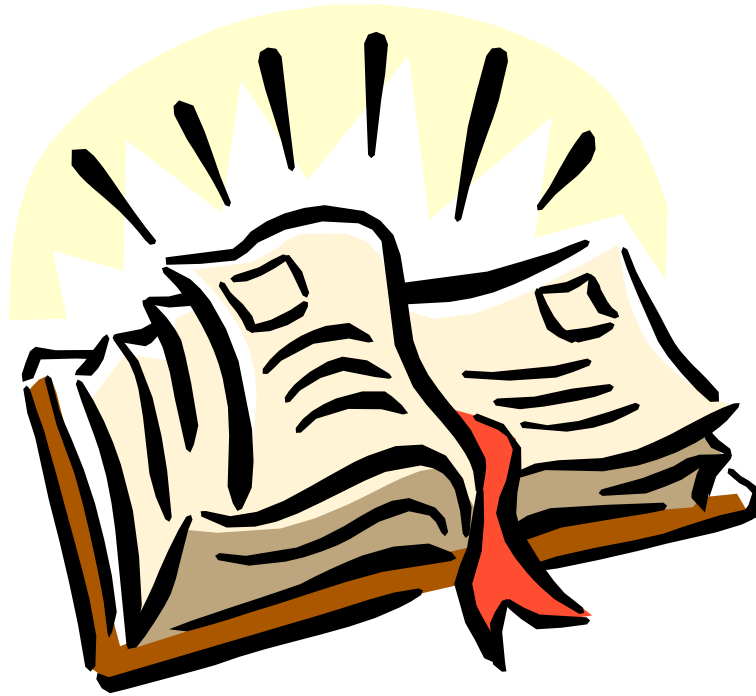


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: Rejection at Nazareth

THEME: We need to come to Jesus with hearts of wonder and worship.

SCRIPTURE: Mark 6:1-6

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 was rejected in Nazareth (Mark 6:1-6)**. We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. Nazareth was Jesus' hometown, the town where He grew up. Many people there refused to believe in Him. Unfortunately, it seemed that people were too familiar with Him to see that He was the Son of God. Sadly, the Bible says that He couldn't do very many "mighty works" because of their unbelief.

There may be times we are rejected because of our stand for Jesus. We need to be reminded to trust God through those times. He loves us and will help us.

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

My Favorite Teacher

Text: Mark 6:2 - "And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue. And many hearing Him were astonished, saying 'Where did this Man get these things? And what wisdom is this which is given to Him, that such mighty works are performed by His hands!'"

Also read John 6:41-51

Do you have a favorite teacher at school? Maybe your teacher is so good that he or she can make a subject come to life. It is great to have a teacher who can make things like math and English something exciting. When I was going to college I remember a teacher that taught a class on the life of Christ. He spoke as though he lived during Jesus' life and was one of His disciples. He was so good at sharing about the life of Jesus that when class-time was over, we were sad—we would have enjoyed staying longer. Often times, I would meet with other students after the class to continue the class-time discussion. Have you ever been so excited about school that you did not want it to be over? The keys to a great teacher are simple. They should know what they are teaching and then be excited about telling others about it.

Jesus was a great teacher, the greatest teacher of all time. Jesus taught us about God. He certainly knew His subject—for He is God! Jesus was excited, passionate, about His teaching. For He wanted everyone to know His love, the Father's love, and receive the free gift of salvation through faith in Him. He knew that what He had to share meant life or death to those who were listening. When Jesus taught in the synagogue, the people listening were amazed at His wisdom. Jesus drew crowds wherever He went. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life" (John 8:12). He said, "I am the bread of life" (John 6:48). Can you imagine hearing Jesus—the Bread of Life, the Light of the World? He said, "The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life." What a privilege it would be to hear Jesus speak! But though we do not see Jesus with our eyes, He is here with us, by the Spirit, which He has given to us to help us understand and obey His Words. We, too, are His disciples (His devoted students), as we sit at His feet reading His teachings in the pages of the Bible. How much time are you spending with the greatest teacher of all time?

- Why do you think Jesus was the greatest teacher of all?
- Can you sit at the feet of the greatest teacher of all? How?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Synagogue: A place of worship and learning for a local congregation of Jews.

Rejection

Text: Mark 6:3 - "Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?' And they were offended at Him."

Also read 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Just about every person who has ever lived has at one time or another experienced rejection (not being liked or included). Rejection is an unfortunate part of life, yet it is, definitely, still a part of life. Perhaps, some have faced rejection on a playground when they were not chosen for a team. Others have had friends tell them they no longer wanted to be their friends. Some have even had their own family reject them. In whatever form rejection comes, it is part of life, and we need to know how to handle it.

Jesus understands rejection. He experienced rejection more than any one of us. In Mark 6:1-6, we read Jesus was even rejected by the friends and neighbors of his hometown—the very people that He grew up around. Because of their unbelief, Jesus could not do many mighty works among them. Even some of His own brothers refused to follow Him or believe in Him. His own people, the Jews, mostly rejected him. In John 1:11, we read, "He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him." When Jesus died on the cross, He handled His rejection by asking God to forgive those who rejected Him. Jesus continues to experience rejection by man to this day. Every person that denies Him as Lord and Savior rejects Him.

Jesus loved those who rejected Him. He did good to those who treated Him badly. He gave His life for those who were against Him. In 1 Peter 2, we are told that Jesus left us an example to follow, "Who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously" (1 Peter 2:23). Jesus understands what it feels like to be rejected, and He can help us to deal with rejection. We, too, can commit ourselves to the Father when we feel rejected. In His comforting love, we can handle anything that comes our way.

- How do we know Jesus understands what it is like to be rejected?
- How did Jesus handle rejection?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Rejection: To strongly dislike someone, to not include them and to stay away from them.

Day Three

Don't Miss Out!

Text: Mark 6:5 - "Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them."

Also read Hebrews 11:1-6

Without faith it is impossible to please God! Hebrews 11:6 says that "without faith it is impossible to please Him (God), for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." How sad it was that the people of Jesus' hometown refused to believe that He was who He said He was. They could only see Him as the young man that had grown up in their town. We read that Jesus could not do any "mighty work" there because they refused to believe in Him.

It was the people in Jesus' hometown who missed out on a great blessing. Many people there needed to hear about Jesus and believe in Him. There may have been many people in Nazareth who were sick and needed healing. Jesus, alone, could help them. You would have thought that those of his own hometown would welcome Him most readily, but because they thought they knew Him already, they showed little interest in His message. We, like the people of Nazareth, need to be careful that we just don't know all "about" Jesus, but not really know Him. Did you know that you can go to church all the time, read your Bible, and pray, and yet, still not be a Christian?

Are you sure you are a Christian? Have you committed (given) your life to Him as Lord and Savior? The Bible says Jesus stands at the door of our hearts and knocks. Have you opened the door to let Him in? All men have been separated from God because of sin (wrongdoing). Jesus took the punishment for our sins when He died on the cross. Now, He stands ready to offer forgiveness and the blessings of a close relationship with Him to whoever will open the door. Do not miss out, like the people of Nazareth, because of unbelief.

- Why didn't the people of Nazareth believe in Jesus?
- Does going to church, reading your Bible, and praying make you a Christian?
- How do you let Jesus into your heart and life?
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Kid's Bible Dictionary



Nazareth: Jesus' hometown, where He grew up.

Day Four

Through Thick and Thin!

Text: Mark 6:1 - "Then He went out from there and came to His own country, and His disciples followed Him."

Also read Luke 14:25-35

The disciples of Jesus followed Him wherever He went. To be a disciple is to be a devoted follower. The disciples did not just stay with Jesus when everything was going good. They were determined to stick with Him no matter what would come their way. Jesus talked about how serious the commitment is to become a disciple and what it would take. Let's take a look at what it means to be a disciple.

In Luke 14:26, Jesus tells us that being a disciple means that our relationship with Jesus should be the most important relationship in our life. We must love God more than our father and mother, brothers and sisters, and especially more than ourselves.

In Luke 14:27, we are told to pick up our cross and follow Jesus. In other words, we should be willing to give up anything in order to follow Jesus, and be willing to suffer if need be to do His will. Many of Jesus' disciples gave up everything in order to follow Jesus. Jesus suffered greatly on the cross.

Following Jesus won't always be easy, but the true disciples of Jesus will "hang in there." In John 8:31 Jesus said, "...If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed." A true disciple is one that abides (stays) in the word of God. The desire of His heart is to obey His words.

Do you want to be a disciple of Jesus? Jesus' disciples followed Jesus through good times and bad times—through thick and thin. They were committed to go where He went and do what He said. If this is your desire, you, too, can be His disciple.

- What is a disciple?
- What will a disciple of Jesus be willing to do? Where will a disciple be willing to go?
- How can one be a disciple of Jesus?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Disciple: A follower of Jesus.

Shake the Dust Off!

Text: Mark 6:6 - "And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching."

Also read Matthew 10:14

Shaking the dust off of your feet is not just a term your mother uses when you try to get in the house with dirty feet. It is actually a term that Jesus used in Matthew 10:14. Jesus was giving instructions to the twelve apostles about going out to preach the Good News of God to the lost sheep of Israel. He said to them, "Whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet." Jesus wanted the twelve to know that not everyone would gladly hear and receive the message they were preaching. In fact, some people would laugh at them and even persecute them. When that happened, they were not to get upset about it, but simply move on to the next place and continue sharing the Good News.

Jesus, Himself, was not received when He went to His hometown to serve and minister to the people there. Even His own friends and neighbors rejected Him, people He knew and grew up with. Jesus shook the dust off of His feet and moved on to other towns!

We are no different than Jesus and His disciples. When we share with others the good news that Jesus is the Savior of the world, some people may make fun of us. They may even try to harm us. But when and if they do, we know we are in good company. It is not our job to make people believe that Jesus is the Savior, but only to tell them. If they reject our message, we, too, should shake the dust off our feet and move on to someone who will hear.

- What did Jesus mean by "shake the dust off of your feet?"
- Have you tried to share about Jesus with someone else? What are some ways that you can share about Jesus to others?

Kid's Prayer Time



Thank the Lord for the privilege of being His disciple!

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

“He was hated and rejected by men and He knew a lot about sadness and suffering. And people would not even look at Him or notice Him.”

Third Grade and Above

“He is despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised and we did not esteem Him.”

Isaiah 53:3