

CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

LESSON TITLE: The Sanhedrin, Herod and Pilate



THEME: Jesus is the Son of God, our Messiah.

SCRIPTURE: Luke 22:66 – 23:25

Dear Parents...

Welcome to <u>Bible Time for Kids</u>. This is a series of daily devotions for children and their families. Our purpose is to supplement our Sunday morning curriculum and give you an opportunity to encourage your children to develop a daily devotional life. We hope you and your family will be blessed as you study God's Word together.

This week we learned about The Sanhedrin, Herod & Pilate. The theme was "Jesus is the Son of God." After reading the section of scripture it is awesome to see God's perfect plan. Jesus knew all along why He was here on this earth. Even though no one could find guilt in Him, He chose to do God's will and lay down His life.

Pilate and Herod were man pleasers only. Pilate released a man who committed several crimes just to please the crowd. He could find no guilt in Jesus because there was no guilt in Him. This week we will look at God's truth, which tells us that Jesus is truly the Son of God.

The section of scripture that we studied was Luke 22:66 - 23:25. The following five devotions are based on either the scripture and/or the theme for Sunday's lesson. As a starting point it would be good for you to review these verses with your children.

These devotions are designed to help you reinforce Sunday's lesson throughout the week with your children, provide some more ideas for the application of God's Word in your children's lives and provide a tool to help in family devotions.

Obviously children at various age levels will respond to the devotional in different ways. You may want to add your own ideas to these to make them more age appropriate.

May the Lord bless you as you study His Word together!

Day One

He Is Our Example

Text: 1 Corinthians 11:1 – "Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ." Also read Matthew 20:19

Jason could hardly wait until the big game. This afternoon at 4:30 Jason's big brother Tony would pitch against the undefeated Tigers. Tony was the star of the team. He had a special pitch he would throw to strike them out. Jason would go to the games and watch his brother very carefully. Jason wanted to be just like his brother. He would pretend to be like him in everything he did. He tried to talk like him, dress like him, and even play baseball like him. When Jason would go around town, people would say to him, "you look so much like your brother Tony", this would make Jason feel so good.

Is there someone you try to "act" like? Maybe it's a friend, your mom or dad, or someone on television. Most kids try to imitate someone or something that is important to them. This week we are learning about Jesus who is the Son of God. As we study about the life of Jesus, we can see that He is someone we would want to imitate. Jesus' lifestyle is a style I want to live by. I want every part of my life to look like His. Is this possible? Not always, because I am a sinner.

Jesus wants us to "look" like him in everything we do. This doesn't mean that we are to dress like He did or try to grow a beard like He probably had, but it does mean that we are to act like He would act in situations we face. How can you do that? First, we need to ask Jesus, God's Son who He sent to save us, into our hearts. Then we need to live our lives every day obeying Jesus and the Bible. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 11:1 to imitate him (Paul) because he (Paul) imitates Christ. A. C. Green, a professional basketball player and a Christian says, "Don't be like me for who I am, but be like me for who Christ is in my life." Jesus is truly the Son of God and He is our example to live by.

- Who do you imitate?
- Why would you want to be like Jesus?
- When is it OK for people to imitate us?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Imitate: To be like someone else.

Popular, but Not Right!

Text: John 12:43 - "for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God." Also read Luke 23:1-25

Herod was the ruler of Galilee and a man who was very interested in the miracles that Jesus performed. After Jesus was arrested, He was brought to Pilate, the Roman ruler in Israel. Pilate learned that Jesus was from Galilee. So he sent Jesus to Herod to be questioned by him. Herod was looking forward to this time because he had heard great things about Jesus. Herod hoped that maybe Jesus would "perform" for him by doing some miracle. He wanted to see Jesus do a "show" for him. Herod was very bold in his questioning but Jesus stayed silent and did nothing. Herod thought that he was Jesus' judge, but really Herod would one day answer to Jesus. Herod did not give an answer concerning Jesus that day because Jesus did not do anything wrong. Herod and his soldiers mocked Jesus and then sent Him back to Pilate.

Usually, during this time Pilate would release a prisoner to the people. After asking Jesus questions three different times, Pilate could not find any guilt in Jesus. He decided he would make a deal with the Jewish leaders. The Jewish leaders wanted to see Jesus dead. Pilate said he would beat Jesus then let Him go. He was sure the Jews wouldn't want Barabbas, one of his other prisoners because he was a murderer and a robber. The religious leaders kept stirring up the crowd. Pilate feared a riot would start so he gave in to the cries of the people. Pilate openly said that Jesus was innocent, yet he allowed Him to be beaten and condemned Him to die. The fact that Jesus did nothing wrong did not make a difference to Pilate. Pilate wanted to be popular with the people more than being right before God.

So often, Christians want to be popular with others rather than following Jesus. Some children might say yes to their friends rather than yes to God. Some parents might say yes to their friends or co-workers, rather than saying yes to God. It pleases God when we follow Him. When others see your commitment to Jesus, they see His light in your life. When people who are in darkness want to see where do they go? They go the where the light is. Jesus brings hope in the middle of darkness. He is the light of the world.

• Do you want to please everyone you are around?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Popular: To be accepted and liked by others.

Son of Man

Text: Luke 22:69 - "Hereafter the Son of Man will sit on the right hand of the power of God." Also read Daniel 7:13-14; Matthew 18:11: Luke 1:35

In the newspaper was posted this reward notice, "Looking for the long lost son of billionaire tycoon John Westley. If you are him or if you know of his whereabouts please contact the following number: 555-0909." Well it didn't take long for the person who placed the ad to receive about 100,000 phone calls from people claiming to be the son of John Westley. An interview was held and 95,000 men showed up. Each and every man who came claimed that he was the son of this man called John Westley. Whoever was the son of John Westley would receive billions of dollars and would become a powerful man. Well, only one man could fit the description of John Westley's son. That man would receive the glory and wealth of his father.

In the Bible we have a description of a Son, but this Son is not lost. He was sent by His Father to save the lost. Many may say they are God's son, but there can only be one. There are many verses in the Bible, which prove that He is God's only Son. Many things are written in the Old Testament hundreds of years before the New Testament, which all happen in the New Testament.

Some examples are Bible verses that tell us hundreds of years before Jesus came that the Messiah would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14), in the town of Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), and that He would be a descendant of King David's (2 Samuel 7:12). He would be "a Man of sorrows" (Isaiah 53:3) who would suffer rejection by His own people (Psalm 69:8), be betrayed by a friend (Psalm 41:9), and crucified between two thieves (Isaiah 53:12). As the Messiah died, His spirit would be commended to His Father (Psalm 31:5). He would be raised from the dead (Psalm 16:10) to take His place at God's right hand (Psalm 110:1).

Wow! That's a lot of verses. And these are just a few in the Old Testament that show us clearly that Jesus is truly the Son of God. He fulfilled all of these prophecies. He is a Prophet, Priest and King. Jesus did the will of His father. He came to deliver the world from sin and to adopt us into God's family (Luke 4:18, 19; Acts 2:36-42). Jesus is the Son of God! What a blessing for us!

• What is one of the ways we can know that Jesus is the Son of God?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Prophecy: To predict or foretell something before it happens.

Day Four

The Mediator

Text: 1 Timothy 2:5 – "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus." Also read Hebrews 4:14-16

Mr. Johnson had a wonderful job. He was known as a mediator. He was the individual responsible for delivering messages to the Commissioner of Baseball. When the baseball players had a problem they would contact Mr. Johnson and he would talk to the Commissioner and try to get the problem corrected. The baseball players could not go directly to the Commissioner because he was too important to see anyone. They had to go through Mr. Johnson who would speak for the players.

Sometimes the players had difficult things that they needed to get help with. Mr. Johnson always loved to help out. The players couldn't go in directly, but they could always get to the commissioner through Mr. Johnson. They would just call him and tell him their problem and then Mr. Johnson would go to the Commissioner for them. Then the commissioner would solve whatever problem they had. The players had access to the Commissioner through Mr. Johnson. This is how it is in our relationship with God.

Because of our sin we can't come into the presence of God. But God has made a way for us to have a relationship with Him. He is full of grace and mercy. He loves us so much that he sent His Son to save us. We can not go directly to Him unless we have a mediator. That mediator is Jesus. Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins. He paid the price for our sins and made a way for us to come into the presence of God. He rose again and is sitting at the right hand of God. He is our mediator. We go through Jesus to have a relationship with God. Whenever we have problems or need anything we can pray to our Heavenly Father in Jesus name. We know that He hears us and will help us. We can come boldly to God's throne of grace because Jesus is our mediator.

- What price did Jesus pay for our sins?
- Is there more than one mediator between God and us?
- Is there anything that you need help with that you need to bring to Jesus?

Kid's Bible Dictionary

Mediator: One who settles the differences between two parties. Jesus settled the differences between God and us by shedding His blood for our sins.

Day Five

Paying the Price

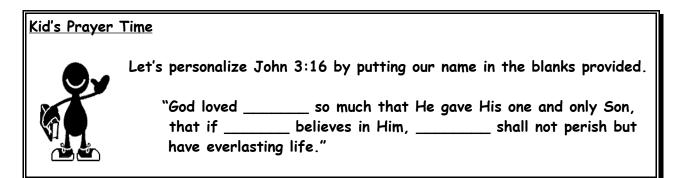
Text: John 3:16 – "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." Also read 2 Corinthians 5:21

Jenny was so mad at her brother for what he had said to her that she picked up a ball and threw it at him. Jenny's brother Todd ducked and the ball knocked over a vase which fell to the floor and broke. Later that evening Jenny's father heard of the news. Mr. Wilson, Jenny's father, spoke with Jenny and told her that she would need to be disciplined for her actions and would certainly lose some privileges.

Sitting at the desk was Todd. He knew that he shouldn't have called his sister a name. He knew that if he would have kept his mouth shut none of this would have happened. He started to feel bad for what had happened. Even though Jenny broke the vase he knew that it was because of what he said. Todd walked over to his father and explained everything to him. He asked if he could take the place of Jenny and receive the discipline instead of her. Mr. Wilson agreed to it. Todd paid the price for what had happened.

Would you find it hard to take the punishment for someone else? If your parents punished you for something your brother or sister did, would you think it was fair? Todd had some responsibility in what happened in the story today. But what if Todd didn't do anything? Jesus never sinned or did anything wrong, yet He chose to take on all of our sins. Remember the story of Barabbas? Jesus was innocent but Pilate released Barabbas just to please the people. Jesus took his place on the cross for the sins of others. According to God's law, sin is so terrible that its punishment is death (Romans 6:23). Only Jesus Christ, who had no sin of His own, could take that punishment for us and pay the penalty for our sins. Aren't you glad that Jesus took your place?

- What would you have done if you were Todd?
- What did Jesus do for us?



Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

"Hereafter the Son of Man will sit on the right hand of the power of God."

Third Grade and Above

"Hereafter the Son of Man will sit on the right hand of the power of God."

Luke 22:69