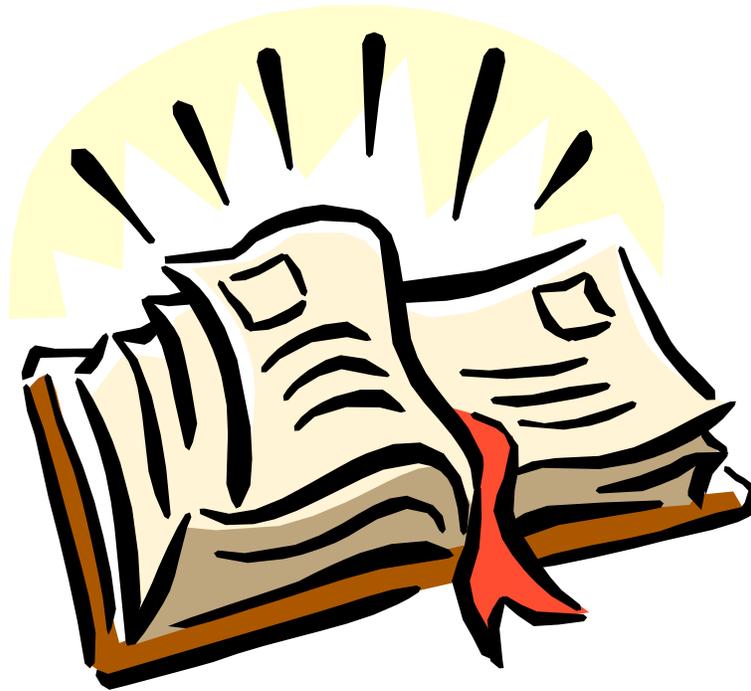


# Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

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**LESSON TITLE: Feeding the 5,000**

**THEME: Jesus makes possible the impossible.**

**SCRIPTURE: John 6:1-14**

# 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 time when **Jesus fed over 5,000** people with only two loaves of bread and two fishes. It is exciting to know **the God who can do the impossible**. Even when it seems like a situation may be impossible, God can always change that situation and help His children.

Whether it is multiplying fishes and loaves or calming storms, Jesus is very much in control. He wants us to know that and trust in Him with any problem that may come into our lives. He loves His children very much and He loves to help us. What a blessing to be able to serve such a great God.

The section of scripture that we studied was **John 6:1-14**. 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!

# The Lord Will Provide, Part One

**Text: Exodus 15:25** - "So he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. There He made a statute and an ordinance for them. And there He tested them,"

**Also read Exodus 15:22-27**

Tommy knew his dad was home more than usual these days. Sometimes at night he could hear his mom and dad praying, and talking very late. He knew his parents were worried about something, so one day he asked his dad what was wrong. Tommy's dad was very quiet, and then he said to Tommy that he had to find a new job. The place where he worked had closed.

Tommy wanted to help his dad and asked if there was something he could do. His dad said he should pray and ask Jesus to provide a new job for him and all of the things their family would need each day. Tommy and his dad prayed right then. When they were done, his dad gave him a hug and told him that Jesus would never let them down. His dad said they should not be afraid, because the Lord was their provider, and nobody loved them more than Him.

Tommy's dad told him about the story of the children of Israel, when they left Egypt to go to the Promised Land. They had to trust the Lord to lead them through the desert. The Israelites left Egypt with enough water for only a few days. They were walking and could not carry more. After three days, the people worried about their thirst, because the only water they could find was bitter. But Moses, their leader, turned to God for help and God supplied them with good water. "God can always be trusted to take care of His children's needs, and all they needed to do was cry out to the Lord and trust Him to provide", Tommy's dad said. Just then they heard a knock on their door. A man was there who asked to use the phone. His truck had a flat tire and he needed some help. He had to get a load of vegetables to the store before they went bad. Tommy and his dad offered to help and got his truck going again. The man was very thankful and he gave Tommy's dad several bags of vegetables from the truck for helping him. **(Continued on Day Two)**

- Do you think Tommy's dad trusted in the Lord? Why?
- Did the children of Israel trust God? Did Moses?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Statutes and Ordinances:** Rules, laws or commandments.

## The Lord Will Provide, Part Two

**Text: Exodus 16:15** - "So when the children of Israel saw it, they said to one another, 'What is it?' For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, 'This is the bread which the LORD has given you to eat.'"

**Also read Exodus 16**

**(Continued from Day One)** Tommy and his dad got to spend a lot of time together since his dad was looking for a job. He knew that his dad needed to find work, but it sure was nice having him home so much. They got to have some special times together. They would pray together for God's provision, and for God to help Tommy's dad find a job. The man with the vegetable truck really liked Tommy's family and since they had helped him with the flat tire, he came by every few days to leave the vegetables he couldn't sell for Tommy's family.

Tommy's dad and mom praised God for the man's kindness. The family talked about how the vegetables were "manna" from heaven, simple provision from an awesome Lord. They rejoiced each day and took turns praying for the man with the vegetable truck. Tommy's dad would take the opportunity to read to his family about God's provision to the children of Israel. He would read about the time they were in the desert and how that He brought food to them every single morning, except on the Sabbath. Even then, God did not forget His children. The day before the Sabbath He would have the Israelites collect a double portion, so they would be able to honor Him by resting on that day.

The man in the vegetable truck would sometimes come by during Bible time, and would listen. Mr. Stedman was his name and he did not go to church, or know much about Jesus. Tommy's dad would read parts of the Bible to him and his mom would share the family meal with Mr. Stedman. One day, Mr. Stedman accepted Jesus as his Savior and everyone rejoiced. The next few weeks Mr. Stedman did not come by and Tommy's family prayed for their friend. Then one morning Mr. Stedman knocked on the door, very early. He told the family how busy he had been in his business and how he needed someone to help him drive a new vegetable truck to the stores. He asked Tommy's dad to help out by coming to work with him. The family thanked the Lord together for His provision.

- Why do you think Mr. Stedman wanted to accept Jesus as his Savior?

### **Kid's Bible Dictionary**



**Manna:** Food that God provided for the Israelites while they were in the desert.

# Time for Homework

**Text: Matthew 6:6-** "But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly."

**Also read Matthew 6:1-14**

Jenny thought she would never get through her math homework. There were just too many problems and not enough time. She tried so hard to understand her math, but she just didn't get it. Her parents were very understanding and tried to help her as much as possible. But, they were very firm about her bed time, and it was getting very late. She knew that it wouldn't be very long before her father would come upstairs and tuck her in for her bedtime prayers. She rested her head on the desk.

"Maybe I should pray," she thought. She bowed her head and began to pray. "If only I had just a few more minutes, Jesus. I have so many more math problems. Last night it took me almost an hour and I only have 20 minutes. Please help me to understand the problems, and give me more time like You multiplied the fish and the loaves on the mountain. Please bless this time Lord."

Jenny remembered her Bible lesson about Jesus feeding thousands of people with only a little bit of bread and fishes. Jenny thought that if Jesus could make the loaves and fishes multiply, certainly He could make her time multiply. She trusted the Lord because He always helped her and her family with all their needs. She went back to her math feeling better. As she thought about each problem, she felt that she could clearly understand each one. Her pencil moved across the paper quickly. Jenny was just finishing the last problem when her father opened the door. She was so happy. She looked at the clock and saw it was exactly on time. Jenny told her father about her prayer and how Jesus had answered. She told him how the time seemed to stand still while she was working, something most people would think impossible. Her dad was happy that Jenny learned that Jesus can make the impossible happen. They both prayed together and thanked the Lord for His help.

- Do you have an impossible problem you can bring to Jesus?
- Think about some prayers Jesus has answered for you and praise Him for them.

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Prayer:** Talking with the Lord.

Day Four

# It's Not My Time!

**Text: John 10:39** - "Therefore they sought again to seize Him, but He escaped out of their hand."

**Also read John 10:22-42**

Gabriel was in a terrible situation at school. Some boys had been cheating by looking at his school work and they said there would be real trouble if he didn't let them copy his homework on Monday morning. Gabriel knew what they wanted to do was wrong. It was wrong and it was not fair for him to do the work and the other boys just copy his work. He spent all day Saturday thinking about just going ahead and letting them cheat, then about telling the teacher, then about the trouble he would be in if he did either of those things. He finally remembered his mom told him to always "Take your troubles to Jesus." Gabriel got on his knees and prayed for God's wisdom in the problem. On Sunday, Gabriel's lesson was about Jesus teaching in the temple. Jesus had been teaching the Jews and they were amazed at the way He taught and the miracles He had performed. Finally they asked Him if He was the Christ, the Messiah.

Jesus answered them by saying that His sheep know His voice and He gives them eternal life and that He and the Father were one. They were so angry they wanted to kill Him, but it was not for Jesus to be stoned to death. God had other plans! Jesus escaped completely from the mob right before their very eyes, and went to teach others. Gabriel was very quiet during the lesson. He knew that God was trying to help him by speaking to his heart. He went home and prayed.

That afternoon, he called the boys who were causing the problems and asked them to come over. When the boys got to the house, Gabriel was a little scared as he passed out some snacks. He got out his study books and told the boys he would help them by showing them some special ways to study. He promised the boys they would know everything he did about studying when he was done, but they had to promise to come over to his house after school so he could help them. Gabriel was amazed that the boys took him up on the offer and by the end of the year they all became great friends. Gabriel thanked the Lord for being the God of the impossible!

- How did the Lord protect Gabriel while he did the right thing?
- How was Gabriel's decision to teach the boys a good example?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Seize:** To take hold of.

Day Five

# The Widow and the Stranger

**Text: 1 Kings 17:16** - "The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the LORD which He spoke by Elijah."

**Also read 1 Kings 17:8-16**

The woman was having a hard time since her husband had died. She had a son to take care of and worked very hard to feed him. She traveled very far to find fields where there was extra grain left after the harvest. The summer had been very hot and dry with no rain to soothe the thirsty land. Even wood was scarce and all of the olive trees had been picked clean of the olives that make oil to cook with.

One very hot evening the woman was gathering whatever bits and pieces of wood that she could so she could cook her very last bit of food for her son. Tears and sweat ran down her face when suddenly a shadow fell on her as she picked up the last little piece of wood. She looked up and saw a man, a stranger to Zarephath, standing by her, near the gate to the city. He called to her asking for a cup of water and a bit of bread. She could tell from the man's clothing he was an Israelite. She explained that she only had a bit of flour for bread and her firewood was for the last meal she and her son would eat. It had been a long day and she had found no grain for many days. In fact, in her mind this was going to be her and her son's last meal because there was no food to be found.

The man spoke kindly and told her not to be afraid, but to go about with her preparations after she made him a cake. Then she could go and prepare for her son and herself. The stranger told her that his God, the LORD God of Israel, would refill her barrel of meal and her bottle of oil until the drought was over. The woman thought for a minute about the stranger's God. She had heard many things of this Lord, how He cared and protected His people. Would He care for her too? Could this impossible miracle really happen? Should she trust this God of Israel? She did as this man named Elijah asked. Each day she would go to the barrel and each day there was just enough to eat. Each day she poured the oil from the empty bottle. She had been visited by a prophet of God and had learned to trust in and to praise the true and living God. Do you trust in the Lord?

- Who made the food last in the barrel and can make the impossible, possible?

## Kid's Prayer Time



The Lord still works today in many wonderful ways. This week when you pray, thank Him for all of the wonderful things that He has done in your life. And remember to go to him anytime you have a problem.

# Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**"This is truly the Prophet  
who is to come into the  
world."**

Third Grade and Above

**"Then those men, when  
they had seen the sign  
that Jesus did, said, 'This  
is truly the Prophet who is  
to come into the world.'"**

**John 6:14b**