

## Teach the congregation these trigger words before beginning the story

**Amazed** – Place closed fist hands by your ears and flick them out as you open your hands wide (this is approximately ‘amazed’ in sign language)

**Wind** – blow/ make the sound of the wind

**Waves** – wave arms

**Growing** – make your arm span ‘grow’

**Friends/ Disciples** – shake hands with someone near you

### Jesus calms the storm - Matthew 8

One day Jesus was teaching the crowds of people, and the crowds kept **growing** and **growing**. He was teaching them about following him no matter where he went, and trusting him to be in control. The crowds just kept on **growing** and there were so many people. He said to his **friends** ‘ Lets go to the other side of the lake, the crowds have **grown too big.**’

His **friends** – called the **disciples** - found their boat and they started to go across the lake. Jesus, who’d been teaching all day found a cushion in the back of the boat and settled down for a nap.

Suddenly, out of nowhere a massive storm began. Well, it didn’t start too bad, a gentle **rocking** of the boat, with a gentle **breeze** blowing, and some small, quite pleasant **waves**, then the waves started **growing bigger** and **bigger**, the **wind** started getting stronger and the boat started seriously **rocking** back and forth. The **disciples** were petrified.

Well, the **disciples** had seen some storms, but this storm wasn’t just any old storm, it just kept on getting bigger! Now there were huge **waves**, and the wind was deafening, and the boat was rocking, and...

Jesus was fast asleep – it’d been a long day!

*(make sure the storm keeps on going...)*

The **disciples** were so scared, and they frantically woke Jesus up saying ‘Lord, don’t you care about us – we’re going to drown. Look at the storm’

‘BE QUIET’ he shouted to the **wind**. ‘THAT’S ENOUGH’ he shouted to the **waves**. Immediately the wind died down and the waves were calm. The **disciples** were **amazed**.

Jesus said to them ‘Why were you afraid? Do you still not trust me? You follow me, but then you don’t trust me when it gets a little bit difficult. Haven’t I taught you anything?’

His friends were **amazed** and said ‘Who is this guy – even the **wind** and **waves** obey him.’