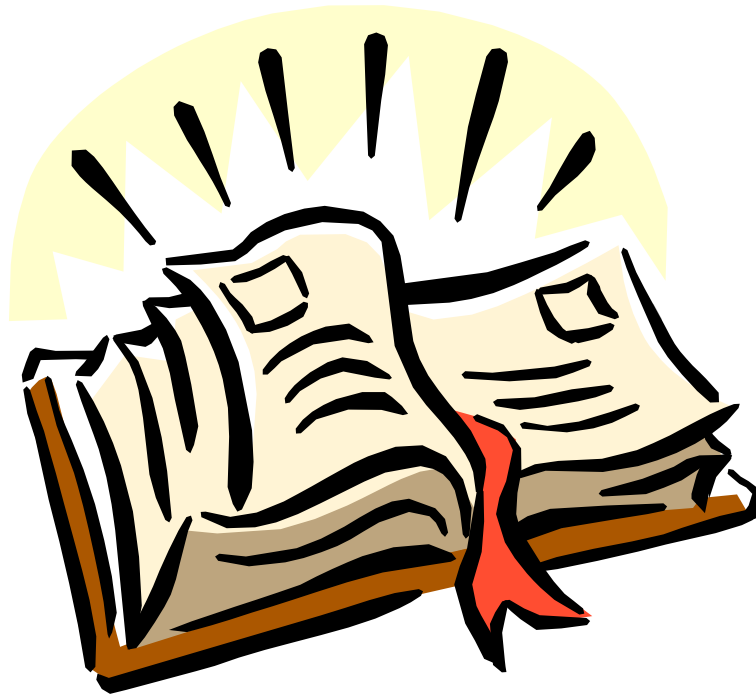


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: The Promise of the Holy Spirit

THEME: Jesus satisfies our thirsty spirits.

SCRIPTURE: John 7:37-39

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 Promise of the Holy Spirit**. The theme was **Jesus satisfies our thirsty spirits**. Just like when we play a lot on a hot, summer day and get really thirsty, our spirits also get thirsty for the Lord. Only Jesus can satisfy that thirst for Him in our hearts.

The Bible says that Jesus gives us the Holy Spirit when we believe in Him. And because the Holy Spirit is in our lives, rivers of living water can flow out of us. It is exciting to know that other people can see Jesus in our lives because of what the Holy Spirit is doing in our hearts. This week we will be looking more at how the Holy Spirit works in our lives.

The section of scripture that we studied was **John 7:37-39**. 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!

Thirst Quencher

Text: Isaiah 41:17 - "The poor and needy seek water, but there is none, their tongues fail for thirst. I, the LORD, will hear them; I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them."

Also read Isaiah 41:9-20

"Wow, what a hot day!" Tony and Jimmy just came into the house after playing baseball for the last couple of hours at the park. The temperature was over 100 degrees and could they ever feel it. Tony opened up the refrigerator and grabbed a soda and began to open it. "This will quench my thirst!" he said excitedly. Jimmy grabbed a pitcher of water and put some ice in a cup and filled it up. Tony drank his soda and Jimmy drank his glass of water.

After a moment Jimmy said, "Wow, that water sure was great! It hit the spot!" Tony replied, "Really? I'm still thirsty. In fact, I'm even thirstier." So Jimmy picked up the pitcher of water and poured a glass for his friend and said, "Here, try this and see if your thirst is quenched."

Just like being thirsty on a hot day after a baseball game our hearts can be thirsty for spiritual things. The Bible talks about an emptiness and a thirst in our hearts that can only be satisfied by one thing. We may think that other things can quench the thirst inside of us. We might try things like buying a lot of toys, or being the most popular kid at school, or eating as much candy as we want to whenever we want to; but we will only find that these things really do not hit the spot--like Tony found out that soda will not quench his thirst on a hot day.

Only the living water that is given to us by Jesus through the Holy Spirit can take care of our spiritual thirst. God created us to have a thirst for Him. That is why only He can satisfy us. We need to go to Jesus and ask Him to come into our lives and give us the living water that He promised in the Bible. Then like Jimmy with a big glass of ice cold water our spirits' thirst will be quenched!

- Have you tasted of the living water that only Jesus can offer?
- Have you tried to quench your spiritual thirst with things other than Jesus?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Thirst: A dryness related to our bodies need for water.

Quench: To put out or satisfy by immersing in water.

The Helper

Text: John 15:26 - "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me."

Also read John 15:26 - 16:15

Jesus is amazing! During His time on this earth He fulfilled hundreds of prophecies we can read about in the Old Testament of the Bible. The New Testament speaks of the miracles He performed. He did a lot of miracles like healing, feeding thousands and raising people from the dead so they could be living testimonies of His great power.

Before Jesus was crucified, He told His disciples, His closest followers, that He would send a Helper to help them when He was gone. He didn't want them to be left by themselves. Jesus promised this Helper would come from the Father. He is called the Spirit of Truth. Jesus reassured the disciples that they would not be left alone when He left the earth. The disciples were sorry Jesus was leaving and did not know the wonderful, marvelous things that would happen after Jesus left them. The Holy Spirit would come upon them and lead these followers of Jesus in a ministry of spreading the good news of eternal life to all of Israel and to the nations of the world.

The Bible tells us in the book of Acts the story of what the disciples did after the Holy Spirit came upon them. We read about how the disciples were able to overcome many roadblocks and perform many of the same miracles Jesus did because of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said if He did not leave the world the Helper would not come. He also said that His disciples could do more things when they were filled with the Holy Spirit. What a wonderful comfort this must have been to Jesus' friends. They remembered the Lord's words after He died and rose from the dead. He came back and reminded His friends of His promise. Then when he went to be with the Father He kept His promise and sent the Holy Spirit. And the Holy Spirit comes to live in our hearts when we receive Jesus into our lives.

- Who is the Helper that Jesus talks about in the Bible?
- What is the Helper's job here on earth?
- Does the Holy Spirit live inside of your heart?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Helper: Another name for the Holy Spirit, He "helps" and "comforts" us.

The Waters of Marah

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

God had delivered His special chosen people from captivity in Egypt. Using Moses, God showed Pharaoh that His people were to be completely freed to worship Him and follow Him. At first the Israelites were thrilled. God had freed them from hundreds of years of slavery. When Pharaoh tried to recapture the Israelites, God crushed the army beneath the waves of a great sea. Then God would test His people by leading them into the desert wilderness. The children of Israel had been fed and given their water before by their captors, the Egyptians. Never before did they have to go thirsty or hungry. They were not used to trusting God for what they needed and God knew the Israelites needed to trust Him with their very lives. So He led them in the wilderness for three days with no water.

Finally they came to water at Marah. But the water at Marah wasn't any good. It was very bitter and no one could drink it. The people spoke against their leader Moses and began to complain. Moses asked God to show him what to do. He cried to the Lord, because Moses knew God could save them. God showed Moses if he put a very special tree in the water, the water would become sweet, and the people could drink. After God tested the Israelites at Marah, He led them to a place called Elim. Elim is the name of a place in the Bible, but the word means strength or strong place. There was much sweet water at Elim; 12 wells, one for each tribe.

This is a picture of Jesus. Our lives are bitter and unusable before we know Jesus because of sin. But through His cross (the tree) our bitterness (sin) can be made sweet. Just as He led His people to fresh, drinkable water Jesus gives us living water in our hearts to quench our thirst. Jesus' water is everlasting and completely free. Have you asked Him for some?

- Why do you think God tested the children of Israel?
- Who is our strength and quenches our thirst?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Bitter: Having a taste that is very unpleasant.

Day Four

The Woman At The Well

Text: Isaiah 44:3 - "For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, and My blessing on your offspring;"

Also read John 4:1-26

Jesus is a marvelous teacher. We can learn so much from Him today just by reading our Bibles. He is so loving towards even the worst sinner, willing to forgive us and bless us. We can read about how He blessed one woman who was such a sinner she couldn't even draw water from a public well at the same time as the other women. Jesus asked her for water and the woman was amazed that He would even speak to her. Then He amazed her even more. Jesus told her that He would give her water that would quench her thirst forever. The woman knew she needed that kind of water, and asked Jesus for some.

We are told by the prophet Isaiah, hundreds of years before Jesus spoke with this woman at the well that God promised He would pour water upon those who were thirsty. Here is Jesus telling this woman that He has the water to quench her thirst. After He talks with the woman, she tells Him she knows that when the Messiah comes, He will tell us all things and He will be called Christ. Then Jesus tells her that He is the One.

Can you imagine the joy she must have felt in her heart to know that she was talking to the Messiah; the One chosen by God to remove the sins of the world. Jesus offers the same living water to each one of us today. He said that whoever drank from His well would have "a fountain of water springing up into eternal life." We can all come to Jesus and never be thirsty again. In fact, we can share that living water with others. Let's let Jesus' living water flow from our lives helping others to come to know Him.

- Why do you think Jesus spoke to the woman at the well?
- What did Jesus offer to the woman at the well?
- Will you let Jesus use your life to quench other thirsty spirits?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Christ: Messiah, or the chosen one of God who would take away our sins.

Well: A place or hole in the ground where people can draw water from.

Day Five

The River of Life

Text: Revelation 22:17 - "And the Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."

Also read Revelation 21:1-7; 22:1-5

The Bible tells many amazing stories about how God understands our needs and is willing to meet every need we have. We have learned this week that we are thirsty for God in our hearts. Jesus has come to quench that thirst in our hearts through His living water (the Holy Spirit).

In the very last book of the Bible, Revelation, the last two chapters tell about the new heaven and earth that will be created. An angel shows the Apostle John the new Jerusalem, where many beautiful things are seen. There is a river, pure, clean and clear that comes from the throne of God. Jesus is on the throne and He tells us that He makes everything new. Then we are told that anyone who thirsts can come and take of the water of life freely. This is not water like we understand water here. This water provides eternal life. It is living water. Isn't it wonderful that Jesus says that anyone who thirsts can freely come and take of it?

But something that is important here is that we need to realize that we are thirsty. Sometimes people think they don't need Jesus or that they can quench the thirst in their hearts some other way besides Jesus. But, the end result will only make them thirsty for all of eternity, separated from God. We have to be careful that we don't think that we don't need Jesus. Everyone is thirsty in their hearts, but there is only one way to REALLY quench our spiritual thirst. That is through Jesus.

- Would you like to see Jesus face to face?
- If you were in the New Jerusalem, what would you want to do first?
- What do you think the river of life will look like?

Kid's Prayer Time



This week when we pray, let's remember to thank the Lord for giving us a wonderful Helper, the Holy Spirit. Thank Him that the Holy Spirit quenches our thirsty spirits. If you have not asked Jesus to come into your heart, you can ask Him to and by believing in Him. Then He will give you living water!

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**"Jesus gives us living
water."**

Third Grade and Above

**"...Jesus stood and cried
out, saying, 'If anyone
thirsts, let him come to
Me and drink'."**

John 7:37