

KOOL-AID PAINTING

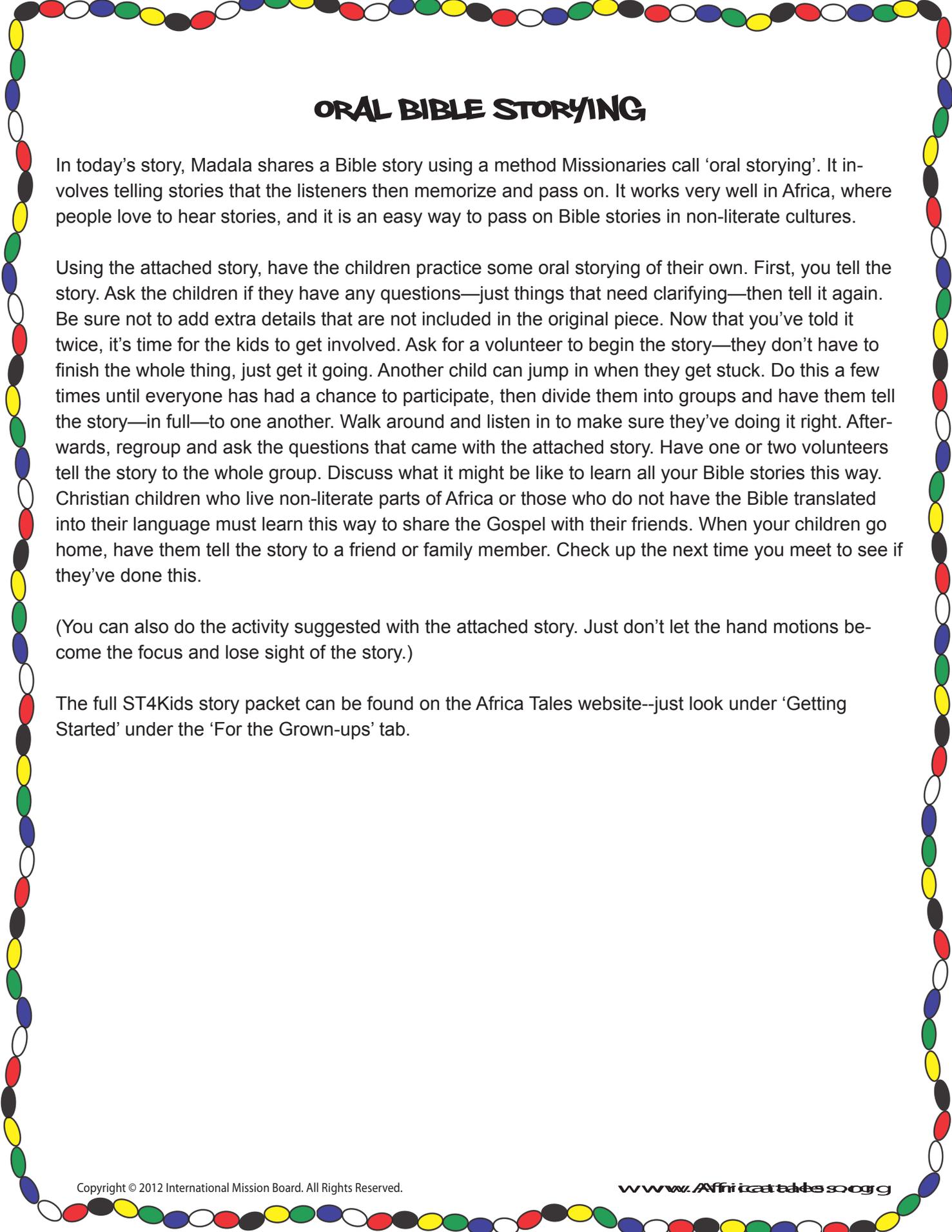
Materials Needed:

Thick white paper
Spray bottles
Water
Assorted packets of Kool-Aid

Instructions:

1. Give each child a sheet of paper.
2. Tear open the Kool-Aid packets (carefully!), and sprinkle the powder lightly across the paper. Use multiple colors if you wish.
3. Lightly spray water across the paper and watch as the painting 'appears'.
4. As this isn't a very time-consuming activity, have several sheets of paper for each child so they can create more than one. Older children may want to try to make designs or pictures with the powder before spraying it.





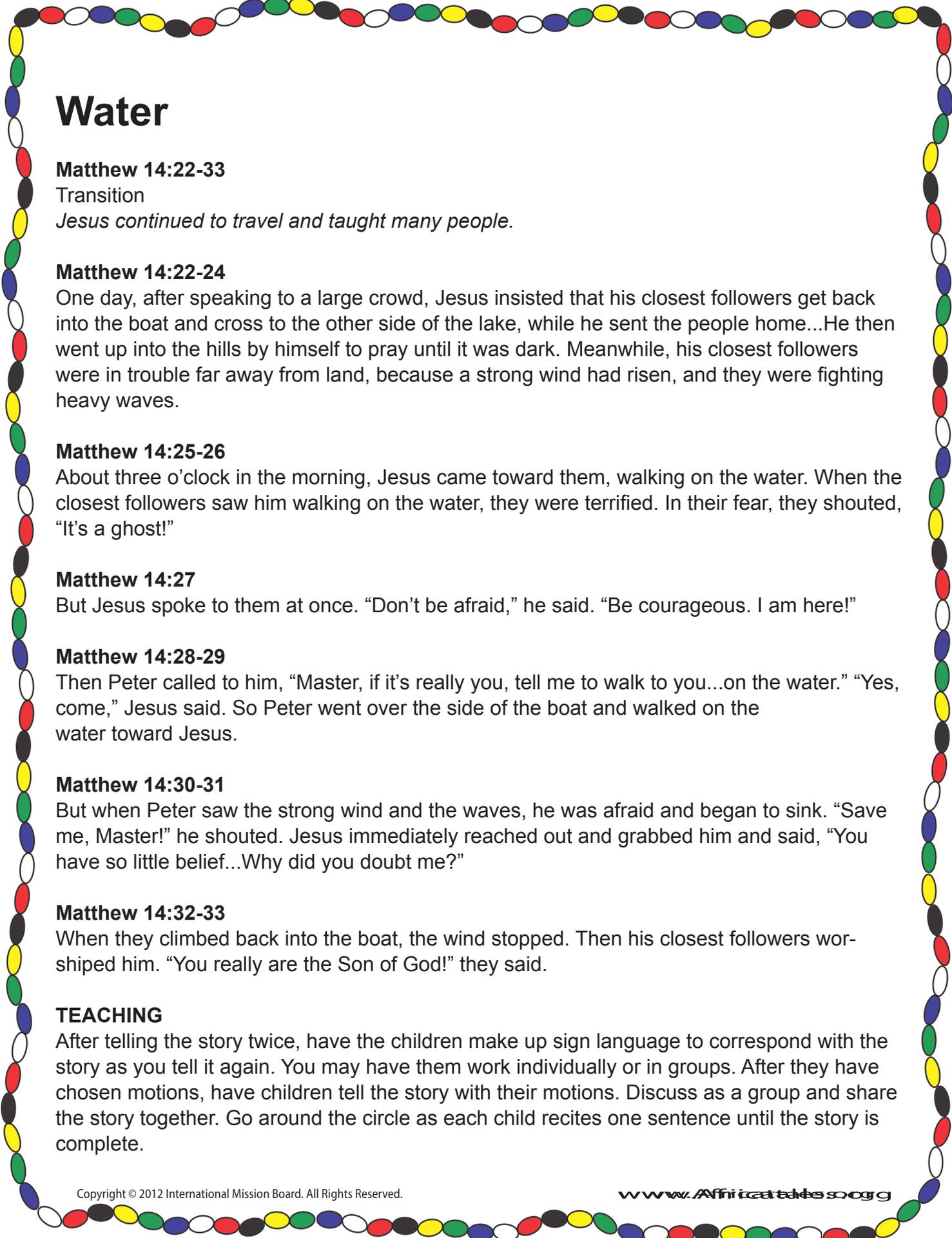
ORAL BIBLE STORYING

In today's story, Madala shares a Bible story using a method Missionaries call 'oral storying'. It involves telling stories that the listeners then memorize and pass on. It works very well in Africa, where people love to hear stories, and it is an easy way to pass on Bible stories in non-literate cultures.

Using the attached story, have the children practice some oral storying of their own. First, you tell the story. Ask the children if they have any questions—just things that need clarifying—then tell it again. Be sure not to add extra details that are not included in the original piece. Now that you've told it twice, it's time for the kids to get involved. Ask for a volunteer to begin the story—they don't have to finish the whole thing, just get it going. Another child can jump in when they get stuck. Do this a few times until everyone has had a chance to participate, then divide them into groups and have them tell the story—in full—to one another. Walk around and listen in to make sure they're doing it right. Afterwards, regroup and ask the questions that came with the attached story. Have one or two volunteers tell the story to the whole group. Discuss what it might be like to learn all your Bible stories this way. Christian children who live non-literate parts of Africa or those who do not have the Bible translated into their language must learn this way to share the Gospel with their friends. When your children go home, have them tell the story to a friend or family member. Check up the next time you meet to see if they've done this.

(You can also do the activity suggested with the attached story. Just don't let the hand motions become the focus and lose sight of the story.)

The full ST4Kids story packet can be found on the Africa Tales website--just look under 'Getting Started' under the 'For the Grown-ups' tab.



Water

Matthew 14:22-33

Transition

Jesus continued to travel and taught many people.

Matthew 14:22-24

One day, after speaking to a large crowd, Jesus insisted that his closest followers get back into the boat and cross to the other side of the lake, while he sent the people home...He then went up into the hills by himself to pray until it was dark. Meanwhile, his closest followers were in trouble far away from land, because a strong wind had risen, and they were fighting heavy waves.

Matthew 14:25-26

About three o'clock in the morning, Jesus came toward them, walking on the water. When the closest followers saw him walking on the water, they were terrified. In their fear, they shouted, "It's a ghost!"

Matthew 14:27

But Jesus spoke to them at once. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Be courageous. I am here!"

Matthew 14:28-29

Then Peter called to him, "Master, if it's really you, tell me to walk to you...on the water." "Yes, come," Jesus said. So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus.

Matthew 14:30-31

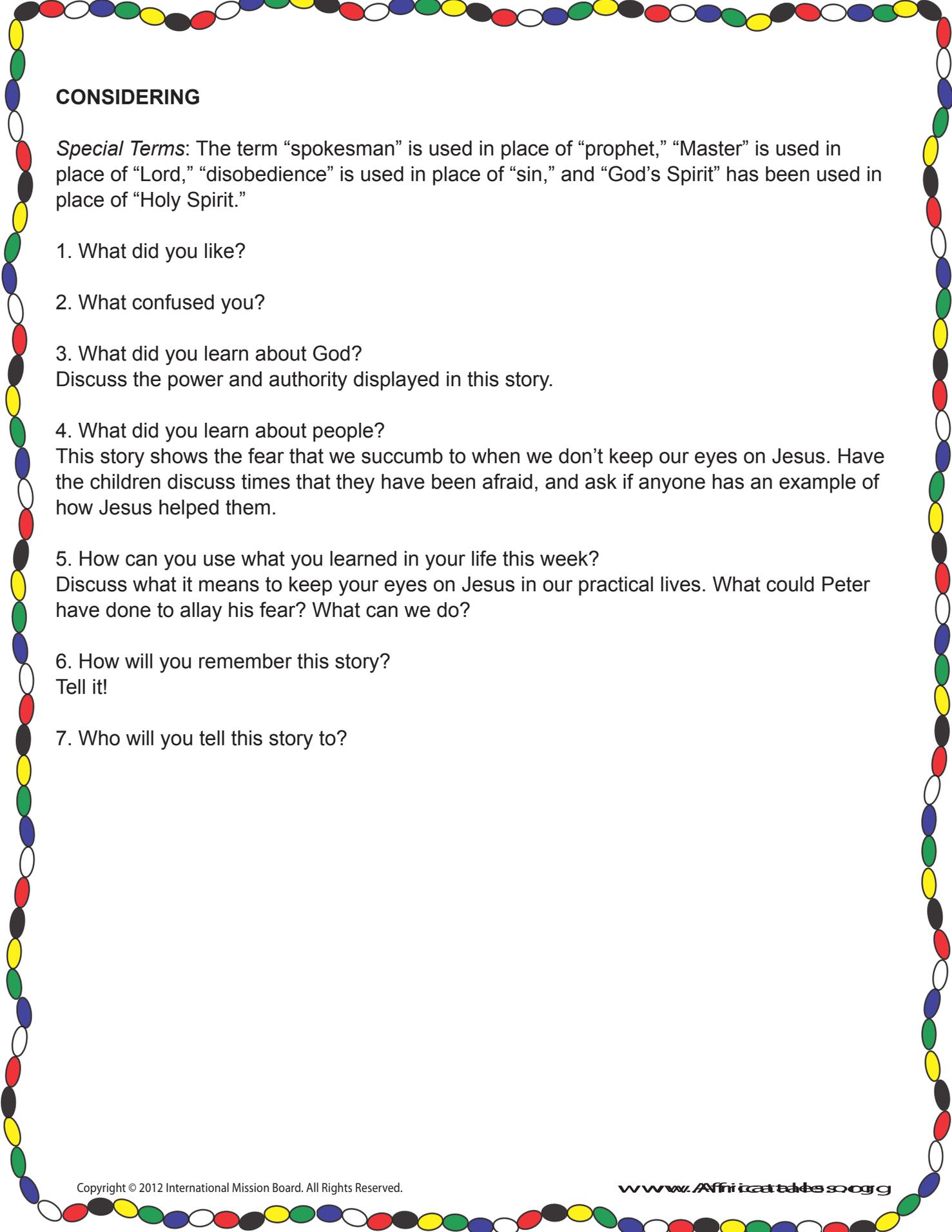
But when Peter saw the strong wind and the waves, he was afraid and began to sink. "Save me, Master!" he shouted. Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him and said, "You have so little belief...Why did you doubt me?"

Matthew 14:32-33

When they climbed back into the boat, the wind stopped. Then his closest followers worshiped him. "You really are the Son of God!" they said.

TEACHING

After telling the story twice, have the children make up sign language to correspond with the story as you tell it again. You may have them work individually or in groups. After they have chosen motions, have children tell the story with their motions. Discuss as a group and share the story together. Go around the circle as each child recites one sentence until the story is complete.



CONSIDERING

Special Terms: The term “spokesman” is used in place of “prophet,” “Master” is used in place of “Lord,” “disobedience” is used in place of “sin,” and “God’s Spirit” has been used in place of “Holy Spirit.”

1. What did you like?

2. What confused you?

3. What did you learn about God?

Discuss the power and authority displayed in this story.

4. What did you learn about people?

This story shows the fear that we succumb to when we don’t keep our eyes on Jesus. Have the children discuss times that they have been afraid, and ask if anyone has an example of how Jesus helped them.

5. How can you use what you learned in your life this week?

Discuss what it means to keep your eyes on Jesus in our practical lives. What could Peter have done to allay his fear? What can we do?

6. How will you remember this story?

Tell it!

7. Who will you tell this story to?