

Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: Jesus Calms a Storm

**THEME: We should never be afraid when
Jesus is with us.**

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 8:23-27

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 when **Jesus calmed a storm (Matthew 8:23-27)**. We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. It was a frightening time for the disciples. Though they were experienced fishermen, the storm was huge. They feared their boat would be destroyed and, perhaps, their own lives, as well. They had forgotten that Jesus was there with them, all of the time.

The disciples learned a valuable lesson about trusting in Jesus. When we have troubles, **we should never be afraid, for Jesus is with us!**

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

A Scary Day

Text: Isaiah 12:2 - "Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; 'For YAH, the LORD, is my strength and my song; He also has become my salvation.'"

Also read Isaiah 12:1-6

John and Jennifer were following their parents all morning at the flea market. It was a lot of fun. They looked at all the bright colored toys, tried on some clothes, and had some soda to drink. Mom had a particular booth she wanted see, so Dad motioned to John to pick up the pace. They were following just fine until a "kid's discovery" booth stopped the two kids in their tracks. For the moment, they completely forgot they were following Mom and Dad. When they looked up, Mom and Dad were gone! Jennifer panicked and cried, "Where's Mom and Dad!" to her brother. John, being the older of the two, tried to act calm; but in his heart, he was just as panicked as his sister. They called loudly for their parents, making their way as quickly as they could through the crowded streets. Loud music blared from the speakers, drowning their calls. Each turn, with no sight of Mom and Dad among all the faces, made them feel more lost.

Jennifer began to cry. John held her hand, "Jennifer, we need to pray! God can hear our prayers. He knows where we are right now and where Mom and Dad are." The two children bowed their heads and prayed, "Oh God, You see we are lost, and You know where Mom and Dad are. Please help us find them. Please show us what to do. In Jesus' name."

They felt much better after praying. Remembering that God could take care of them made a big difference. The children continued their search. The loud speaker continued to blare one song followed by another. Suddenly, an idea came to John. He grabbed Jennifer's hand tightly and hurriedly made his way to the ice cream stand. "We're lost!" exclaimed John. "Is it possible to announce where we are over speakers so our parents can find us." "No problem" responded the ice cream vendor in an assuring voice. I'll make that arrangement."

Soon John and Jennifer spotted their relieved parents making their way through the crowds toward them. "Finally, here you are!" sighed Mom. "While we're here, let's celebrate with ice cream!" announced Dad gleefully. John was excited to share their experience of God's faithfulness. "We were scared at first," admitted John, "then we prayed and trusted God!"

- How did remembering to pray change the situation even before the Lord helped John figure out what to do?
- Is it possible to be anywhere or in any situation where God does not see us?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Salvation: Deliverance; rescue; source of safety.

Day Two

Walking On Water

Text: Matthew 14:27- "But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.'"

Also read Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus needed time alone to pray to the Father. He told His disciples to sail across the sea ahead of Him. It had been several days since the last storm on the sea; once again, the disciples were on their way across the water, only this time without Jesus. Peter watched as a storm blew in their direction. Several days earlier they had encountered such a storm. Jesus had been with them, then. He had calmed the raging sea with just a few words. Now, however, Jesus was not in the ship. Once again, the disciples became frightened for their lives! What were they going to do?

Peter thought he spotted something coming toward the boat on the water, perhaps another ship. It was hard to tell with all of the wind and rain. The object was small but it moved strangely, not affected by the wind or waves. The disciples were troubled and cried out in fear as the object drew near. Could it be a spirit? Suddenly, Jesus spoke through the tumult of the wind and waves. "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." It was Jesus! He was walking on the water.

Peter called out to the Lord, "Lord, if it is You, command me come to you on the water." Jesus said, "Come." Peter took a few steps on the rough, rolling sea, steps of faith that held him for a few moments. Trusting Jesus, He walked on water! However, Peter made a mistake. Taking his eyes off Jesus, he looked at the rolling sea and the tumultuous waves. Frightened, Peter began to sink. He cried out, "Lord save Me!" Jesus stretched out His hand and caught His friend. Jesus asked, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" As they reached the boat, the wind ceased.

No doubt the fierce wind and turbulent sea was not easy to ignore, but Peter's faith faltered when he took his eyes off Jesus and onto the storm. We, too, will falter in our faith when we take our eyes off our Jesus and focus on the scary situation. Jesus was in control of the wind and waves that troubled Peter. Jesus is in control of the wind and waves that trouble us. We can trust Him.

- What do you think Peter learned from this experience?
- Is there any scary situation we might face that would be out of Jesus' control?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Faith: Trusting in Jesus to save us.

Tornado Watch

Text: Matthew 8:26b - "Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm."

Also read Matthew 8:23-27

The wind was blowing very strong when Joshua got off the bus from school with his little sister, Debbie, and brother, Robbie. All day the clouds had grown darker and heavier. Joshua knew a storm was coming; he hurried his brother by carrying his backpack and held his little sister's hand. The wind became so strong the three children had trouble walking against it down the block to their house. When they got home, Mom hugged all three children tightly, and told them about the "tornado watch" announced on the radio. Scooting Debbie along, Mom announced, "We need to be in the basement. Let's go quickly." "Mom," protested Joshua, "I'm worried about Dad at work." "Pray for Dad," Mom encouraged. "He's on his way home now!"

As the wind howled outside, the family huddled together in the basement. Joshua could hear the frightening sounds of glass breaking upstairs. After Mom led the children in prayer for the safety of her husband and family, she suggested a favorite worship song. As the family continued to sing, Joshua realized that his fears were calming. The songs of praise reminded Him of God's might and power. After a while, the wind began to die down.

While they continued to wait for Dad to come home, Joshua's Mom told the children about the storm the disciples found themselves in one day while they were in a boat on the sea of Galilee. "Where was Jesus?" asked Debbie. "Jesus was sleeping, peacefully," answered Mom. Debbie was surprised, "Sleeping? Why, wasn't He scared?" Mom continued, "He knew He was in control of the storm that raged around them. However, the disciples got pretty scared! They woke Jesus. With just a few words, Jesus calmed the sea. The disciples learned Jesus had been in control the whole time." Mom's story was interrupted by the cheerful sound of Dad's voice, "Hey everyone! You must have been praying for me. A tree almost fell on my car, but the wind blew it to the side of the road! We're all safe. Let's thank the Lord!"

- Why did singing help calm Joshua's fears?
- Why should the disciples have realized they were safe?
- Do you believe and trust that God can keep you safe always?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Rebuke: To command to stop.

Day Four

Lost and Alone (Part 1)

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

It had been a fun day at the lake. As night fell over the campsite, Jim helped his dad put the tent up, and his mom and sister prepared to roast marshmallows over the campfire. Jim thought campfires were kind of boring. He was excited to be in the wilderness, and he wanted to go exploring. He had been told by his dad not to ever leave the campsite alone, but he just wanted to go for a "very short" little walk in the dark to explore. "Besides," he thought to himself, "Scamp would be with me." Everyone was occupied for the moment, and Jim thought they would probably never notice he was away. Jim took his dog, Scamp, and a flashlight.

Jim knew deep in his heart that this was the wrong thing to do, but he decided to do it anyway. He had not been gone very long when the flashlight he was using became dim. Fearing the flash light would completely go out, Jim determined to head back. About that time, Scamp heard a noise and started to chase something in the woods. Not wanting to lose Scamp, Jim just held on to the leash and followed behind him. Scamp could not be slowed down; soon the leash slipped from Jim's hand and Scamp disappeared. Jim looked around and realized he had not kept track of his path. As he tried to re-trace his steps, the flashlight began to flicker. In a few minutes, he was without any light. The sudden realization terrified Jim. He was alone in the forest. He began to hear all kinds of funny noises. He walked in one direction, then another. Finally, he stopped. He remembered Jesus knew right where he was. Jesus knew where his dad was, too. Jim sure wanted to see his dad, now, even if he was going to get in big trouble for not listening. Jim bowed his head, "Lord, help me! I know I was wrong. I should have listened to Dad. Lord, I am afraid here, alone in the dark. Please help me to get back. In Jesus name."

Jim felt much better after he prayed. He knew that God hears our prayers, and he trusted Him to find a way to help him. We may find ourselves in a bad situation because we have not listened to our parents or obeyed what God has asked us to do. It's comforting to know that God is able to get us out of any mess we get ourselves into. God knows we are weak. He knows we often fail; yet God is faithful. He will never turn us away when we call to Him. (Continued on Day Five)

- If Jim had listened to his dad, would things be better for him now?
- When we mess up and do the wrong thing, is God still interested in helping us?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Obedience: To do what we know is right.

Lost and Alone (Part 2)

Text: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, no be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Also read Joshua 1:1-9

(Continued from Day Four) Now, Jim was getting cold. The moon had been up high in the sky when he started on his adventure, but now it was behind the trees. He prayed again for God to give him courage and wisdom. As he thought about God's presence with him, verses his Sunday school teacher had helped him memorize popped into his mind. "...I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we may boldly say: 'The Lord is my helper; I will not fear...'" (Hebrews 13:5,6). Once more, he felt comforted and encouraged to trust God. Jim began to sing some worship songs to help him think about God and His power rather than his scary situation. He sang loudly, "Jesus loves me, this I know for the Bible tells me so..." In the pauses, he could hear rustling sounds. The sounds came nearer. Not wanting to think about the scary sounds, Jim just sang more, loudly.

All of a sudden Scamp jumped out of the bushes, barking and licking Jim's face. Jim was never so glad to see his dog. The rustling sound continued, and Jim embraced Scamp. "Jim," yelled Dad. "Dad!" shouted Jim. His father emerged as a tall dark shadow holding a flashlight. Springing up and into his father's arms, Jim cried, "Dad, how did you find me?" Jim's dad laughed. "How could I not find you? Scamp came back to camp barking, and I heard you singing almost as soon as I started looking for you. You did a pretty stupid thing leaving the campsite, but the loud singing was a smart thing."

Jim asked his dad to forgive him for disobeying. He told his father about the scripture that had come to his mind when he was lost. His father smiled and looked tearfully at the starry sky. "Thank you for keeping Jim safe, and being with him, Lord." Thank you that Jim has hidden Your Word in his heart." Jim's dad paused for a moment, then continued, "Thank you, too, for providing a dishwasher for the rest of the trip. In Jesus' name. Amen." Grinning from ear to ear, Jim gave Scamp a big hug.

- Do you know God is with you wherever you are?

Kid's Prayer Time



Thank the Lord for His faithfulness to you in times of trouble. Pray that you will grow in your faith and keep your eyes on Jesus, even in the midst of a scary storm.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

"In their misery they cried out to the LORD and He saved them. He calmed the storm and the waves and they were happy that it was quiet. And God guided them to the place they wanted."

Third Grade and Above

"Then they cry out to the LORD in their trouble, and He brings them out of their distresses. He calms the storm, so that its waves are still. Then they are glad because they are quiet; so He guides them to their desired haven."

Psalm 107:28-30