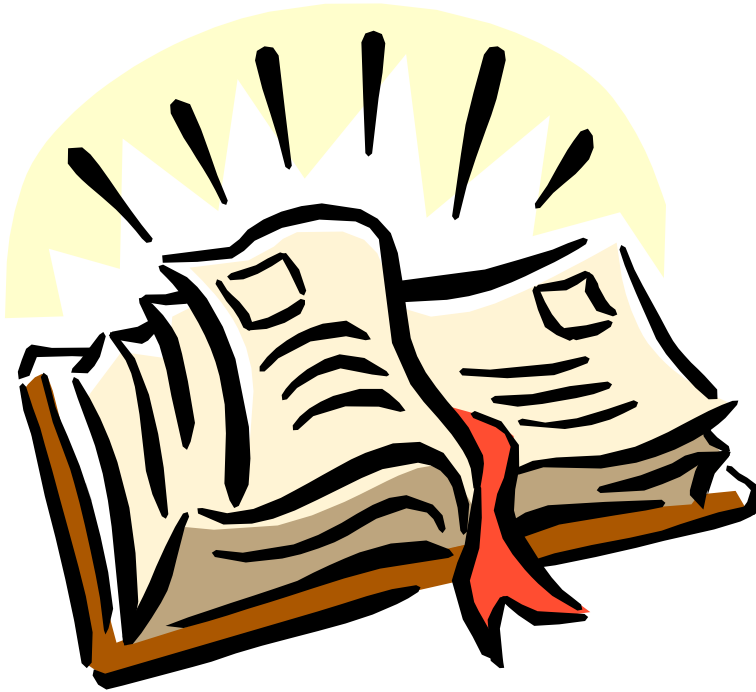


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

LESSON TITLE: Jesus Helps Catch Fish

**THEME: We can do all things through
Christ!**

SCRIPTURE: John 21:1-14



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 **Jesus Helping Catch Fish**. The theme was "**We can do all things through Christ.**" The disciples weren't sure about their future. They had decided to go back to fishing. But God had other plans for them. Little did they know that they would be used to turn the world upside down for Jesus.

God wants us to turn our world upside down for Him. We can do anything He calls us to through His strength. God has great plans for each of our lives and we need to listen to Him and follow Him with all of our hearts. We will find that we can do all things through Jesus.

The section of scripture that we studied was **John 21:1-14**. 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!

Day One

Growing Up In Jesus

Text: John 21:5 - "Then Jesus said to them, 'Children, have you any food?' they answered Him, 'No.' "

Also Read John 21:1-14

In our reading today we see that Jesus asks His disciples a question. He asks, "Children have you any food?" We see here that Jesus is concerned about every area of His disciple's lives. He also cares about every area of our lives. After Jesus died the disciples had decided to go back to fishing. They followed Jesus for three years and now it seemed like the ministry was done so they went back to what they knew. But Jesus wasn't done with them. He had wonderful plans for their lives and Jesus was going to show them how He planned to take care of them as they followed Him.

Jesus' death on the cross would change the lives of His disciples forever, one way or the other. For one disciple, Judas Iscariot, the disciple who betrayed Jesus, the cross meant his own judgment for what he had done. For another disciple, Peter, the death of Jesus brought him face-to-face with his own pride and sin. For another disciple, John, Jesus' death meant the added responsibility of taking care of Mary, Jesus' mother. All of their lives would change forever.

In our Bible verses today, Jesus calls His disciples "children." In a few short weeks, these men, hand chosen by Jesus would begin to turn the world upside for Jesus. They would perform miracles in His name and thousands of people would be saved. Jesus was going to give them the gift of the Holy Spirit. The disciples still had much to learn about the power of the true and living God and they were not going to do that by catching fish alone. Jesus was about to make them fishers of men in such a way that they couldn't even imagine. Jesus calls them children because He knew they would soon grow up spiritually and be the very first to go and tell the world about Jesus. Jesus also wants us to turn the world upside down for Him. The disciples may not have understood everything that God would do in their lives, but God did some great and amazing things. Truly we can do great things through Jesus in our lives today!

- Why did the disciples go back to fishing?
- Do you think the disciples knew that Jesus was going to meet them on the shore with breakfast?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Children: People who have not yet matured fully.

Sharing and Caring

Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:15 - "See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all."

Also Read 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24

Annie loved Jesus very much. She always shared with her friends about Him and anyone else who would listen, except for Kelli. Kelli was a girl at school who would not listen when Annie was talking about Jesus and Kelli would make fun of her no matter how nice Annie was. Kelli didn't let Annie finish any of her stories. She was rude and tried to make Annie forget what she was saying. After a while Annie found it was very hard to be nice to Kelli at all, but she knew the Lord desired her to love everyone, even Kelli. The Lord desires to make us perfect in Him, blameless.

One night after dinner Annie was reading the Bible and she read a verse that made her think about Kelli. Annie somehow knew in her heart that God wanted her to pray for Kelli right then. Annie got on her knees and began praying for the girl who had been mean to her for so long. Annie prayed for Kelli a long time, asking God to help her and to change her heart. The next day, she was surprised when she found out that Kelli had been in an accident on her bike and was in the hospital. Annie believed God wanted her to visit Kelli and pray with her. Annie was afraid of Kelli making fun of her again and telling her to leave, but she felt the Lord really wanted her to go and so she trusted God. She cut some roses from her garden for Kelli and took her Bible.

Kelli was so surprised that Annie came, but inside her heart glad that she did. Annie told her about the prayers the night before. Kelli said a car had hit her bike that night and the doctors were very surprised that only her arm was broken. Annie told Kelli how much God loved her and wanted her to have a relationship with Him. The two girls ended up becoming great friends and Kelli gave her heart to Jesus. As they grew up, they told everyone about the miracle God did for Kelli and for their relationship. We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

- Why would Annie pray for her enemy?
- Why did Kelli and Annie become friends?
- Can you think of someone you could pray for right now?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Blameless: Not causing hurt. Being without fault in a matter.

His Strength Not to Sin

Text: Galatians 2:20 - "I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

Also read Galatians 2:20-21 and 3:26-27

Susan was visiting her favorite aunt when the worst possible thing happened. Sometimes Susan was a little clumsy and would drop things. She never meant to break anything, it just kind of happened. Her aunt had a favorite glass dish that she was never supposed to touch. Susan had only meant to look at it for a few minutes, but it slipped out of her hands and shattered into millions of pieces. For a minute, Susan wanted to clean up the glass and never say anything. But she knew this was wrong. She knew that Jesus saw what had happened even if her aunt didn't. Susan cleaned up the glass and prayed for strength to tell her aunt about the dish. She knew Jesus lived in her heart and He would give her courage to do the right thing. As she prayed, God gave her strength and comforted her heart by helping her to remember what Jesus said, "I will never leave you, or forsake you."

When Susan told her aunt what happened, she expected to be punished. She was not supposed to touch other people's belongings without permission. But her aunt wrapped her arms around her niece and thanked her for being honest. Her aunt said it took great courage to be so honest. Susan told her aunt that Jesus was the one who gave her the strength to tell her what happened.

Sometimes things happen to us that might cause us to hide from the truth. When we are Christians we should remember that we have a great, awesome God, who loves us and lives inside of us. No matter what we are tempted by, we can always ask Jesus to give us the strength and courage not to sin. It is always best to do the right thing and trust God, no matter how hard that may be. We can do all things through Christ.

- Can you think of something Jesus has given you strength for?
- Tell about a time when Jesus delivered you from sin.
- What should you do when you are tempted?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Temptation: Something that draws us into sinning.

He is Able to Deliver

Text: 1 Samuel 24:15 - "Therefore let the LORD be judge, and judge between you and me, and see and plead my case, and deliver me out of your hand."

Also Read 1 Samuel 24:1-22

David had been running from King Saul for a long time. He was tired of running, but kept on hiding. The king wasn't faithful to God and was filled with pride. The Lord wanted David to be king over the children of Israel and not Saul. King Saul tried to find David before he became king so he could try to kill him. He wanted to try to keep David from being on the throne. Saul had many soldiers with him looking for David.

David loved the Lord very much and did not want to fight with King Saul. One time David had the chance to sneak up on King Saul and kill him. Saul was resting inside of a cave. David was hiding back in the cave. David crept up to him, but chose not to hurt the king. David wanted to show the king he loved God's will more than anything. David also kept his soldiers from hurting the king. Instead, David took a piece of King Saul's robe. After Saul left, David appeared to him from the top of a mountain. He showed King Saul he could have hurt him if he wanted to. David loved God more than the power of being a king. David taught Saul a valuable lesson about what is important to God and later David became the king just as God had said.

Through Jesus Christ, we have the ability to choose God's will over our own will (what we want to do). The Bible also tells us we do not have to be mean back to someone who has treated us in a wrong way. We have the power, through the Spirit of Christ, to do good to those who treat us well and those who don't. We also have the power to wait on God to take care of things for us. We have a great and awesome God who promises to help us. It is when we take things into our own hands and jump ahead of God that we get into trouble. Let's learn to wait on Him. We can do all things through Christ.

- Did David get out of God's will or did he get out of God's way?
- Who gives us the ability to do good to our enemies?
- Tell about a time when you had to choose between your way and God's way. What happened?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Revenge: To cause injury or hurt to someone after they caused you hurt.

Judge: To make a decision as to who is right or wrong. God is our Judge.

Jesus Can Change Lives

Text: Acts 4:13 - "Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus."

Also Read Acts 4:13-31

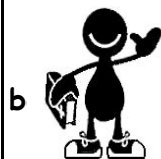
Today we read about two very strong, bold men who are brave and ready to tell anyone about Jesus. Not only that, but they are standing up for the Lord in front of some very powerful and religious leaders in Jerusalem. They are even speaking to the same high priest who had ordered Jesus to be crucified.

They were not always so bold and brave though. Remember when Jesus was taken to the cross? Who was it who ran away? Who was it who denied knowing the Lord Jesus? But these are two very different men with changed lives. The Lord has worked greatly in these men's lives. He has made them to be the leaders of His church. They were given power through the Holy Spirit and they gave Him all the glory. They were not afraid to speak the name of Jesus and heal a lame man in front of thousands of religious people. They were arrested and might have been killed as Jesus was, but they had prayed and asked God to give them boldness. The difference is that Jesus has given them strength through the Holy Spirit. We can also have that same power in our lives through the Spirit.

This week we learned different ways which the Lord helps us to do all things. We can grow in our faith and belief by waiting on the Lord. We can pray for our enemies and even make peace with someone in the name of Jesus. We can overcome the temptation to sin and be delivered from bad situations by our awesome God and Savior. And we can grow spiritually and become strong mature children of the Lord through the Holy Spirit. We are created to praise God and to do His will in our lives. Truly we can do all things through Christ.

- Do you speak boldly in the name of Jesus, sharing Him with others?
- Think about some ways you want to grow spiritually. Talk to your parents about it.

Kid's Prayer Time



Spend time in prayer considering what Jesus can help you with in your life. Ask Jesus to show you new areas where you can grow and be in your faith of Him. Spend time daily reading God's Word and listen for His answers. The Lord loves you very much.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**"The Bible helps us to
believe in Jesus."**

Third Grade and Above

**"...but these are written
that you may believe
that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of God, and
that believing you may
have life in His name."**

John 20:31