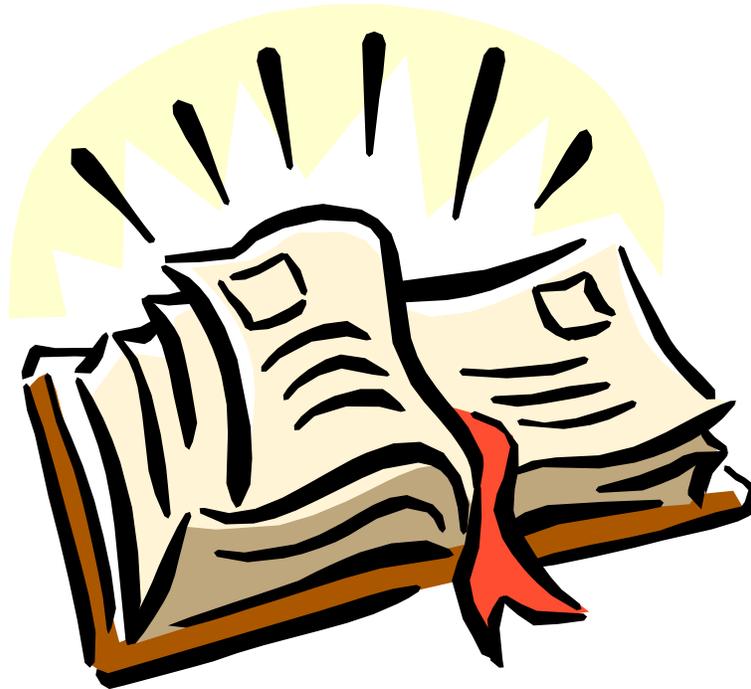


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: The Transfiguration

THEME: Jesus is all we need.

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 17:1-13

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 Transfiguration. This was the time when Jesus "transfigured" before Peter, James and John. He revealed to them His glory. What a magnificent thing that must have been to see! Peter got so excited that he suggested that they build three monuments right there on that spot. But God spoke from heaven and declared, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"

For all of us who know Jesus we are going to get to see Him in the same way one day. Can you imagine what it will be like to see Him in all of His glory? It will certainly be exciting. Just as Peter learned in this story, we will also learn that **Jesus is all we need**. In the story of the transfiguration, we learn that Jesus is God's Son and that He is everything we need.

The section of scripture that we studied was **Matthew 17:1-13**. 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

Can We See God's Glory?

Text: Exodus 33:22 - "So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by."

Also read Exodus 33:17-23

This week we are going to look at times in the Bible when God's people got to see His glory. To see God's glory would be to actually see Him with our own eyes, to look upon His majesty and greatness. Right now, we walk by faith and we don't see the Lord face to face. But one day we will all get to see the Lord. What an amazing time that will be. Let's first of all look at the time when Moses got to see God's glory.

Moses had walked and talked with the Lord for a long time. One day Moses asked the Lord if he could see His glory. God told Moses that he could, but He wouldn't be able to see His face. He said that no one could see His face and live. The Lord is so holy and righteous and we are so sinful that we would not be able to look upon Him in all of His glory. But the Lord did have a way to allow Moses to see His glory. He said that He would place Moses on a rock, and when His glory would pass by, God would place Moses in the cleft of the rock. The cleft was a small opening in the rock, kind of like a mini cave. Then God said that He would cover Moses with His hand while He passed by. Then He would take away His hand and allow His back to be seen by Moses. This way He would be protected and be able to see the glory of God.

God provided the way for Moses to come into His presence. God has also provided a way for us to be prepared to enter heaven and see His glory. God hides us in the cleft of a rock. The rock that He hides us in is His Son, Jesus. God gave His Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. So now, when we believe in Jesus, our sins are removed. We can now enter into heaven and be able to see the glory of God. What a wonderful day that is going to be!

- How do you think Moses thought when He got to see God's glory?
- How can we be prepared to see God's glory?
- Is Jesus the Rock of your salvation?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Glory: Greatness or majesty.

Cleft: A small opening in a rock, like a mini cave.

Day Two

A Flame of Glory

Text: 2 Kings 2:11 - "Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven."

Also read 2 Kings 2:1-11

Elijah was a prophet in the Old Testament. He had a very exciting life serving the Lord. In our story we see that it was time for him to go to be with the Lord, but he wasn't going to die. In fact, Elijah is one of only two people in the Bible who went to heaven, but didn't die. Enoch was the other one. Elijah got to see God's glory when He sent chariots and horses of fire and took Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind. It was a very exciting end to an exciting life. But the day that God took Elijah into heaven there was a very special friend standing by who watched everything that happened. That was Elisha. Elisha had worked with Elijah for a long time and now Elisha would take Elijah's place. What an amazing thing for Elisha to see!

Could you imagine being "caught up" into heaven to see the glory of the Lord? That sounds pretty amazing doesn't it? Did you know that the Bible talks about a generation (or group of people that live at the same time) that will experience something a lot like it? When Jesus left He promised that He would come back some day. When He returns, He will call up all of those who are Christians to be with Him. Kind of like Elijah! If we are alive when He returns then we will be caught up to be with Him forever. This is also called the "rapture."

1 Thessalonians 4:17 says, "Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord." Like Elijah we may be caught up to be with the Lord forever. Who knows? Maybe we will even get to see chariots of fire. One thing is for sure, it is definitely exciting to be a follower of Jesus Christ. Let's thank the Lord that we will get to have the privilege of spending eternity with Him.

- How did Elijah go to be with the Lord?
- Did Elijah die? Who was the other person in the Bible who didn't die?
- Will anyone else ever be "caught up" into heaven? (see 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Rapture: The time when believers in Jesus will be taken up to be with Him at the time of His second coming.

Day Three

Let's Make a Monument!

Text: Matthew 17:4 - "Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.'"

Also read Matthew 17:1-13

Have you ever been to a place called Mount Rushmore? Maybe you haven't been there, but perhaps you have heard about it or seen pictures. Mt. Rushmore is a famous place because carved into it are the faces of some very famous people. Four president's faces have been carved into the side of the mountain. Can you name who the four presidents are? Someone wanted to make a "monument" for the presidents to help everyone remember them and the great things that they did. A monument may be a statue or a work of art that is dedicated to the remembrance of someone who has done something great.

A couple of the greatest men in the Old Testament were Moses and Elijah. So when Peter saw them appear and talk to Jesus it seemed to make sense to him that they could just build three tabernacles or monuments to remember Jesus, Moses and Elijah. There was only one problem with that idea though. It would be placing Jesus at the same level as Moses and Elijah. They were certainly great men, but they weren't the Son of God. In verse 5 we see that God Himself actually interrupted Peter while he was still talking to explain to him that there is a BIG difference when it comes to Jesus.

Jesus is God's beloved Son. God said that He was very pleased with Jesus and that all of the disciples should hear Him. Building three tabernacles might take the focus off of Jesus and put it onto a building. God never wants that. Jesus was a picture to us of who God is and if we want to know what God is like we don't have to look at a statue, we can just open our Bibles and read about Jesus. When we do, we will get a wonderful picture of who God is.

- Can you think of a monument that you have seen? Who was the person that it was dedicated to?
- What was wrong with Peter's idea to build three tabernacles?
- What makes Jesus different from everyone else?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Monument: A statue or work of art dedicated to someone who has done something great.

A Vision of Paradise

Text: 2 Corinthians 12:3,4 - "And I know such a man - whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows - how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter."

Also read 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

Johnny's grandfather recently passed away. He was very sad because he was very close to his grandpa. Johnny remembered all of the fun times that they had, and all of the games that they had played together. Grandpa had become sick pretty fast, but Johnny knew that Grandpa loved the Lord and was now in heaven with Jesus. Johnny felt a lot better knowing that grandpa was in heaven.

Whenever you think of heaven what do you think of? Do you think of big white clouds and angels playing harps? It is hard to imagine what heaven is like. The Bible does tell us a little bit about heaven, but even in those descriptions it is hard for us to completely understand what it is like. One thing is for sure, it will be a place of beauty, peace and worship. Paul wrote to the church in Corinth in his first letter and said, "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

Paul actually got to see heaven one time. Could you imagine being caught up to see heaven? All of the wonderful things you would see and hear. Wow! Someday we are going to see heaven if we believe in Jesus. God wants us to live with Him forever, in heaven. So He sent His son Jesus to die on the cross so that we could be forgiven of all of our sins. So now, when we ask Jesus to come into our heart we have eternal life. If anything happens to us, we will go to heaven to live with Jesus. What a great thing to know that we are going to heaven! And like Johnny, it is good to know that those we love are going to heaven as well.

- What do you think of when you think of heaven?
- How do you think Paul felt when he got to see heaven?
- How can we know for sure that we are going to heaven?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Paradise: Another name for heaven.

Heaven: God's home and the home of all who love Him.

Seeing the King of Kings

Text: Revelation 1:11 - "saying, 'I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the last,' and, 'What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.'"

Also read Revelation 1:9-20

Katie couldn't wait to get back to school to tell everyone about her summer vacation. It was such an exciting time that she just had to share it. Her family got to go to England for a couple of weeks. It was a wonderful vacation, but the most exciting thing happened one day when they were touring Buckingham Palace. While they were there, the Queen of England passed by their tour group. What an exciting thing to get to see the queen. She couldn't wait to share with all of her classmates at school.

One day the Apostle John got to see a king. In fact, He saw the King of Kings. John got to spend a lot of time with Jesus while Jesus was here the first time. Now he had to be on the island of Patmos because he believed in Jesus. It was a place where prisoners were sent. But God still had a very special purpose for John. He wanted John to write the last book of the Bible, the book of Revelation.

This time John got to see Jesus as the King of Kings. He saw Jesus in all of His glory. Jesus said something interesting. He said that He was the "Alpha and Omega". That would be kind of like saying He was everything from "A" through "Z". Alpha and Omega are the first and the last letter of the Greek alphabet. Jesus began everything and He will end everything. What a great king to serve. A king that has that much power is certainly the one that we want to follow. Some day we will all get to see Jesus in all of His glory. In the mean time we keep on walking by faith. But just as Katie was excited to tell everyone about the Queen of England, we can tell everyone about the King of Kings.

- What was the special thing that Jesus wanted John to do?
- What does "Alpha and Omega" mean?

Kid's Prayer Time



As you pray this week, remember to worship the Lord because He is awesome. Think of some worship songs to sing to the Lord and perhaps you can worship together with your family. Thank the Lord that one day we will get to see Him in all of His glory.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**"This is My beloved
Son...Hear Him!"**

Third Grade and Above

**"This is My beloved
Son, in whom I am
well pleased. Hear
Him!"**

Matthew 17:5b