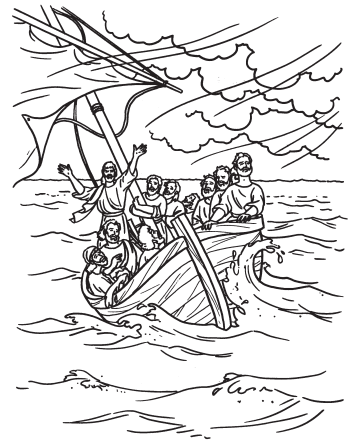


יֵשׁוּעַ מְלַמֵּד אֱמוּנָה

“Yeshua Teaches Faith”

Yeshua was making disciples as He went about teaching the people about the Kingdom of God. The way that Yeshua was making disciples was by asking the men He had chosen to go with Him as He taught in the villages and cities. He was teaching them what it meant to be His disciple by showing them how to live by faith. Faith means trusting that what God has said is true, and then living in a way that demonstrates this belief. God has promised in His Torah that He would bless His people when they obeyed Him. Since the men Yeshua had called to be His disciples were showing their obedience to God by following Him and spreading the Good News of the Gospel, they could count on God’s help when they encountered difficulties. In the story that Matthew tells us in Matthew 8:23–27, Yeshua was about to teach His disciples that they could trust God for all of their needs, and even more importantly, that Yeshua Himself was God’s promised Messiah Who was Himself the Master of the Universe. Since Yeshua is the Creator of the world (John 1:3), He is able to control all things.



One day Yeshua and disciples were traveling from one side of the Kenneret (Sea of Galilee) to the other. The Kenneret is a very large lake, and it is not unusual for there to be sudden storms in that part of Israel, which create very large waves on the Kenneret. And that is exactly what happened on that day when Yeshua and His disciples were in the boat. Yeshua was sleeping, and even though the wind was blowing and the water was full of waves, He didn’t wake up. In fact, the waves were so big that they were coming over the side of the boat and filling it with water! As His disciples tried to keep the boat on course, they realized that the storm was so bad, that if something didn’t happen right away, the boat would be wrecked and they all would lose their lives! So they woke Yeshua up, and said to Him: “Save us Master, because we’re perishing!” Yeshua was not surprised that they had come to Him for help, but He was concerned that they were so afraid! Hadn’t God promised to bless them? Were they not serving Him? Surely if their faith had been stronger, they would have been able to have a greater trust in God’s ability to help them in this time of trouble.

Yeshua said to His disciples: “Why are you so afraid, you men of little faith?” Of course, it is a natural response to be afraid of things that are out of our control. But what Yeshua was teaching His disciples was that nothing is out of God’s control! So our first response when we are afraid is to call upon God for His help.

Then Yeshua did an amazing thing: He stood up and said to the storm, “Hush! Be quiet!” Immediately the wind stopped and the water became calm. The fear of the disciples changed to amazement! They said, “Look at our Master! Even the wind and waves have to obey Him!” They were learning about faith by following the One Who is Master of all!