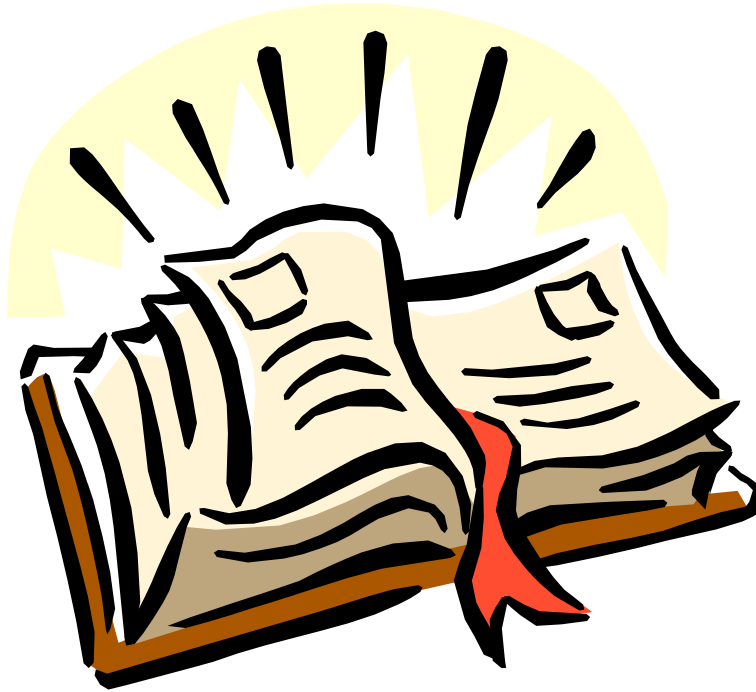


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

LESSON TITLE: The Garden of Gethsemane

THEME: We always need to pray!

SCRIPTURE: Luke 22:39-53



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 Garden of Gethsemane**. The theme was "**We always need to pray!**" We learned that Jesus was facing the most difficult time of His life. It was the night before the cross and we can learn a lot from the events that take place in the garden. The main thing we learn is that in this very difficult time, Jesus goes to the Father in prayer and pours out His heart to His loving Father.

If Jesus needs to go to the Father, how much more do we? We need to learn that we can always go to the Lord in prayer. We find that He loves us; He listens and will always help us. In 1 Thessalonians 5 we are told to pray without ceasing. Let's consider this week in our times of devotion what that means.

The section of scripture that we studied was **Luke 22:39-53**. 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!

How Should We Pray?

Text: Luke 11:1 - "Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.'"

Read Luke 11:1-4

Jesus was a wonderful teacher. When we read in the Bible about Him, He was always teaching others. A lot of times it is in what He says, but many other times He teaches us through the things He does. In our Bible reading today, He is **praying** to the Father. A great way to learn how to **pray** is by looking at how Jesus prayed.

The first thing we see is that the Lord has a special place where He went to **pray**. Jesus often went somewhere to be alone with the Father. This was very different from the religious leaders of His time who would often stand on the street corners and **pray** aloud. They thought people would think more highly of them if they saw them **praying** out loud. But our humble Lord knows the act of **prayer** is a time of fellowship and speaking with the Father. He goes to a certain place, sometimes alone on a mountain, sometimes in a garden. But Jesus knows the Father can hear Him. The Bible teaches that God hears all of our **prayers**. When we pray it is important that we find a nice quiet place and then begin to **pray** to the Lord.

Jesus also gave the disciples a **prayer** as an example for them. First, Jesus said we should **pray** to the Father and **praise** Him for His Holiness. God is on His throne. He sees everything that happens. He is all-powerful and loving and kind, we need to **praise** Him. The next part of the **prayer** that Jesus showed us is to ask the Lord to provide for our needs. God does not always see our needs in the same way we do. God is our Provider and will always give us what we need, in His perfect will. Another part of the **prayer** is to admit that we are sinners and need forgiveness. We also need to forgive others who may have hurt us. In the last part of the **prayer**, Jesus said we are to ask God to lead us away from temptations and deliver us from the evil one. God can protect us and guide us, but we must be willing to let Him. Let's remember Jesus' example when we pray.

- Do you pray to God every day?
- Think about the way you pray, does it follow the example Jesus gave?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Prayer: Speaking personally to God.

Praise: To give God the glory for His majesty and holiness

God's Will, Not Ours!

Text: Luke 22:41b-42 - "and He knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."

Read: Matthew 26:36-46

Jesus was very sad the night before He died on the cross. Even though He was in a beautiful garden, he was very close to the place where He would die the next day. He knew He would soon suffer a painful death for the sins of the whole world, including yours and mine. But He also knew that He could go to His loving Father and talk to Him about what was about to happen. He knew that this beautiful garden would be a nice quiet place for Him to pray.

Because Jesus knew what was about to happen we see that Jesus asked if there was any other way for salvation to be given to the world that this "cup" would pass from Him. The "cup" that Jesus was about to take was His death. Remember that Jesus was also human. He didn't "want" to die. He knew that He was about to enter into a terrible time of pain and suffering. But notice what He said, "nevertheless, not MY will, but Your will be done." Even though it would be difficult Jesus only wanted to do the Father's will.

Sometimes the Lord may ask us to do something for Him that may not be very easy. We may even have to decide whether we are going to do what is easy for us or what God wants. God's way may not always be the easy way, but it certainly is the best way. If Jesus didn't suffer through the cross we would not have salvation today. We see that God didn't remove the "cup" that Jesus was about to take, but He did send an angel to minister to Him and give Him strength. God may not necessarily remove something that is hard in our lives, but He will help us through it. Let's remember when we pray, "not my will, but Your's be done." We will always find the strength we need to do whatever it is that God may want us to do.

- Do you pray when you are sad? Do you pray when you are happy?
- Why did the angel come to Jesus?
- What did Jesus pray for?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



God's Will: Something that God desires to happen.

Day Three

Pray Against Temptation

Text: Matt 26:41 - "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak."

Also read Mark 14:32-42

Jana walked past the corner store every day with her friend Rachael on the way home from school. Her parents always told her to go straight home and not to stop, so Jana was obedient and never stopped. One day Rachael said she had extra money from her allowance and she wanted to get some candy for her and Jana at the store. Jana knew her mom would be upset and worry if she were late getting home. But she also thought about the candy. She knew it would only take a few minutes and the candy would taste really good. It was so **tempting!** But Jana knew she needed to be obedient. A memory verse she had learned suddenly popped into her mind. The verse was about praying so she would not enter **temptation**. It didn't seem like a very important thing, but Jana knew that Jesus always wants us to pray. Jana quietly prayed that God would help her to be obedient. She knew that God wanted her to obey and not to sin.

Jana told Rachael before they left the school that she could not stop at the store. She was gentle when she explained to her friend that it was important to obey her parents first. Then they wouldn't have to worry about getting in trouble. Jana was surprised when her friend agreed that it was wrong to worry their parents. On the way home, Jana shared her verse with Rachael and told her about Jesus. No one had ever told Rachael about Jesus before. She didn't know Jesus had died for her so she could go to heaven. Jana did what was right and was able to share about Jesus to her friend Rachel.

Jesus always wants us to pray. Jesus told His disciples to watch and pray so they would not enter into **temptation**. God will help us if we are tempted and He will give us a way out of the temptation when we ask Him. If we are obedient to God and our parents, He will bless us and other people will see the love of Jesus in our lives.

- What did Jana want to do? How did God bless Jana?
- Tell about a temptation you may have had and the way God helped you to get out of it. Did you choose God's way out?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Temptation: An attempt to get someone to do something wrong; a test of character.

Day Four

Jesus Prays For Us Always

Text: John 17:20-21 - "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe You sent Me."

Read John 17:1-26

Jesus loved us so much that He died on the cross for our sins. Before He died, He prayed to His Father. He asked that God would be **glorified** by His death. Then Jesus asked God to take care of His disciples, the men chosen to tell everyone about Jesus. Jesus asked God to keep them from evil. Finally, Jesus prayed for those who were not yet born, but one day would believe in Him. That's you and me if we know Jesus! He prayed that we would live in Him by believing in Him in our hearts. We must believe that Jesus is the Son of God, who died on the cross for our sins and ask Him to come into our hearts. When we ask Him to come into our hearts, His promise is that He will and He will make us brand new creations.

What a wonderful thing to know that Jesus prayed for us. He knew that one day we would come to know Him and follow Him. Let's look at what else He prayed for us. He asked the Father that we would be one. That just means that we would all get along with one another. As Christians we are all brothers and sisters and we need to love each other and help each other. The reason He wants us to be one is so the world would see the family of God and desire to become a part of it.

He also prayed that we would be where He is. We know that He is now in heaven at the right hand of the Father. He is also preparing a place for us so that we can be with Him for all of eternity. That is His desire that we would be with Him forever. We also know from the Bible that He is still praying for us even while He is in heaven (Hebrews 7:25). What a blessing to know that Jesus is praying for us so that we will be able to live our lives the way He wants us to. Let's remember that we need to pray to the Lord, but also remember that Jesus is praying for us.

- What are the three things Jesus prayed for in the Garden of Gethsemane?
- How would God be **glorified** by Jesus' death?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Glorified: to give great honor to in a very special way.

Day Five

"Those Who Spitefully Use Us"

Text: Hebrews 7:25 - "Therefore He is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them."
Hebrews 7:22-28; Romans 8:24-28

Mike was very upset. He had been so nice to Jack, but he found out Jack was making fun of him behind his back. He didn't know what he should do about it. Mike had helped Jack with his homework all year and now he found out Jack was just using him. Mike decided to talk to his mom about the problem. Mike's mom said they needed to pray for Jack and that Mike should continue to help him with his homework. Mike was so angry he really didn't want to, but he decided his mom was right.

Mike and his mom prayed together. They talked afterward and Mike's mom reminded him that before Mike accepted Jesus as Lord, he had been pretty awful to his friends too. She reminded Mike about what Jesus said to do when our enemies "spitefully use us" (treat us in a bad way). She said that Jesus told us to pray for our enemies. Ask the Lord to soften their hearts and help them to see that what they are doing is wrong. We shouldn't try to get even, but should love them instead.

Mike knew that his mom was right. They bowed their heads together and prayed for Jack. They asked Jesus to help him to understand that what he was doing wasn't right and to help him to understand that he needs Jesus in his heart. They also asked that Mike would be able to show love and kindness towards Jack. After they prayed, Mike made a promise to pray for Jack every day.

- Why was Mike so angry?
- What did Jesus say to do when someone treats us in a bad way?
- What did Mike do? What will you do the next time someone treats you badly?

Kid's Prayer Time



We have learned a lot about prayer this week. Consider the examples Jesus gave us to use as a guide in our prayers...praising God, praying for others, asking for forgiveness, and asking for God's Will in our lives. Ask God to open your heart and teach you to pray about everything concerning your life. May God bless your time of prayer each day?

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

“Pray that you may not enter into temptation.”

Third Grade and Above

“When He came to the place, He said to them, ‘Pray that you may not enter into temptation.’”

Luke 22:40b