

Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: The House Built on the Rock

THEME: We must hear and do the Word of God.

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 7:24-29

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 **The House Built on the Rock**. We found out that the "wise man" built his house on the rock. So when the storms came, his house wasn't destroyed. But the "foolish man" built his house on the sand. When the storms came, his house was completely destroyed!!

We learned from this story that **we must build our lives on the right foundation**. The foundation that we should build our lives on is our solid Rock - Jesus and his word. When our lives are built on Him we will remain strong no matter what the storms are that come into our lives. What a blessing it is to be able to rest in Him.

The section of scripture that we studied was **Matthew 7:24-29**. 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!

What Is Our Foundation?

Text: 1 Corinthians 3:11 - "For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

Also read 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

Nick called up Joel and asked if he wanted to come and spend a day with him and his Dad at his Dad's work. Joel got pretty excited and said he would love to go. Nick's Dad built houses and it was always a fun day when he and Nick got to go out to the construction sight. Joel asked his Mom and Dad if he could go with Nick the next day. They told him that it sounded like a fun day and that it was fine with them.

The next night Joel was getting ready for bed and was telling his Mom and Dad what a wonderful day that he had. He told them about the large cement trucks that were pouring all day long so that they could build the houses on the slabs. Joel was even allowed to write his initials in some of the concrete. Joel then asked his Dad a question. "Why do they need cement to build the houses on? Why can't they build them right on the dirt?"

"Well," Joel's Dad replied, "the cement that they use is called a foundation. There has to be a strong foundation for the house to stand on so that it won't fall down when storms come. If they built the house right onto the dirt or the sand the house may not stand up very long. So they have to build it on something very strong, like concrete. It's kind of like what the Bible talks about when it says that Jesus is our foundation. We need to build our lives on a solid and strong foundation. If we build our lives on Jesus then we can grow up big and strong. Nothing will be able to hurt us. If we build our lives on anything else, we may not be able to stand for very long. The foundation is the most important part of the building and it is the most important part of our lives." Joel jumped in and said, "I definitely want to build my life on Jesus!"

- Have you ever seen the foundation of a house? Maybe your own house?
- What foundation should we build our lives upon?
- Have you built your life on the foundation of Jesus?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Foundation: What a building is built upon. For a building to stand up, it must be built on something strong, like rock or concrete. In the Bible Jesus is said to be the foundation upon which we should build our lives upon. He is our Rock!

The Cornerstone

Text: Ephesians 2:20 - "having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,"

Also read Ephesians 2:19-22

Have you ever been to a really old church building or maybe an old mansion or museum made out of stone? If you walked around the outside of the building you may have seen what is called the cornerstone. The cornerstone is a large stone in one corner of the building. It is used to mark where all of the other stones go so that the building will be built properly. In some of the older buildings the cornerstone is even marked so that you can see which one it is. Some of them might have the date that the building was built and maybe even the name of the person who owned the building and had it built. The cornerstone is the most important part of the foundation. Every other stone had to line up with the cornerstone.

In our Bible reading today, we are told that Jesus is the chief cornerstone. We are also told that each one of us are part of a wonderful temple that God is building. We are all a very important part of this building. No one is better than anyone else, we all have a special purpose that God has given to us so that we can bring Him glory. We are to be His habitation, which is the place where He lives. The Bible teaches us that when we believe in Jesus that the Holy Spirit comes and lives inside of our hearts.

In order for us to be a building that can give glory to the Lord all of the time, our lives need to be lined up with the chief cornerstone. We can grow in Jesus and be strong when we line up our lives with His. In a building, there can't be any bricks off by themselves in a pile. They must be part of the building to be used in the right way. We can't try to live our lives on our own. We need to be a brick in the temple that God is building. We should line our lives up with Jesus and obey what He wants us to do and be around other "bricks" (other Christians) in the temple. When we do that we will have a wonderful life and be able to give God all of the glory.

- Have you ever seen a real cornerstone?
- How is Jesus the "chief cornerstone?"

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Cornerstone: The stone placed at the bottom corner in the foundation of a stone building. It was the most important part of the building. A picture of Jesus in the Bible.

Day Three

Wise Boys and Girls

Text: Psalm 19:7 - "The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, **making wise the simple;**"

Also read Psalm 19:7-11

How do we build our lives on the right foundation? We need to hear and obey God's word. God's word is filled with wisdom and shows us how to live our lives in a way that is pleasing to Him. When we obey God's word, He is going to bless us very much. In the Psalm we are looking at today there are some wonderful things that we learn about God's word. We see some things that God's word **IS** and some things that God's word **DOES** in our lives. Let's take a closer look at God's word so we can learn where we can find all the wisdom that we need to live our lives for Jesus.

GOD'S WORD IS:

- Perfect - It is complete, everything that we need.
- Sure - We can count on God's word.
- Right - His word is always right, we can find the truth in the word.
- Pure - There is no sin or any error in God's word.
- True & Righteous - The Bible is "right on." We can rely on the Bible.
- To Be Desired - Even more than gold, it is our most valuable possession.
- Sweet - God's word is gentle, very much a comfort when we are in need.

WHAT GOD'S WORD DOES:

- Restores the soul - The Bible leads us to Jesus and shows us how to be saved.
 - Gives us wisdom - God's word teaches us how we are to live.
 - Gives our heart joy - It encourages us and fills us with the joy of the Lord.
 - Opens our eyes - Because it is truth it opens our eyes to what is right.
 - Endures forever - Even though some have tried to destroy it, God's word can never be destroyed.
 - Warns us - The Bible tells us what to stay away from so we can have a fruitful life.
 - Brings great reward - When we follow God's word great blessing will follow.
- Are you learning God's word and growing in wisdom?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Wisdom: Good sense or understanding, wisdom is a gift from the Lord.

A Bad Hair Day

Text: James 1:23 - "For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror;"

Also read James 1:19-25

Joel was looking in the mirror early Sunday morning. He heard Mom say, "Make sure that you brush your teeth and comb your hair before we leave for church." Wow, was Joel ever having a bad hair day! It was everywhere. "OK," Joel replied to Mom. He looked in the mirror a little bit more and then decided to go get dressed first. As he got dressed he began to think about what a fun day he was going to have. Tim had invited him to come over after church to ride scooters and he couldn't wait. Well, the morning went on and all of a sudden it was time to go. Joel ran out and got into the car.

Mom looked back at Joel and asked, "Did you comb your hair?" "Oh No," Joel said, "I forgot to comb my hair!" "I guess you'll just have to wear it like that for today since we don't have time to fix it now," mom said. It wasn't going to be easy, but Joel was going to learn a valuable lesson about hearing and doing.

The Bible talks about how we can sometimes look into the Bible and see how God wants us to live and the changes that we should make. Kind of like looking into a mirror and seeing that we are having a bad hair day. Of course a "hearer" would just walk away and forget to comb their hair. But a "doer" knows that they need to comb their hair. Maybe the Lord would have us to change something in our lives that we see in His word so that we can become more like Jesus. But if we walk away from the word without changing then it is kind of like Joel with His bad hair, it doesn't get changed. It is important to listen to God's word and to do what He would have us to do. Lets be "doers" and "hearers" of God's word!

- Tell about a time when you or someone in your family had a "bad hair day."
- What happens if you see something in the mirror that needs changing but you don't do anything about it?
- What is a "doer" of the word?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Hearer: Someone who listens to God's Word.

Doer: Someone who does those things that they hear in God's Word.

Day Five

Hide It in Your Heart

Text: Deuteronomy 6:6 - "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart;"

Also read Deuteronomy 6:4-9

God has given us His word so that we will know how to live for Him. Also He wants us to build our lives on a SOLID foundation. We want to be like the wise builder who built his house upon the rock. The Bible should play a very important part of our lives in helping us to do that. Moses told the Israelites some interesting things about God's word in Deuteronomy 6.

The first thing he said was that God's word should be in their hearts. It is important that we don't just study God's word for how many facts and things we can know in our minds. But we need to let it sink deeply into our hearts. He also commanded parents to teach the word with a lot of care to their children. It is important to pass on the word to our children.

Next he said that we should talk about the Bible in our homes. When we are walking, getting ready for bed and the first thing when we get up. Really, we should have God's word on our hearts at all times. He also talked about placing God's word between our eyes and upon our hands. Everything that we see or do should be tested and filtered by the word of God. We can ask ourselves if what we are seeing or doing is giving God glory. He also talks about how God's word should be on the doorposts and gates of our homes. Those who would visit us in our homes should know the importance of God's word to us.

Have we given God's word its proper place in our hearts? The Lord wants us to. When we place the Lord and His word first then He is going to bless us.

- What has God given us to help us to know how to live for Him?
- Where should we hide God's word? A) In the back yard? B) In an old coffee can? or C) In our hearts?

Kid's Prayer Time



This week as you pray ask the Lord for His wisdom. Thank Him for His Word. Ask Him to help you to build your life upon Jesus, the only solid foundation. God bless you this week as you serve Him.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

"If you hear my words and obey them you will be like the wise man who built his house upon the rock. When the rains and floods came and beat upon the house, it didn't fall because it was built on the rock."

Third Grade and Above

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock."

Matthew 7:24, 25