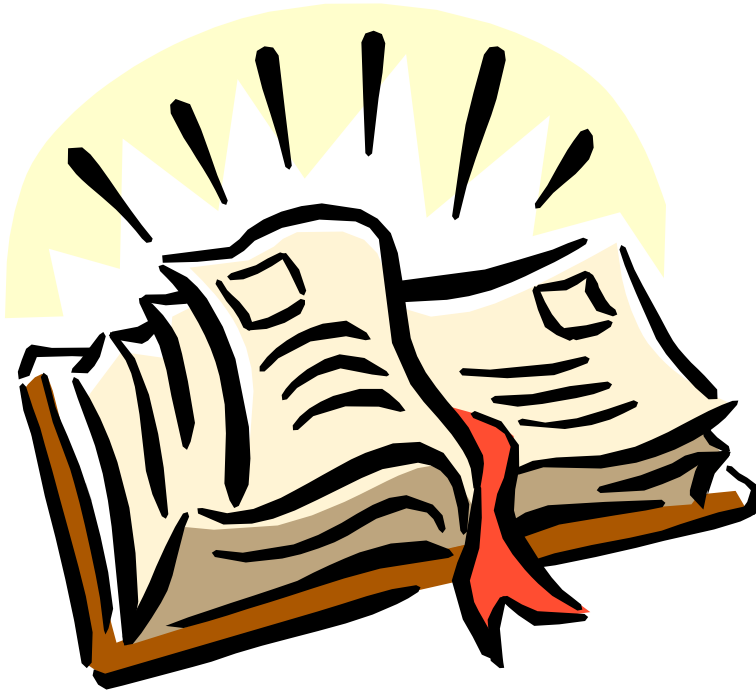


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

LESSON TITLE: Peter and John Visit Jesus' Tomb

THEME: Jesus conquered death!

SCRIPTURE: John 20:1-10



Dear Parents...

Welcome to Bible Time for Kids. Bible Time for Kids 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 in Children's Church we learned about **Peter and John visiting Jesus' tomb**. The theme was "**Jesus conquered death**." By Jesus rising from the dead He revealed His power and victory over sin, which leads to death. We can also receive eternal life because of His resurrection.

In our devotion this week we will study further about the price Jesus paid so we can live forever in eternity with Him in heaven. Sin does lead to death and we are all sinners, but through Jesus Christ we are more than conquerors.

The section of scripture that we studied was **John 20:1-10**. 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!

Believing is Seeing

Text: 2 Corinthians 5:7 - "For we walk by faith, and not by sight."

Also read John 20:1-2

The world we live in has a saying, "Seeing is believing." What the world is telling us is if you don't see something then don't believe it. It was the same when Jesus lived. Everyone lived according to what they saw and even then if they saw something, it didn't always cause them to believe. Think of all the miracles Jesus did and how many people still did not believe He was the Son of God. But the truth of God's word tells us that Jesus was the Son of God. It also tells us that God's plan for the world was that He would be crucified and rise from the dead on the third day for the forgiveness of our sin. Then why doesn't the world believe? Because the world is blind to their sin.

In John 20:1-2 we read how Mary Magdalene went to Jesus' tomb early while it was still dark. That says a lot about Mary and the love she had for Jesus. It may have been scary for Mary to go to Jesus' tomb while it was still dark, but Mary was committed to following Jesus completely. She was so grateful to Him for casting out the seven demons that once controlled her. But what Mary did not know was yet to be revealed. When she came upon the tomb the stone had been rolled away. She was afraid someone had come and taken Jesus' body away. She didn't know what to do; so she ran to tell the disciples.

Sometimes what we see scares us when we don't know or understand all of the truth about a situation. But when we walk by faith we learn that believing is seeing. In believing God's word we begin to see the truth and not what we see with our eyes. The Lord was going to be teaching Mary and His disciples some very wonderful things. He had risen from the dead and they were going to all see Him very soon. But the Lord also wants us to walk by believing in Him and not by sight. This means we need to trust Him in everything. Even in those times we don't see or understand everything. What do you think it means to walk by faith?

- What did Mary do when she saw the stone?
- Was Mary walking by faith or by sight in this story?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Faith: Complete trust in God.

Day Two

More than Conquerors

Text: **Mark 16:11** - "And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe."

Also read Luke 24:11-12

What a surprise it must have been for Peter and John, Jesus' close friends, when Mary told them that someone had rolled the stone away and taken the Lord! They had to see it for themselves. The Bible tells us in John 20:4 that, "they both ran together." Think of a time when you were so excited about something, perhaps going somewhere like an amusement park. Didn't you just want to run to be the first one to get there? Well, something even more exciting than an amusement park happened on the morning that Peter and John ran to Jesus' tomb!

At first the disciples didn't believe Mary. Maybe they thought she was making everything up. After all, who could have rolled away that huge stone? And where were the guards who were supposed to be watching the tomb? Like in our story yesterday we see here that Peter and John had to see before they believed. In many ways we are just like Peter and John because we like to see to believe also. God knows that we are like that. God wanted Peter and John to see that He had conquered death. This was really happening. Jesus had risen from the grave. Death was defeated forever!

If Jesus had not risen from the grave He would still be dead today and we would be dying in our sins. Much of the world today believes that Jesus lived and was crucified and buried. What they don't see is that He conquered death by rising on the third day. They don't want to believe because they don't want to admit that they need a savior. We are all sinners apart from Jesus and we need to have Him in our lives in order to conquer death. The only way to have life forever is by trusting in Jesus. There is no other way for us to get to heaven. We may still die in these bodies, but because we believe in Jesus we will live forever with Him. Jesus conquered death and is the way, the truth and the life. There is no fear of death when we believe and trust in Jesus as our savior.

- Do you believe in Jesus?
- Is there someone you know who is afraid of dying?
- If so, will you tell them about Jesus and how He conquered death?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Conquer: To overcome and win.

Getting a New Tent

Text: 2 Corinthians 5:1 - "For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

Also read 2 Corinthians 5:1-8

Joel and his dad were out camping one weekend. It seemed to be a beautiful weekend when they left. The sun was out and it was warm. "This is going to be a perfect weekend", Joel thought. They got up to their camp sight and put up the tent. Dad noticed a hole in the tent as he was setting it up. "Looks like we may have to get a new tent if we are going to do much camping this year", he said. Joel looked up at the sky and saw some gray clouds gathering together and told his dad, "We may have wished we got that new tent sooner." Sure enough, within half an hour the gray clouds got thicker, and then there was thunder and lightning. Rain began to fall on their campsite. Dad covered up the hole as best he could but still some of their things got wet. "Were getting a new tent as soon as we get home", dad told Joel.

There are two things about a tent that we can learn from. The first thing is that a tent isn't permanent. That just means it isn't someplace we live in all the time. We don't live in tents; we live in houses. We just stay in tents for a short period of time. The second thing we learn from tents is that they can wear out. After a while they can get old and torn.

In our reading today we learned that our bodies are kind of like tents. We weren't designed to live in them forever. That is why people die. Their bodies get old and wear out. But there is a dwelling place that will last forever that the Lord promises for us. These are our new bodies. If you are a Christian did you know that when you die, or when the Lord returns that you will receive a brand new body? That one won't grow old, break down or get sick. Isn't it exciting news that we already have these new bodies prepared for us?

- Have you ever been camping in a worn out tent?
- What are the two things we can learn from tents?
- What has God promised for us?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Tent: a reference to our physical bodies (2 Corinthians 5:1-8).

Telling the Good News

Text: John 20:9 - "For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead."

Also read Psalm 16:10

Peter and John were Jesus' closest disciples, yet they still did not understand that Jesus was going to rise from the dead. Jesus had taught them about it, but they just didn't fully understand until it happened. And there are people today that know Jesus was crucified and died but they don't know or believe that Jesus has risen from the dead. The Bible tells us that these two disciples did not yet know the scripture (John 20:9), so how then would they be taught the truth? Jesus was going to rise again from the tomb and tell them what had happened and what He did for them. Then after He would go to the Father He promised to send the Holy Spirit to be their teacher. So if Jesus lives in heaven now, and we have been given the Holy Spirit, who will then teach those who don't know that He conquered death? Yes, You and I!

It is our job to tell the Good News of Jesus' victory over sin and death. So how do we teach others about Jesus and the Bible? We read our Bibles and pray for Jesus to show us the truth in His word. The Holy Spirit will help us to understand the Bible.

Some people believe in different religions and don't know about Jesus and His resurrection. There are a lot of different kinds of religions in the world and all of these religions have a teacher. Jesus was a teacher when He walked with His disciples on this earth, but He is different from every other teacher because He is the only teacher that rose from the dead to conquer death. Every other religion apart from Christianity does not have a teacher who still lives today. But being a Christian is not just a religion, it is a relationship with God and Jesus proved this by coming back and telling His disciples "I am with you always." Isn't it wonderful to worship Jesus, the Son of God and the only teacher to come back from the dead?

- There are a lot of religions; ask your mom or dad to share some of those with you.
- Is there someone you know who doesn't know about Jesus rising again? Tell them about Jesus.

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Religion: A belief that is held to; man trying to reach up to God.
Christianity: God reaching down to man through His Son Jesus.

Day Five

Where's Your Stinger?

Text: 1 Corinthians 15:55 - "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

Also read 1 Corinthians 15:51-58

One time when I was a kid I was running around on the grass at a park barefoot. I was having too much fun playing the game with my friends to be watching where I stepping. On the grass there was clover with the little flowers that bees like very much. Without even realizing it I stepped down and my foot landed right on top of a bee. I felt something strange on my foot and stopped immediately and looked down. It hit me what I had done. I panicked and yelled for my friends and family to come right away. I thought I might be dying, but everyone quickly reminded me that most people don't die from bee stings. But it did certainly begin to sting and hurt really bad.

As I calmed down, something I noticed about the bee that stung me was that its' stinger had been removed. It wouldn't be able to sting anyone else. In fact it is interesting that after bees sting someone that within a short period of time they will end up dying. In our reading today we learn that Jesus has removed the stinger from death. We can no longer be stung by death. Let's take a closer look at what that means.

Because Jesus rose from the grave it means that He has power over death. He has also promised that when we believe in Him we will have eternal life. Death no longer has power over us because it no longer has power over Jesus. Like the bee that no longer has a stinger and can't hurt anyone else, Jesus took the sting of death upon himself so that the stinger would be removed for us. We now have the victory in Jesus. So we don't have to be afraid. We can just trust in Jesus and know that He will always take care of us.

- Has a bee ever stung you? Tell about it.
- What kind of life do we receive when we believe in Jesus? (eternal)
- Can you think of how Jesus removed the sting from death?

Kid's Prayer Time



This week when you pray remember to thank the Lord for His resurrection. Because He has risen from the dead we can have eternal life. Let's rejoice this week in the new life we have in Jesus.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**"Jesus will be killed and
rise the third day."**

Third Grade and Above

**"For He taught His
disciples and said to them,
'The Son of Man is being
delivered into the hands of
men, and they will kill Him.
And after He is killed, He
will rise the third day.'"**

Mark 9:31