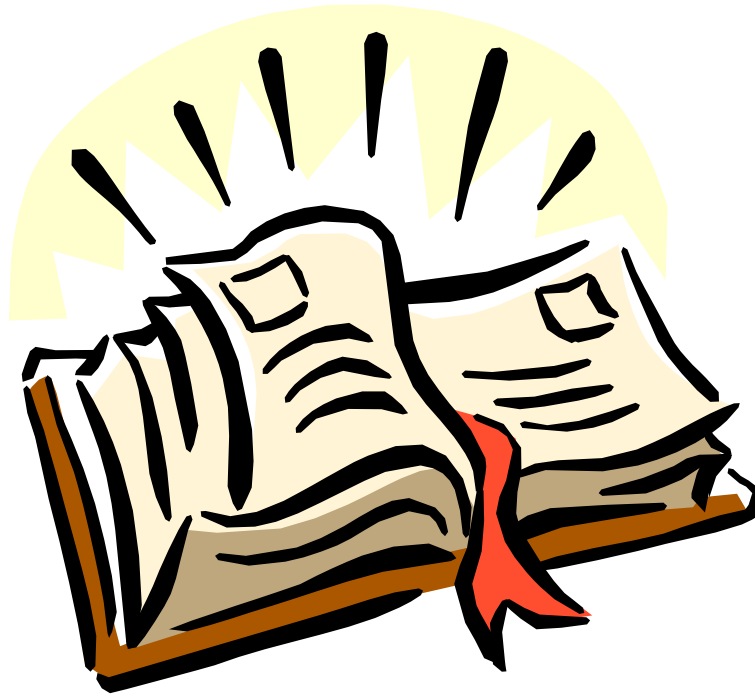


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: The Healing of the Centurion's Servant

THEME: Jesus has absolute authority.

SCRIPTURE: Luke 7:1-10

Dear Parents...

Welcome to Bible Time for Kids! Bible Time for Kids is a series of daily devotions (five per week) for children and their families through which we hope to reinforce Sunday's lesson, provide ideas for the application of God's Word, and encourage your children to develop a daily devotional life. Since the age of your child will affect how they respond to the content, we suggest you make them age appropriate by adding your own ideas.

In the lesson this week, we learned about the time that **Jesus healed the Centurion's servant (Luke 7:1-10)**. We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. What an exciting story! The Centurion had such faith in Jesus that he knew that Jesus need only give the command and his son would be made well. Jesus was amazed at his great faith. We learned that **Jesus has absolute authority** over everything. If Jesus commands something to be, then it will happen.

This week, we will look at some stories about trusting in Jesus. All authority in heaven and earth has been given to Jesus. What a blessing it is to know that we do not need to be afraid! We, too, can trust in the absolute authority of the One who loves us.

We hope you and your family will be blessed as you study God's Word together.

The Wind and The Sea Obey Him!

Text: Mark 4:39 - "Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace, be still!' And the wind ceased and there was a great calm."

Also read Mark 4:35-41

Peter was scared! He had never been this frightened in his entire life. After healing and helping many people that day, Jesus needed to rest. He said to the disciples, "Let us cross over to the other side." So Jesus and his disciples got into a little ship and headed across the Sea of Galilee. As the ship began to cross the sea, Jesus went below to sleep. But, the wind came up suddenly, as it often did on the Sea of Galilee, and a storm began to toss the tiny ship to and fro. Peter was a seasoned fisherman, but his skills were no match for this great windstorm. The waves beat so hard against the sides that water began to fill the ship. Fear gripped Peter and the other disciples. How quickly they seemed to forget all the miracles and wonders Jesus had done in the days before—how he had healed many, fed thousands, given hope to the hopeless! Fearing for his life, Peter called out Jesus, who slept peacefully in the ship's stern, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"

Jesus arose. He had known of their fear and struggle to survive. He knew their faith was in danger. Rebuking the wind and the sea, He commanded, "Peace, be still!" No other words were needed. Jesus had authority to command the wind, the sea, illness, and even death. The wind ceased, and there was a great calm. Looking back at his disciples, He said, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?"

Jesus is not alarmed by those "storms"—threatening situations—that cause us to be afraid. He is on board our little ship to help in our time of need. He is all powerful and in control. As we grow in the understanding of His love for us, His power, and willingness to help, we, too, will be resting amidst a storm. We will know, with Jesus on board, our little ship *cannot* sink!

- The disciples should not have been afraid of the big storm. Why?
- Can you think of a scary situation that might feel like a storm to you?
- How does it make you feel to know Jesus loves you and is all powerful?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Authority: The power to give a command and have it obeyed.

No Fear!

Text: Matthew 4:10 - "Then Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"

Also read Matthew 4:1-10

Sandy was afraid of being alone at night. Once her parents were asleep, she would get out of bed and run down the hall to her parent's room and sleep in their room on the floor. One morning, seeing Sandy asleep on the floor, Dad decided to talk with Sandy about her fear. "Why do you feel safer sleeping in our bedroom than yours," Dad asked. Sandy thought about it for a minute, "I know you can protect me." Dad reached out his hand to hold Sandy's hand tightly, "Sandy, there is always 'someone' with you to protect you. You are never alone." Sandy blinked. Dad continued, "You've asked Jesus into your heart and He promised He would never leave you or forsake you. Your Mom and I may be stronger than you are, but we, too, rest well because we know Jesus is with us, watching over us." Sandy studied her dad's assuring eyes.

Dad continued, "Now, the Devil, our worst enemy is no match for Jesus." "Do you remember the story of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness?" The Bible tells us Jesus went to the wilderness and fasted forty days and nights. Then the Devil came and tempted Him to eat, but Jesus told the devil that man would live by every Word from the mouth of God. The devil tempted Jesus two more times, but Jesus kept coming back with God's powerful Word. After the third temptation, He told the devil, "Away with you Satan, for it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord, your God, and Him only shall you serve.'" The devil left Jesus after this command and angels came and ministered to Jesus. So, you see, Jesus can command even our worst enemy, the devil. At His command, the devil flees. What a mighty Lord we have!"

When we are afraid, it helps to remember that Jesus has authority over our worst enemy, the devil, and every situation we might face. We can rest well at night and all the time, because He watches over us!

- Why did Dad tell Sandy she was never alone?
- Have you ever been afraid at night?
- Does it help to know that Jesus has the authority to command our worst enemy?

Kid's Wisdom



God gives His "beloved" sleep. For extra reading, read, Psalm 127:1,2.

Love Your Neighbor

Text: Mark 12:31 - "And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Also read Mark 12:28-31

Mike and Amy lived near Joey and always noticed when he got on the church bus. His hair was always messy and his clothes did not always match, but when he came to Sunday school, he seemed pleased to be there. Sometimes, in class Joey would fall asleep. Sometimes, he would take an extra snack. When they were where Joey could not hear, Mike and Amy would talk, jokingly, about Joey's messy hair and clothes and the odd things he did.

One day, the teacher heard Mike and Amy talking about Joey. Amy was talking about how dirty Joey's face was that Sunday. Mrs. Johnson listened to the two young Christians, then interrupted. Mrs. Johnson asked the two children to stay after class for a few minutes. Once the other children had left, the teacher asked Amy and Mike if they had ever been over to Joey's house or talked to Joey. Both Mike and Amy responded, "No." They had not ever visited Joey, nor had they spoken a word to him. Mrs. Johnson questioned, "Do you remember what Jesus said the 2nd Great Commandment was about?" Mike, looked thoughtful, then brightened, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." "That's right," encouraged Mrs. Johnson. "If we love God, which is the first great commandment, we will naturally do the second commandment—we will love our neighbor. God loves Joey. You live near him. It could be that God desires you to be special friends to Joey...maybe, you could even invite his parents to come to church."

Sometimes, like Mike and Amy, we need to be reminded to put God's Word into practice. We need to not only know what we ought to do, but to do it! God will bless our obedience to Him. Joy will be the result of obeying His commandments. In John 15:11,12 we read, "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." Who do you know that you can share the love of Jesus' with?

- If you were Mike and Amy, what would happen the next time you saw Joey?
- If Mike and Amy knew what God wanted them to do—show His love to Joey—but they did not do it, would their "knowing the right thing to do" help Joey?
- What is the result of obeying Jesus' commandment to love one another?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Command: To give an instruction or rule.

Day Four

Big Brother

Text: John 13:35 - "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

Also read John 13:21-35

Kevin was Justin's little brother, though "little" was not a title he enjoyed. Justin was often given the job of watching over Kevin. Kevin did not feel he needed anyone to "watch over" him and did not like being told what he should be doing. After all, in his mind, Justin was a kid, too. What gave him the right act like he was wiser and more responsible?

One day, Mom sent Kevin and Justin to the store. Kevin walked in front of his brother, not wanting anyone to think he was a "little" kid. However, Kevin got so far ahead, he could no longer see his older brother. A few older boys who were just looking for someone to pick on began to follow Kevin. When Kevin realized the boys were following him and that he could no longer spot Justin, he began to yell, "Justinnnnn." Justin heard his brother from around the corner and quickly caught up. He eyed the two boys following Kevin sternly, and they backed away to pursue other mischief.

Suddenly, it didn't seem so bad to Kevin to be "little" brother, for he was glad to have the authority and protection of his big brother. Kevin kept close to Justin as they walked the remaining distance to the store, happy to have that "safe" feeling.

Sometimes, we can be like Kevin. We think that we can handle things on our own without asking God for help. The truth is, we need His help. Life will bring many circumstances beyond our control. We need His help and guidance through our journey. We are safest when we are walking close beside Him.

Should we drift away and find ourselves in trouble, it good to know God will not stop caring about us and is waiting for us to call. Like Justin showed up on the scene for Kevin, God can rescue us! He can get us out of any mess we get ourselves into.

- What made Kevin really appreciate his "big" brother?
- Can you think of some good reasons to stay close to Jesus?
- If we drift away and get into trouble, is God still interested in us?

Kid Wisdom



Jesus is a friend that sticks closer than a brother!

Day Five

A Bike Ride Gone Bad!

Text: Colossians 3:20 - "Children, obey your parents in all things, for this is well pleasing to the Lord."

Also read Ephesians 6:1-3

One day, Mike and Sam rode their bikes over and asked Chuck to go for a ride with them. Chuck knew his parents did not allow him to ride his bicycle without permission, but he was afraid his friends would laugh at him for asking. He decided to sneak his bike out of the garage.

When Chuck brought the bike back, he tried to park it exactly the way it was in the garage, hoping his dad would not notice that it had been gone. But Chuck was hurrying, and while he turned to leave, the bike fell against their car. Chuck darted back as though he thought he could prevent further damage. As he lifted the bike, a good size scratch on the car's paint became visible. "Oh no," thought Chuck, remembering his mom's words, "Your sins will find you out."

The fun of the bike ride was just history, now. His adventure turned into a big mess. Chuck felt ashamed, and he knew he was in trouble. Chuck was sorry for his foolish choice to disobey His parents. He learned that disobeying causes more sorrow than joy.

The Bible teaches that children should obey their parents (Ephesians 6:1-3). The Bible is God's instruction book and tells us how to live a happy, joy-filled life. God has warned us that to disobey will cause us sorrow and heartbreak. Daily, we face temptations and decisions and must make choices. We are wise when we realize that God's commandments are for our good! As we yield to Him in obedience, we will discover the joys of a Spirit-led life—love, joy, and peace. Let's choose to obey Him and have a great life!

- What made Chuck think it was a good idea to disobey his parents?
- How do you think Chuck feels about his disobedience, now?
- Why is it wise to obey God?

Kid's Prayer Time



This week we learned a lot about Jesus' authority. Jesus has power over everything. Let's thank the Lord that we no longer need to fear anything. And let's remember to walk in obedience to Him, knowing all His plans for us are good.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

"Humble yourselves in
the sight of the Lord,
and He will lift you up."

Third Grade and Above

"Humble yourselves in
the sight of the Lord,
and He will lift you up."

James 4:10