

*Nurturing Faith...  
Every Day in Every Way*

July 13, 2017

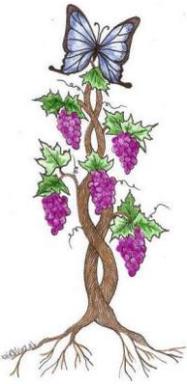
**Tenth Sunday of Pentecost**

*1 Kings 19:9-18*

*Psalm 85:8-13*

*Romans 10:5-15*

*Matthew 14:22-33*



**When You Need a Helping Hand.** *Object: Examples of things that children might need help doing.*

Has there ever been a time in your life when you needed someone to give you a helping hand? Of course, there has! How about when you first began to try to tie your own shoes, did you need your mom to help you? How about when you got your first bicycle, did your dad run along beside you and hold you up? How about when you began to learn to read, probably a teacher helped you learn. There are always going to be times when you need a helping hand—even when you are a grown-up!

Today's Bible lesson is about a time when the disciples of Jesus needed a helping hand — one disciple in particular whose name was Simon Peter.

It had been a long, hard day for Jesus and his disciples. After the disciples had helped Jesus feed more than five thousand people with only five loaves of bread and two small fish, Jesus told them to get into their boat and go on ahead of him to the other side of the lake. Jesus then went up on a mountainside to be alone and to pray.

Later that evening, the disciples were quite far out onto the lake when the wind began to blow and the waves began to bounce their boat around on the water.

Shortly before dawn, Jesus went out to the disciples, walking on the water. When the disciples saw him, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they cried.

Jesus immediately spoke to them: "Don't be afraid! Take courage. I am here!"

Peter spoke up, "Lord, if it is really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water."

"Yes, come," Jesus answered.

So, Peter climbed out of the boat and started walking on the water toward Jesus. But when he started looking around and saw the waves being blown about by the wind. He was afraid and he began to sink. "Lord, save me!" he cried.

Jesus reached out his hand and caught Peter. "Why did you doubt?" Jesus asked.

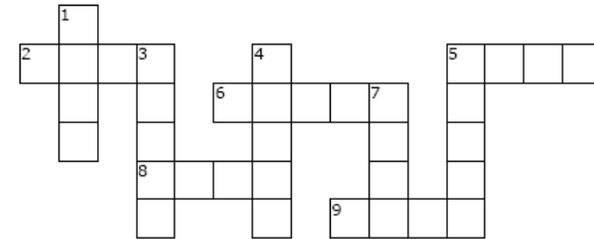
So, you see, even a grown-up fisherman like Simon Peter needed a hand from Jesus when it came to walking on the water. You and I may face some pretty rough times in our life, but as long as we keep our eyes on Jesus, he will always be there to give us a hand.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia. I wait for you, O Lord; in your word is my hope. Alleluia. (Psalm 130:5)

Father, help us to remember that you are always there when we need a helping hand. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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## Crossword Puzzle



### ACROSS

2. The natural movement of air
5. To travel along on your feet
6. Moving swells on the surface of the sea
8. A small vessel for travel on water
9. An unpleasant feeling caused by danger

### DOWN

1. To go downward in water
3. A lack of confidence or belief in God
4. A firm belief in God
5. A liquid that comes down from the clouds as rain
7. To rescue someone

FEAR	FAITH	DOUBT	WAVES	WATER
SAVE	WIND	BOAT	WALK	SINK

**WATER PAINTING:** Let the child use a brush and water paints or use finger paints and draw a picture of today's lesson on a piece of 8½ by 11 hard card stock or poster board. Write parts of today's Bible verse on their painting after it dries and review the verse.



# JESUS WALKS ON WATER



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