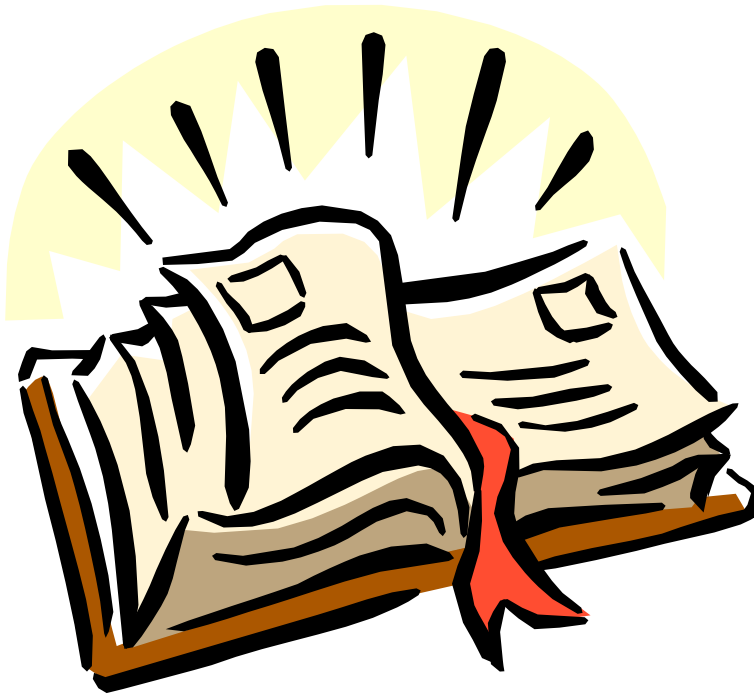


# Bible Time for Kids!



**CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:**

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**LESSON TITLE: The Ascension**

**THEME: God promises His Holy Spirit to help His children**

**SCRIPTURE: Luke 22:44-53**



# 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 **Jesus' Ascension** into heaven. The theme was "**God promises His Holy Spirit to help His children.**" Jesus was now heading back to heaven to be with the Father. The disciples would not see Him any more with their eyes. But Jesus gave them a promise and told them to wait in Jerusalem because He was going to give them the Holy Spirit so that they could be witnesses to Him throughout the entire world.

That same promise of Holy Spirit is for us today. What a blessing it is to know that when Jesus left, He didn't leave us alone. All we need to do is ask for the Holy Spirit to come upon us and fill us to have the power to do what He calls us to do. Let's look some more at the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives this week.

The section of scripture that we studied was **Luke 21:44-53**. 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!

# Instant Power

**Text: Acts 1:8** – “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

**Also read Luke 24:49**

Michael raced home from school and plopped down in front of the television. “Don’t you have any homework?” asked mom. “Not today,” replied Michael. “Would you like a snack?” asked mom. “No thanks,” replied Michael, “I just want to watch Popeye the Sailor Man. He is so strong and powerful. All he has to do is just eat some spinach and he gets instant power. Hey Mom, can I get power from spinach like Popeye does?” “Well, spinach is good for you and it provides a lot of the vitamins which help you grow, but it doesn’t give you instant power”, replied mom.

“Is there anything that can give me instant power?” asked Michael. “Well, as a matter of fact, you can receive instant power by asking for it.” “Who do I ask?” replied Michael. “You can ask God,” said Michael’s mom. “God promises to give you a helper while you are here on earth. The helper He provides is the Holy Spirit. All you have to do is ask, and you will receive the Holy Spirit. When you receive the Holy Spirit, you will receive power to do God’s will for your life. It’s not the same kind of power that Popeye gets from spinach, but it is the kind of spiritual power we need to live our lives for Jesus,” answered mom. Michael did as his mother told him. He asked God to provide him with power from His Holy Spirit. Michael became a fruitful and powerful witness for God.

You too can receive the Holy Spirit just by asking. God promises us His Holy Spirit to help us while we are here on earth. Kind of like when Popeye eats spinach and gets real strong, we become strong in serving the Lord when we are filled with the Holy Spirit. When we receive the Holy Spirit in our lives we have instant power to have boldness to share Jesus’ word with others. We have the power to say “No” to those around us who want us to say “Yes” to things that we shouldn’t. We have the power to do His will for our lives. God is so wonderful to us! He gives us the Holy Spirit so we can be strong to live for Him!

- Have you asked for the Holy Spirit to be upon your life? (Luke 11:13)
- What is the fruit of the Holy Spirit? (Galatians 5:22-26)

## Kid’s Bible Dictionary



**Fruit:** Having good results come from my life.

# The Witness

**Text: Acts 4:20** - "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."

**Also read John 15:26, 27**

The courtroom was silent. The judge looked over towards the prosecuting attorney and asked him to call his next witness. "Your honor, I call Matt Wilson." Matt Wilson walked up to the witness box. The court clerk had him place his left hand on the Bible and his right hand in the air. "You promise to tell the truth the whole truth, nothing but the truth, so help you God?" "I do" stated Mark. Mark was an important witness for this court case. Mark saw two men attack an older lady and steal her purse. The two men were arrested and Mark's name was given to the police as a witness to the crime.

Being a witness was the right thing to do. He saw something bad happen to someone and he needed to tell the truth so those who did wrong will be punished for their crime. A witness is someone who has seen or heard something. A witness is someone who furnishes evidence and information about something. Matt Wilson furnished evidence by telling the jury about what he saw the night the crime took place. Matt will testify to what he saw and heard.

We also become a witness when we receive Jesus and the power of God's Holy Spirit into our lives. After we come to know Jesus we can tell others about the truth of Jesus. We are a witness of what He has done in our life. Also, other people can see Jesus in our lives when we live for Him. We can obey Him and be more and more like Jesus every day when we live by the power of the Holy Spirit. Then other people will see the change that Jesus has made in our life and want to know more about Him. We can be a witness for Jesus when we just live for Him. God's power in our lives through the Holy Spirit is what helps us to live a life like Jesus. Let us go and be a witness to the world. So like Matt Wilson in the courtroom, we need to tell everyone what we have seen and heard about Jesus.

- Does how you live your life tell others about Jesus?
- Do you share Jesus with your friends?
- What would you do if someone made fun of you because you are a Christian?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Evidence:** proof of something.

**Witness:** someone who has seen something or heard something.

# The Ascension

**Text: Luke 24:51** – “Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven.”

**Also read Mark 16: 19-20 and Acts 1: 9-12**

The ascension of Jesus into heaven was a very important part of His ministry. If Jesus did not return to His father, He wouldn't have sent the promised gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus talked about how that we would be able to do more things than He could here on earth because His Holy Spirit would fill believers all over this world. Then, through the power of His Spirit, we would become like His hands and feet spreading the good news of His love all over the world.

In heaven, Jesus is our High Priest who intercedes for us to the Father (Hebrews 4:14-16). The word intercede means that Jesus is a go between. Through His sacrifice we can now have a relationship with God. Jesus paid the price for our sins so that we could have forgiveness. Jesus is also an advocate before the Father for us (1 John 1:9 -2:2) in forgiving us our sins. That means that He is someone who defends us before the Father. When Satan brings any accusation against us, Jesus is there to defend us because we have believed in Him. So Jesus is continuing to help us even though He is in heaven and not here with us. The ascension of Christ was very necessary for His plan.

As His disciples watched, Jesus ascended into heaven. What a sight that must have been! Two angels appeared and told the group that Jesus would return one day in the same way He left. The two angels gave the believers assurance that Jesus would return again someday. We don't know when that day is, but we need to be ready and watching for Him! So even though Jesus is away from us right now we can look forward to His return one day.

Jesus wants to use you and me to tell others about Him. He is working with His people here on earth and helping them accomplish His plans (Mark 16:19-20). We all have a special gift that God has given to us to use for His glory. As you read and learn about God giving us His Holy Spirit to help us, we need to think of the importance of Jesus ascending into heaven. Although Jesus left us physically, He didn't leave us completely. He sent the Holy Spirit to comfort us and to help us in our time of need.

- What is the ascension of Jesus and why is it so important?
- Are you ready for His return?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Intercede:** To go between; to act as a mediator.

**Advocate:** Speaking in favor of; defend.

# Equipped To Do His Will

**Text: Romans 8:28** – “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

**Also Read Ephesians 4:7-16 and Hebrews 13:20-21**

Ralph and Timmy got up around 5:00 a.m. They rushed through the front door and headed for the car. They were in a big hurry to drive up to the mountains. In fact, they were in such a rush that they forgot to load their ski equipment. The whole purpose of the trip was to go skiing and meet up with another family who they were going to go skiing with. Ralph had remembered to pack a lunch and some snacks but he had thought Timmy packed the ski equipment. Timmy was so busy packing extra clothing and extra food that he had forgotten about packing the ski equipment. Mom and Dad had told the boys that they were responsible to bring their own ski gear.

The drive was about 2 hours. When they arrived at the ski resort, they jumped out of the car and looked at the top of the car. You should have seen the look on Ralph and Timmy's face when they saw an ice chest, blankets, a few back packs but no skis. “Uh, where are the ski's?” asked Timmy. “I thought you packed them,” replied Ralph. “Nope, I was busy packing our clothing and snacks,” answered Timmy. “Now what?” asked Ralph. “We are not equipped to ski. We have no skis. I guess we will either have to just watch everyone else or try to find a rental shop.”

Have you ever planned a trip somewhere that requires some type of equipment, and once you arrive you come to find that you don't have any equipment? Not having the right equipment or having no equipment at all is an unpleasant feeling. Even as a Christian we can be unequipped. We can look as if we are Christians on the outside but on the inside we are without the proper equipment. Many people go to church every Sunday, they are good to others, and they even have memorized scripture but they are without the proper gift from God. What do you think the gift is? **Continued on Day Five...**

- Was there ever a time when you were unequipped? How did you feel?
- What happened to Ralph and Timmy?
- What can you do to become equipped for Christ? (Luke 11:13)

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Equipped:** To furnish someone with necessities (God provides us with His Holy Spirit to help and guide us during difficult times).

Day Five

## Equipped To Do His Will (part 2)

**Text: Romans 8:17** – "So then faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God."

**Also Read 1 Thessalonians 5:17, 1 John 1:3, and Luke 11:13**

**Continued from Day Four...** Being unequipped is an unpleasant feeling. Remember yesterday's devotion about Ralph and Timmy arriving at the ski resort without ski equipment. Maybe you have had a similar experience when you have arrived somewhere and you didn't have the proper equipment or you had no equipment at all. Sometimes as Christians we can be unequipped also. God provides a way for us to be equipped to do His will. He is faithful to equip us for all situations in our lives. If we try to do things on our own, without Jesus, we too will experience the feeling of being unequipped.

God tells us in His word how we are to be equipped:

1. James 1:22 tells us to be doers of God's word not only hearers. In order for us to be equipped here on earth, we need to be in God's word everyday! We not only need to listen to His word but we need to do what it says.
2. Pray! Pray! Pray! How do we communicate to each other? We talk. How do we talk to God? We pray. Pray for all things (Proverbs 3:5,6). Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 to pray without stopping. We will be equipped for God's will when we pray. Make it a habit to pray everyday.
3. Fellowship with other believers. It can be so tempting for us when we are around non-Christians to do as they do. We need to be encouraged and lifted up by other believers. Fellowship with other believers gives glory to God.
4. Receive the Holy Spirit into your life. We have learned this week about the importance of the ascension of Jesus. He went back to heaven to be with the Father and He sent us the Holy Spirit to be our helper. We can be equipped with the power of the Holy Spirit to live our lives for Jesus. All we have to do is ask Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit and He promises He will (Luke 11:13).

### Kid's Prayer Time



Remember this week to be equipped to do God's will. Pray for those around you that they may be equipped with you to do the will of the Father. Pray, read God's word, fellowship with other Christians, and receive the power of the Holy Spirit. God is faithful in equipping His saints!

# Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

"Jesus was carried up  
into heaven."

Third Grade and Above

"Now it came to pass,  
while He blessed them,  
that He was parted  
from them and carried  
up into heaven."

Luke 24:51