

Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



Dear Parents...

LESSON TITLE: The Day of Pentecost

THEME: Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to indwell and empower us.

SCRIPTURE: Acts 2:1-41

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Bible Time for Kids. 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 Day of Pentecost. The theme was "Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to indwell and empower us." The promise of the Holy Spirit comes upon the early church! What an exciting part of the Bible! We will learn this week about the Holy Spirit and His work in our lives.

How we need the Holy Spirit to help us to live our lives here! He gives us the power to live for Jesus and to be a witness for Him wherever we go. We are going to look at some of the different ways that He empowers us to live for Jesus. Enjoy your devotions this week!

The section of scripture that we studied was **Acts 2:1-41**. 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

Waiting on the Spirit

Text: Acts 2:1 - "When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place."

Read Acts 2:1-13

How many times have you been asked to wait? It's very hard to wait for something when you really want it, isn't it? Today we read about Jesus' disciples and more than 100 followers who loved the Lord very much. Jesus asked them to wait in Jerusalem to receive a very special promise. They were going to receive the Holy Spirit who would give them power to live for Him. How the gift of the Holy Spirit was going to change their lives forever! They didn't even know all the great things the Lord was going to do through their lives.

The disciples weren't sure what was going to happen next. Jesus had left to go back to the Father. They were alone and may have even been a little frightened. But remember Jesus' promise? He told them that He would not leave them alone. He said He would send the Holy Spirit to them to help them. What we read about today is called the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to come upon His believers to help them to tell others about Him. It was a miracle. Isn't God amazing?

As believers in Jesus, we are indwelt by the Holy Spirit. That means the Holy Spirit lives inside of our hearts. He helps us and teaches us things about Jesus and the Bible. God has a plan and a purpose for our lives. He wants us to tell others about Jesus. So we can ask Him to baptize us with the Holy Spirit to be able to live for Him and tell others about Him. We can then be used by the Lord to do great things for Him just like the disciples did in our story. It is a great honor to be used by God to help others.

- What were the disciples waiting for?
- Who gave them the power to speak all those other languages?
- How did the people watching this baptism of the Holy Spirit react?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Waiting on the Lord: To peacefully wait for His plan to be done in my life.

God Is With Us

Text: Joel 2:28-29 - "And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days."

Also read Luke 24:44-53

Think about a time when you felt alone. Maybe you were at school on the playground and everyone else was busy. Most of us know how it feels to be alone. Did you know that when you accept Jesus into your heart that He, through the Holy Spirit, lives inside of you and you are never alone? He is always with you, no matter what. In fact, Jesus said one time that He would never leave us nor forsake us. Jesus came to the earth and died on the cross for our sins. He was our sacrifice, but He did more for us than die for our sins. He gave us a way to be with Him and speak to Him any time. We never have to be alone again.

In our reading today, Jesus is preparing to leave the disciples. He is telling them, and us, that the job of Christians is to tell the whole world about Him, so they can be saved from their sins. Our verse today shows us where the power will come from to be able to do what Jesus has asked us to do. It comes from the promise that God spoke of to the Prophet Joel many years ago and that Jesus told us about in the New Testament. They are speaking of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit was sent for the disciples long ago and for God's people through all of the years and even for you and me. God sends us out to share Jesus with the world, but He goes with us through the Holy Spirit. We aren't left alone. Without God's power, we would fail. We do not have the strength to do God's work without the Holy Spirit. So when we are getting ready to tell someone about Jesus and His love for them all we need to do is to pray and ask the Lord to help us. He promises that His Holy Spirit will help us and even help to give us the words to say. Pretty cool, huh?! Just trust in Jesus and He will help us to do everything He wants us to do for Him.

- Who sent the Holy Spirit to us?
- Where does the Holy Spirit live?
- What does the Holy Spirit do for us?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Promise: The assurance that something will be done.

A Map and a Guide

Text: Acts 2:38 - "then Peter said to them, 'Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"

Also read Acts 2:29-41

If you have ever gone camping in the wilderness, then you know how easy it is sometimes to lose direction. Do you know of anyone who has ever gotten lost before? What a scary thing to be out in the wilderness all by yourself. When people go camping or hiking in the woods, they will usually take along maps to help them to know where they are and which direction they should go in. Even when you know a wilderness area and have been there before, a map is good to have with you. Every year brings something new. Perhaps a tree fell that is on the map and would be a good place to use for a starting point. Maybe a creek dried up that you wanted to walk along. It also helps to have someone along with you, a guide to help out, one who knows what is coming ahead and whether there is any danger.

Living in the world is kind of like hiking in a wilderness. The world is dark and can sometimes be scary. We need a map to help us to stay on the right course. The Bible is our map that we can use every day for our direction in life. It shows us where our hearts should be in order to be more like Jesus. It helps us to know if we need to change direction so that we can stay out of danger.

We also need a guide to help us through this life. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to be our guide. He is going to help us to understand the map, the Bible. He will also point us into the right direction. He will speak to us along the way and encourage us to keep following Jesus. What a blessing that we have not been left alone in this world. The Lord is so good to us. Let's get our maps out every day and ask our guide, the Holy Spirit to help us go in the right direction.

- Does the Holy Spirit live inside of your heart?
- Do you use God's map (the Bible) daily and ask directions from the Holy Spirit?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Wilderness: an unsettled region with no cities or houses.

Guide: One who directs or leads someone in a course of action.

Power to Change a Life

Text: Acts 9:17b - "...Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

Also read Acts 9:1-22

John tried to make friends with Michael at school, but each time John tried Michael would say something mean, or laugh at him. John saw Michael once with his little brother helping him at the playground, so he knew Michael could be a nice guy. Michael laughed at John because he loved Jesus and brought his Bible every where he went. John had almost given up telling Michael about the Lord, but he did continue to pray for him.

One day John was thinking about Michael and realized that he hadn't seen him at school for a long time. He asked his teacher about Michael and was told that Michael was very sick. When Michael came back to school, John still tried to avoid him. He didn't want to be teased again. But after a few days he noticed there was something very different about Michael. He wasn't always making faces at him or talking mean to the other kids. He was very nice and quiet. John finally asked Michael how he was. Michael told him he was doing OK, but he had changed. While he was sick, he learned about Jesus and asked Him into his heart. What a surprise for John! He knew Jesus could do it, and he learned about the power of the Holy Spirit to change a life. Michael and John began to study the Bible together and John learned a lot of things through Michael about the Lord and how the Holy Spirit can change a life and make it new again.

In our reading today, we learn about Saul. We see the power of the Holy Spirit working to change a very mean and hardened man who hated Jesus into a man who loved Jesus very much. He lived through the greatest of hardships, prisons and even torture to tell people about the love of Jesus Christ. Saul was very mean and even took part in helping others to kill Christians for their belief in Jesus. Saul was at the stoning of Stephen and held the coats of those who threw the stones. But God totally changed him through the power of the Holy Spirit into a godly man who was determined to die to self and live only for Jesus. What can the Holy Spirit do in our lives?

- What caused Michael to turn to Jesus?
- How did the Holy Spirit change Paul?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Change: To make different.

Power to Forgive

Text: Acts 7:55 - "but he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God."

Read Acts 6:1-15; also Acts 7:54-60

Stephen was a man who was bold in his faith in Jesus. He was one of the first leaders in the early church after Jesus ascended into heaven. We learn that Stephen was a man who was full of faith and the Holy Spirit. We will learn today that it was through the power of the Holy Spirit that Stephen was able to stand out from others. The apostles chose Stephen to be a leader in the church because they could see that he was a man who was full of the Holy Spirit.

The Bible tells us twice that Stephen was full of faith and that he had the power to do wonders and miracles. Even Stephen's enemies could not argue with him, so they made up a lie about him. They took Stephen to the religious leaders. The Bible tells us that even though the people lied about him, Stephen had something special that made him calm and able to speak the truth to the powerful religious leaders. He was not afraid of them. We are told that Stephen's face appeared to be as an angel's face and that Stephen was bold as he preached to the leaders. Even when they were questioning him, Stephen was brave. He preached to the men who would sentence him to death by stoning. What a scary place to be in! But remember that He was filled with the Holy Spirit. That is what made him strong.

As he was being stoned to death, Stephen asked God not to charge them with his murder. Stephen could forgive them for killing him even as they stoned him. He was able to have a different view of his enemies, one that gave him great love for them. And Stephen saw heaven before he got there. The difference in Stephen's life was the Holy Spirit. He can make the same difference in our life. He will help us to tell others about Jesus, even when it may be difficult. He will be with us no matter what!

- What was special about Stephen?
- Where did Stephen get his boldness and bravery?

Kid's Prayer Time



This week pray about what you have learned about the Holy Spirit. He Is the One who gives us power to be witnesses of Jesus, and can give us His strength and change us into what He wants us to be. If you have asked Jesus into your heart, ask Him to fill you with the Holy Spirit.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**“They were all filled with
the Holy Spirit...”**

Third Grade and Above

**“And they were all filled
with the Holy Spirit and
began to speak with
other tongues, as the
Spirit gave them
utterance.”**

Acts 2:4