

THE CREED

THE SECOND ARTICLE (PART 1)

FREEZE FRAME

Characters: Twelve Disciples and Jesus

FYI: Create a picture of a boat. It may help to draw a picture of a boat and place the characters on a sheet of paper first as a guide. The front of the boat should be the tip where Jesus is standing.

Stern: The back part of the vessel.

Aft: At, near, or toward the stern.

Port: The left side of the ship.

Starboard: The right side of the ship.

Bow: The forward part of a vessel's sides.

This still moment will take a considerable amount of space. If you don't have enough students to play all the roles, divide the number of disciples in half.

Setting: This painting should progress from fright and panic to anger and denial to reaching out to Jesus to comfort and rest in the arms of the Savior.

Jesus should stand at the bow facing the disciples, looking in command with arms outstretched in a benediction posture with a little smile on His face. Now start at the stern and move forward by placing disciples in the following postures:

Disciple 1 at port side stern with his or her back to Jesus, looking scared and shocked into the water.

Disciple 2 at starboard side stern with his or her back to Jesus, looking scared as if he or she is going to die.

Disciple 3 at port side aft, looking scared and shocked.

Disciple 4 at starboard aft, looking scared and shocked. Disciples 3 and 4 should be back-to-back.

Disciple 5 at port side near the aft with his or her back to the water, frightened but not petrified.

Disciple 6 at starboard side near the aft with his or her back to the water, frightened but not petrified. Disciples 5 and 6 are facing each other, holding each other for safety and comfort.

Disciple 7 at port side in the middle of boat facing the bow and Jesus with his or her head buried in hands.

Disciple 8 at starboard side in the middle of boat facing the bow and Jesus, angrily covering his or her ears.

Disciple 9 at the middle of boat in front of Disciples 7 and 8, looking up to the sky with arms raised up as if calling.

Disciple 10 slightly in front of Disciple 9 but more to the starboard side, facing to the left of Jesus with head bowed and hands folded in prayer.

Disciple 11 middle of boat but almost at the bow with hands reaching out to Christ. They are almost touching, and the disciple has a relieved smile!

Disciple 12 is asleep at Jesus' feet with a warm smile and is very content.

Additional FYI: Jesus should look in control of the situation. Jesus knows peril and danger and is fully aware of our emotions and anxiety. He leads us to Himself from the back of the boat, where anxiety is at its highest level, to the front, where He ultimately brings us peace.

When the narrative painting is set, read the Luke 8:22–25. Take a moment of silence. Then read 1 Peter 5:7. Have another moment of silence. Then read Matthew 11:28, followed by a moment of silence. Then discuss what you have observed. Apply it. Ask, where are you on the boat?

DISCUSSION

What does knowing that Jesus is true man mean to you when you feel tired, hurt, disappointed, or persecuted by others? Jesus can relate to our condition because He experienced the same feelings.

What does knowing that Jesus is true man mean to you when you feel abandoned, weighed down by sin, and powerless? Jesus is true God. The Lord and Ruler of the universe has forgiven our sins and claimed us as His own. We can be encouraged knowing that He is our friend and that He invites us to give our burdens, concerns, and worries over to Him.