

Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: The Transfiguration

THEME: Jesus is all we need.

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 17:1-13

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 Transfiguration (**Matthew 17:1-13**). We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. Jesus was "transfigured" before Peter, James and John. He revealed to them His glory. God spoke from heaven and declared, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" Peter leaned that Jesus and Jesus alone is everything he would ever need! **Jesus is all we need.**

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

Can We See God's Glory?

Text: Exodus 33:22 - "So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by."

Also read Exodus 33:17-23

Right now, we don't see the Lord face-to-face, with our very eyes. Instead, we walk by faith, knowing one day we will see the Lord. What an amazing time that will be! This week, we will look at times in the Bible when God's people were able to see God's glory with their very eyes. They looked upon His majesty and greatness. Moses was among those blessed to see God's glory.

Moses had walked and talked with the Lord for a long time. One day, Moses asked the Lord if he could see His glory. God told Moses that he could see His glory, but He would not be able to see His face. The Lord is so holy and righteous, and man is so sinful that no man would be able to look upon Him in all of His glory (face-to-face) and live. God told Moses, He would place Moses on a rock, and when His glory would pass by, God would place Moses in the cleft of the rock. The cleft was a small opening in the rock, kind of like a mini cave. God would cover Moses with His hand while He passed by. Then, God would remove His hand and allow His back to be seen by Moses. In this way, Moses would be able to see the glory of God and live!

God provided the way for Moses to come into His presence. God has also provided a way for us to be prepared for the glory of Heaven. God hides us in the cleft of a rock, His Son Jesus. God gave His Son Jesus to die on the cross taking the punishment for our sins upon Himself. We who believe in Jesus are forgiven—our sins have been removed. Because we are hidden in Christ, one day, we like Moses, will see Him face-to-face in all His glory. What a wonderful day that is going to be!

- Why could Moses not see God's glory without His protection?
- How has God provided a way for us to see Him face-to-face, in all His glory?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Glory: Greatness or majesty.

Cleft: A small opening in a rock, like a mini cave.

Day Two

A Flame of Glory

Text: 2 Kings 2:11 - "Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven."

Also read 2 Kings 2:1-11

Elijah was a prophet in the Old Testament. God used Elijah in mighty ways, demonstrating His miraculous power. Now, it was time for his life to end, but he was not going to die! In fact, Elijah is one of only two people in the Bible who went to heaven, but didn't die. (Enoch was the other one.) God had different plan. Both Elijah and his friend Elisha would see God's glory.

Elijah and Elisha were walking and talking. Elijah knew he would soon be taken away! Suddenly a chariot of fire with horses of fire appeared and separated Elijah from Elisha. Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind! It must have been an amazing sight for Elisha!

Can you imagine being "caught up" into heaven to see the glory of the Lord? Did you know that we, as Christians, watch and wait for such an event to happen to us? Jesus promised He would return to take His church home to be with Him. We call that event, "The Rapture," The word "rapture" comes from a Greek word, "harpazo" which literally means, "caught up." 1 Thessalonians 4:17 says, "...we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord." If we are alive when that glorious event happens, we, like Elijah, will be caught up to be with the Lord forever.

Life was pretty exciting for Elijah. Life is pretty exciting for us as Christians as we watch and wait for the Lord to return and receive us into glory. It will happen suddenly! Are you ready?

- What happened when it was time for Elijah's life to end?
- Could you be "caught up" into heaven? (Remember, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17!)

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Rapture: The time when believers in Jesus will be taken up to be with Him.

Day Three

Let's Make a Tabernacle!

Text: Matthew 17:4 - "Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.'"

Also read Matthew 17:1-13

President Calvin Coolidge was one of quietest presidents. However, when once asked why he was a man of so few words, he spoke a good bit of wisdom: The President responded, "A man never regrets what he did not say." Have you ever said anything without really thinking about it? Sometimes, when we give little thought to what we say, it can get us into trouble. It seems Peter had a habit of doing that. Although, sometimes, he would he would say something very right! For instance, Jesus once asked His disciples, "Who do men say that I am?" Peter *rightly* answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus commended Peter for this understanding—it came from the Father! But, moments later, Jesus began to talk about His suffering on the cross and His resurrection. Peter seemed only to hear about the suffering of Jesus, which did not seem like a good idea to Peter; so he blurted out, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" The Bible says Jesus rebuked Peter for he was not "mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

Once more, seeing Jesus standing with Moses and Elijah, transfigured into His future glory, Peter blurted something out carelessly, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." Peter got it wrong! He wanted to build three tabernacles (temporary dwellings), but to do so would be missing the point! Jesus, alone, glowed on the mountain. To build three tents would be putting Moses and Elijah on an equal plane with Jesus. Moses represented the law. The purpose of the law was to show us our inability to keep it and, thus, drive us to Jesus for help. Elijah represented the prophets. The purpose of the prophets was to tell of Jesus coming--pointing the way to Jesus.

This time, God, the Father, interrupted Peter, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased, hear Him!" The disciples fell to the ground in fear. Jesus comforted them, "Arise, and do not be afraid." When the disciples looked up, they saw no one but Jesus. Peter had made a big mistake. Jesus was far above the law and the prophets! It's all about Jesus. Pipe down Peter! Listen to Him!

What big mistake did Peter make?

What did God say concerning His Son, Jesus?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Tabernacle: A tent or temporary dwelling.

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Day Four

A Vision of Paradise

Text: 2 Corinthians 12:3,4 - "And I know such a man - whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows - how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter."

Also read 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

Johnny really missed Grandpa. Grandpa had become ill, and within only a few months, he went to be with the Lord. It seemed so sudden! He remembered all the fun times they had and all the games they played together. Yet, Johnny felt comforted knowing Grandpa was with the Lord in Heaven. "What is heaven like?" Johnny asked his dad. Dad smiled, "In heaven, we will finally see Jesus face-to-face in all His glory! That's enough to be pretty excited about. Everything else must be pretty cool, too! In John 14:2,3, Jesus said, 'I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.' Jesus prepared a place especially for us, so we can live with Him—it must be awesome!"

In 1 Corinthians 2:9, Paul wrote, "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." In our scripture reading above, the man (we believe to be Paul) was caught up to see heaven. He said it was beyond description! He could not describe in words what he saw! The Bible does tell us a little bit about heaven. But, even in those descriptions, it is hard for us to imagine. One thing is for sure, we will finally see Jesus in all His glory—face to face! We will "forever be with the Lord" in a place of worship, peace, and beauty.

Heaven has been prepared for you. Are you prepared for heaven? The Bible says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him would not perish but have everlasting life." Jesus wants you to live forever with Him! He took the punishment for your sins when He died on the cross so that you could be forgiven and begin a new life with Him—a new life that will last forever! If you put your trust in Jesus, you will go to heaven—that's a great thing to know!

- Who has prepared heaven for us?
- What will be exciting about heaven?
- How can we know for sure that we are going to heaven?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Paradise: Another name for heaven.

Heaven: God's home and the home of all who love Him.

Seeing the King of Kings

Text: Revelation 1:11 - "saying, 'I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the last,' and, 'What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.'"

Also read Revelation 1:9-20

Katie couldn't wait to get back to school to tell everyone about her summer vacation; she and her family spent two weeks in England! The most exciting event happened one day when they were touring Buckingham Palace--the Queen of England passed by their tour group. What an exciting thing to get to see the queen!

One day the Apostle John saw a king. But, He was not *just* a king, He was the King of Kings. Because he was boldly witnessing for Jesus, John was sent as a prisoner to the island of Patmos. God was not done with blessing His servant, John, and using him for his glory. John was privileged to see the Lord he had once walked with on earth in all His glory, as the King of King and Lord of Lords. Jesus gave John the special task of writing the book of Revelation. Jesus told John He was the "Alpha and Omega." Jesus was saying He was everything from "A" through "Z." Alpha and Omega are the first and the last letter of the Greek alphabet. In Revelation 22:13 Jesus adds, "I am...the Beginning and the End."

Jesus began everything. He is one with the Father and, thus, was there at the time of creation. In Colossians 1:15,16, we read, "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation, for by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist."

Jesus will end everything. He will wrap everything up, ushering us into heaven to live forever with Him, creating a new heaven and earth where righteousness will dwell, and establishing His throne forever! At the end of the book of Revelation, Jesus said, "Surely I am coming quickly." Are you ready? Meeting the King of Kings and Lord of Lords will be pretty exciting!

- What special assignment did Jesus give to John?
- What does "Alpha and Omega" mean?

Kid's Prayer Time



Thank the Lord that one day we will get to see Him in all of His glory.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**"This is My beloved
Son...Hear Him!"**

Third Grade and Above

**"This is My beloved
Son, in whom I am
well pleased. Hear
Him!"**

Matthew 17:5b