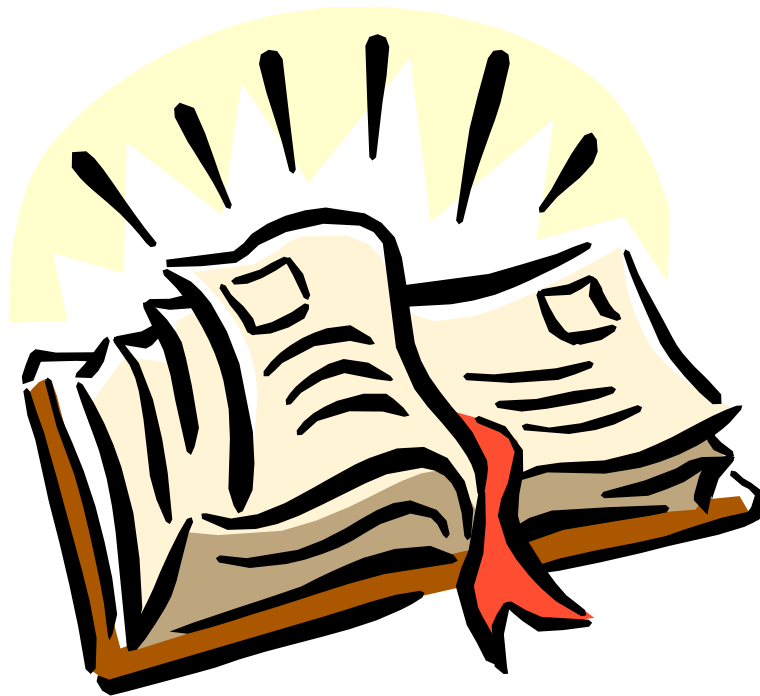


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

LESSON TITLE: The Good Samaritan

THEME: Jesus wants us to show love and mercy towards others.

SCRIPTURE: Luke 10:25-37



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 Good Samaritan**. The theme was "**Jesus wants us to show love and mercy towards others.**" We will learn this week that it is not just how we look on the outside that will please God, but the most important thing to God is how we look on the inside. Our hearts must be right before Him and be hearts filled with love and mercy.

The story of the Good Samaritan is a great way to teach children the importance that God places on loving others and putting them first. We can say we love God, but not have a loving heart. We need to show that we love God by loving others. Have fun learning and applying God's word this week!

The section of scripture that we studied was **Luke 10:25-37**. 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

"I Think I Can Trap Jesus!"

Text: Luke 10:25 – "And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, 'Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?'"

Also read Matthew 22:35-40

Have you ever tried to set a trap for someone? Did it work? Sometimes when we try to play jokes or set traps for someone we get outsmarted by the person we are setting the trap for. Maybe you have set a "trap" for mom and dad as they walked down the hallway of your home. Maybe you jump out from hiding to scare them and have a fun laugh together.

This week we will be learning about the Good Samaritan. In the beginning of the story, a scribe (or lawyer) is trying to trap Jesus in front of everyone. The lawyer asks Jesus a question about inheriting eternal life. As we read through this week we will get a better understanding of the condition of the lawyer's heart. We will also get a chance to meet a priest, a Levite and the Good Samaritan in a story presented over the next 4 days. Let's begin the story by pretending we are sitting in a public place near Jesus. Jesus is telling everyone about God and eternity. We notice that there seems to be a lot of mumbling going on from a group nearby. The group contains about 20 - 30 Jews. All of a sudden one of the men from the group stands. He is somewhat thin and about 6 feet tall. He is known in the town for his ability to talk well in front of people and of his knowledge of God's law. Let's call him Johnny Scribe.

Johnny Scribe leans over to one of his friends and whispers, "I think I can trap this man called Jesus, watch this." Johnny Scribe begins speaking, "Excuse me, Teacher, but what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Now Johnny was really thinking to himself, "I am an obedient man to God's laws; this Jesus will tell me I am acceptable in God's eyes." Well Johnny has a lot to learn about having a loving heart and being accepted in God's eyes. Over the next four days this story will continue and you will get a chance to meet a few more people. **(Continued on Day Two)**

- Do you think the lawyer (Johnny Scribe) will be able to trap Jesus?
- Have you ever tried to trick someone into believing your story?
- How do we inherit eternal life?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Inherit: To receive from a parent or relative certain possessions.

I Know the Answer!

Text: 2 Corinthians 5:21 – “For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

Also read Romans 3:24-28

(Continued from Day One) Johnny Scribe thinks quietly to himself, “Hmmm, how is Jesus going to answer my question?” Jesus looks over towards Johnny and says, “What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?” You see, Johnny believed he was an expert on the Old Testament law. Jesus knew what Johnny was up to. Jesus knows everything about our hearts too. Johnny does not know Jesus as his savior and he doesn’t realize that he is trying to trick the One who created him.

Johnny thinks to himself, “Are you kidding me? I know the answer to Jesus’ question.” Johnny Scribe reveals to Jesus the answer from the Old Testament, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself (see Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18).” Well Johnny gave the right answer, but there was one small problem. Johnny wasn’t living that kind of life. He wasn’t very loving towards God and others. Jesus told Johnny that if he were to follow this command that he would surely live! Jesus knew that Johnny did not follow this command. Instead of Jesus being trapped, we see Johnny being trapped. “How can I answer this question?” thought Johnny. “I know, I will get out of it by asking Him another question.” He turns to Jesus and says, “Excuse me Jesus, but who is my neighbor?” Johnny thought this would surely get him out of it.

While you were reading this did you think about your life? When God is speaking to your heart do you sometimes try to not listen? Sometimes the Lord will ask us questions so we will come to Him. Sometimes these questions are found in the Bible. One of those questions is found here. How do we show our love for God and others? In this story we see that Johnny Scribe has an unbelieving heart. When Jesus reveals the truth to him he avoids it and tries to justify himself (make himself look good). We can not justify ourselves! The only way we can become right before God is through Christ Jesus. **(Continued on Day Three)**

- When you are convicted of your sins, what do you do?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Justified: Just as if I have never sinned. Only Jesus provides this for us.
Conviction: Feeling guilt or sorrow for wrong you have done.

Day Three

The Priest

Text: Psalm 38:11 - "My loved ones and my friends stand aloof from my plague, and my neighbors stand afar off."

Also read Luke 10:30-31

(Continued from Day Two). Today we will meet the neighbor that Jesus was talking about. Let's pretend his name is Mannie. Mannie was on his way to Jericho from Jerusalem one day and the walk was pretty long. He had to walk nearly 17 miles just to get to Jericho. The road was steep and winding. It was dangerous to walk this way because of robbers who would hide and then jump out as you approached. As Mannie was walking down the winding road, some robbers leaped out from behind a rock and started beating Mannie. The robbers stole Mannie's money and then left him lying there half-dead!

As time passed a priest was passing on the same exact road. How wonderful for Mannie! A priest is supposed to be a man of God, surely he would stop to help and take care of him. Wouldn't you expect a priest to love others? As the priest approached Mannie, he noticed Mannie was without clothing and was bleeding quite badly. Mannie was alive and breathing but the priest continued to pass by as if nothing had happened. Why did this priest just continue to pass by without offering help to the injured man? Priests were supposed to be men of God. Was he showing love by not stopping and helping? The priest was serving in the temple all week long; maybe he was anxious to get home. Maybe the robbers were still in the area so the priest was afraid to stop. Anyway, the priest probably felt like it wasn't his fault the man was attacked. Someone else will stop by to help. So the priest went on.

We have probably reacted the same way at one time or another. Maybe we are in a situation right now and we have a heart similar to the priest. We don't want to get involved because it might take too much time or we might dislike the person that it involves. Whatever the reasons are we need to stop in our tracks and remember the love God wants us to show. We can help our neighbors in so many ways. We can offer our time, money, clothing, food and serve in many other ways. The man who was injured was a Jew. The priest was a Jew also. During this time Jews would usually help one another. Jews usually would not associate with the Samaritans. But this man was a Jew. It doesn't matter what color, race, or sex we are. We as Christians need to show God's love to one another.

(Continued on Day Four)

- Have you ever stopped to help someone in need? Tell about it.

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Neighbor: A fellow human being, anyone near us who we can help.

Day Four

The Levite

Text: Luke 10:32 - "Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side."

Also read Proverbs 3:28

(Continued from Day Three) Mannie was lying there barely alive. He had injuries all over his body and his head. He was bleeding pretty badly. He remembers looking over and seeing the priest walking by. He could not believe the priest didn't stop to help him. As Mannie lay there waiting for help he noticed someone else was approaching. "Could this be the robber coming back to kill me?" he thought. Mannie was able to see that this man was not the robber, but he was a Levite.

A Levite was one who assisted the priest in God's work. Surely he would stop and help. The Levite started walking over to where Mannie was lying. "Oh please help me!" Mannie thought to himself. Mannie was unable to talk due to his injuries. The Levite looked at Mannie to see why he was lying there, then he continued on his way. "What's going on?" thought Mannie. "I would have thought surely a Levite would have helped me." The Levite knew the law that Jesus spoke about earlier. But the Levite also refused to help his neighbor.

Most of us can think up excuses for the priest and Levite as they ignored Mannie. Maybe we have used them ourselves. There are many people in this world today who would not stop to help someone because they have excuses. Have you ever been involved in a situation where you wanted someone to stop and help you? It's very scary being alone somewhere and being injured and not have anyone around to help you seek aid. Let's not live our lives in this manner. Make it a point to put others before yourself. Pray and ask the Lord to lead you to serve other people. Those people could be your friend, brother or sister, mother or father, or your neighbor. By serving and loving others we provide a light to this world. Jesus wants us to show love and mercy to others. Our actions can point others to Christ.

(Continued on Day Five)

- Do you make excuses for your actions?
- What can you do today to bless someone else?
- Do your actions point to Christ?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Excuse: To seek to remove the blame from.

The Good Samaritan

Text: Luke 10:33 - "But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion on him."

Also read Leviticus 19:33-34

(Continued from Day Four) As Mannie lay on the road he wondered if anyone would stop to help him. Mannie was severely injured. If he were to lay there much longer he would surely die. Mannie heard someone walking down the road. As the man approached Mannie could see that he was a Samaritan. "How terrible - a Samaritan." thought Mannie. Samaritans and Jews did not care for one another. Surely this man would not stop to help Mannie. If he did stop, it would probably be to search him and see if there was anything else to take from him. The Samaritan approached Mannie and saw his injuries. The Samaritan had compassion on Mannie and bandaged his wounds. Then he put Mannie on his animal and took him to an inn to care for him.

The next day the Samaritan needed to go. He took out the wages that he has earned the last two days and gave it to the innkeeper for Mannie's stay. He also told the innkeeper to take care of Mannie and if he needed more money the Samaritan would pay him on his way back through town. The Samaritan showed kindness to a man who probably did not like him because he was not Jewish (see Matthew 5:44).

As we finish this story we see how Jesus led this lawyer (Johnny Scribe) to a painful admission. It was hard for the lawyer to admit that the Samaritan was the hero in Jesus' story. After reading this story and seeing Jesus' response to the lawyer's question: "And who is my neighbor?" What kind of neighbor are you? God requests his children to show mercy even to strangers and enemies (see Exodus 23:4-5). Matthew 5:44 is a wonderful verse to memorize and when you are confronted with an issue that deals with helping someone who you would rather not help, say this verse to yourself and let God's Holy Spirit do wonders in your life!

- What did the Samaritan do that "God's servants" refused to do?
- What are some things that you have learned from the story this week?

Kid's Prayer Time



This week when you pray ask Jesus to reveal his mercy and love to your heart. Ask Him to reveal his mercy and love through your life so that others may see His glory abounding in this world.

sMemory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**"God blesses those who
show mercy."**

Third Grade and Above

**"Blessed are the
merciful, for they shall
obtain mercy. Blessed
are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God."**

Matthew 5:7-8