to the Rock which cannot
move,
Grounded firm and deep in the
Saviour's love.

2. It is safely moored, 'twill the storm
withstand,

For 'tis well secured by the Saviour's hand;
And the cables, passed from His heart to
mine,
Can defy that blast, through strength
divine.

3. When our eyes behold through the
gath'ring night
The city of gold, our harbour bright,
We shall anchor fast by the heav'nly
shore,
With the storms all past forevermore.

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William J. Kirkpatrick, 1882 *copyright status*
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Let's talk about our Bible verses

Today's readings are all about stormy seas and God rescuing us, aren't they. Have you ever been out in a boat when it's really stormy? I have! When I was at school, we went on a trip across the channel, eventually ending in Germany. School trips rarely went by aeroplane when I was at school as it was a lot cheaper to go by boat. This particular trip the storm came and the ferry we were on was pitching up and down in the waves, making most people seasick. My friend and I decided we wanted to be up top where we could see the waves and feel and the sea water as it was carried by the wind. It was very exciting, and a little bit scary as we made our way around the deck, we had trouble staying on our feet as the boat moved with the waves and we had to hold tight onto the railings!

In our second reading today, Jesus' friends, the disciples, were in a small fishing boat, which must have been much more frightening than being in a big ferry. Jesus was asleep when the storm came, and the disciples were really frightened that the boat would sink. They didn't know what to do and turned to Jesus, waking him up. Do you turn to Jesus when you don't know what to do?

Then Jesus was able to stop the storm and the lake calmed so that they could reach the shore safely. But instead of thanking Jesus, they were amazed that he had been able to stop the storm, asking each other, "Who is this man who even the wind and waves obey?"

This is similar to how we pray sometimes, we ask God for things, but we don't really expect God to be able to do them. We don't have faith. But God can help us if we have faith. It's not always easy to believe, but when we do, great things can happen.

Let's talk to God now:

Jesus, we know that
after the storm there will be calm.
Bring peace to those who worry,
who are fearful and who doubt.
Help us to have faith and believe in you.

Amen.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (Hold out hands as if expecting a present)

And the love of God (Put your hands on your heart)

And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (Hold hands)

Be with us all now and for ever. Amen! (raise hands together on the Amen)

The family at home sheet from roots:

[roots-at-home-20-june-2021.pdf \(rootsontheweb.com\)](https://www.rootsontheweb.com/roots-at-home-20-june-2021.pdf)