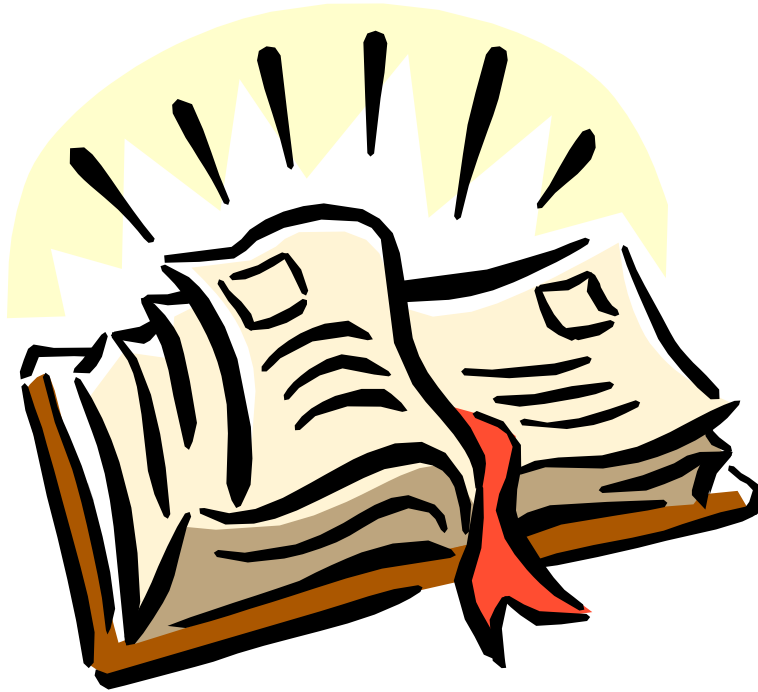


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

LESSON TITLE: Learning about Money

**THEME: God wants us to use our money
and things to glorify Him.**

SCRIPTURE: 1 Timothy 6:1-19



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 money** and how God wants us to use it. The theme was "**God wants us to use our money and things to glorify Him.**" God's Word says a lot about money and how we are to use it in His kingdom. This week we are going to look closer at the issue of money and our "things". How would God want us to use them for His glory?

We will look at topics like using our money wisely, giving to the Lord's work and using our money for good when God blesses us with it. Sometimes we don't like to stop and think about money, we just like to spend it. But when used in the right way, money can be a very effective tool in the kingdom of God.

The section of scripture that we studied was **1 Timothy 6:1-19**. 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

It's all the Lord's!

Text: Psalm 24:1 – "The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein."

Also read Jeremiah 27:5

Have you ever day dreamed about what it might be like to be born into the family of a king? Maybe back in time when kings and queens ruled nations. To be a prince or princess meant that you also got to enjoy everything that the king (your father) owned. And in those days that was a lot. You would have all of the land and wealth imaginable. Everything that was your father's would be yours.

Did you know that as a Christian you have become a child of the greatest king ever? Everyone who knows Jesus has been born into the family of God. He is the King of kings and Lord of lords. And he owns everything in this world. He owns everything because He created everything. So even though it may not seem like we are the richest people in the world, especially when we only have a quarter in our pocket, we really are because of who our Heavenly Father is. We are all a child of a King who loves us very much and desires to bless us. We will spend eternity exploring all that God has in store for us.

In the meantime, while we are waiting for eternity, God wants us to know from His Word that everything on this earth is His and He can do with it as He pleases. So while we may not be rich in the sense of how this world sees riches, we are definitely rich in the Lord. God doesn't promise to make us rich with money, but He does promise to take care of our needs. So anytime we have a need we can remember to go to the Lord and from all His vast resources He will provide for our needs.

This week we are going to be looking at money and what the Bible says about money and how we use it. It is important to start off knowing that everything we have is the Lord's. It has come to us as a gift from His hand. So, our hearts should be filled with thanksgiving as we think about who our king is and how He desires to take care of us.

- Who owns the whole world and everything in it?
- What do you think it would be like to be a child of a king?
- As a Christian are you a child of a king? What does that mean?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



King: Ruler over a nation...God is ruler over the whole world!

Day Two

Happy With What You Have

Text: Hebrews 13:5 – “Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’”

Also read 1 Timothy 6:6-10

“Joel, what would you like for your birthday this year?” mom asked. “Well, I really want that new video game system that just came out. It is really cool!” Joel shared with excitement. “But Joel you just got a brand new game system last year for your birthday,” mom replied. “I know,” shared Joel. “But this new one is really cool. It has two more buttons on the controller, more action packed games, a carrying case and a stereo system guaranteed to blow the roof off!” “But Joel,” mom replied. “What is wrong with your old one?” “Well, nothing really, it’s just not the latest and greatest,” Joel said as he began to pause and think for a moment.

“I guess it is kind of expensive when you think about it,” Joel said. “Oh, just twice as much as the one you got last year”, Mom replied. “It really is a lot of money to spend on something that you already have.” Joel thought about it and said, “I guess, maybe I should just be happy with the game system I have and look for something else for my birthday.” “I think that is a great idea,” Mom replied. “Hey, I know!” Joel jumped in. “Maybe I can get a less expensive gift and then we could give some of the rest that I would have spent on a video game to Gospel for Asia to help kids hear about Jesus at VBS. Pastor Bob was talking about the need for kids in Asia to hear about Jesus.” “Joel, I think that would be a wonderful idea,” said mom.

The Lord wants us to learn to be content with what we have. Sometimes it is hard to know what a “need” is and what a “want” is. God says He will always supply our needs, but that doesn’t mean we will always get our wants. We need to be content with what God supplies. When we look at what other people have and desire those things for ourselves, that is coveting. We don’t always need the latest greatest things with all the bells and whistles. There’s not anything wrong with having toys and things, but we need to be careful to listen to the Lord when it comes to our money. Maybe He would have us continue using what we have and give some money away to others who have needs or are sharing the gospel in other parts of the world. Let’s learn to be content in all things.

- What does it mean to be content with what you have?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Covetousness: A strong desire to have something that belongs to someone else; being greedy.

Day Three

Give With a Cheerful Heart

Text: Proverbs 3:9 – "Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase;"

Also read 2 Corinthians 9:6,7

How does God want us to use the money that He blesses us with? We know from our devotions this week that God owns everything and will take care of our needs. We also know that He wants us to be content with what He provides. Today we are going to look at the subject of giving. God has a lot to say in the Bible about money and how He wants His people to be a people who freely give. Let's look at some of the things the Bible says about giving.

First of all, whether we have a lot of money or a little, God wants us to be givers. The amount that we give never matters to God, but what does matter are our hearts. If our hearts are in the right place with God then we will be willing to give anything to Him. But if our hearts aren't in the right place, then we may want to hold back from Him. Remember the story of the widow with two mites? Two mites were like pennies. It was all she had and she gave it to the Lord. The religious leaders and others gave a lot of money, but Jesus said that the widow gave more than all of them, because it was all she had. We need to also understand that God doesn't need our money. Remember He owns everything. But giving to the Lord is more for us than for Him. It teaches us to trust in Him and allows us to be used by Him to reach others with the good news of Jesus.

So we know that we are to give of our money to the Lord. How much should we give? The Bible talks about a tithe, or 10% of our increase. If we earn a dollar we would give 10 cents, etc. Tithing is a good guideline for us. Some people choose to give more. The best thing to do is to pray and ask God how much He would like for us to give. He will show us. In our reading today we see that we are to give what we purpose in our heart to give. We need to pray and ask God for wisdom in how much we should give. Then we read that we should not give grudgingly or of necessity. In other words, we shouldn't give just because we feel like we have to, or that God is going to be angry with us if we don't. Rather we should give "cheerfully". That word really means that we should give hilariously, or filled with joy. Giving to God's work brings joy. We can give cheerfully. And money isn't the only thing we can give...we can give our time and our talents and really bless others. God promises when we obey His word that He will bless us. Let's give faithfully to God's work!

- What does giving with a cheerful heart mean to you?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Cheerful Giving: Being filled with joy as we give to the Lord and His work.

Birds and Flowers

Text: Matthew 6:33 – “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”

Also read Matthew 6:24-34

Chris was worried! Her family didn't have very much money and now her father just lost his job. What were they going to do? She knew that they didn't have anything in the savings and barely made it each month with her dad's income. Now it was really bad. Would her mom and dad and little brother have to move somewhere else, or worse become homeless? Would they go without food? Chris was so worried about her family that she began to have stomach aches. Her mom and dad didn't talk about it much, but Chris knew it was always on their minds. Dad always told Chris to look to the Lord. He would say, “God will provide all our needs.” But this time it looked too big, even for the Lord.

That next Sunday Chris and her family went to church. In Chris' lesson she learned about the time when Jesus talked to the crowds of people on the Mount of Olives. As her teacher spoke that day it was as if the Lord was speaking directly to her, actually He was. Jesus told His followers that they shouldn't worry about what they eat, or what they wear or have for shelter. He said that worrying isn't going to help the situation at all. Rather they need to trust the Lord. He used two examples, birds and flowers. He told about how that birds don't do any farming for food, yet God provides for them all of their needs. Then he talked about how that flowers don't have to make clothing for themselves, yet they are made beautiful by God. Then He shared about how much more valuable to God are His people than flowers and birds. Then the lesson ended with what Jesus said about how that the important thing is to seek God's kingdom, then relax and know that God will provide all of our other needs.

This lesson was so encouraging to Chris. She couldn't wait to tell her mom and dad about what she learned in her class. She felt so much better. Their family still had a lot of needs, but she was reminded how that God will provide for each one of them. After church that afternoon her family got home and waiting there were 8 bags of groceries on their front porch and a check in one of the bags to cover the next months rent. There was also a card inside that said, “Receive this as a blessing from the Lord.” Chris' family was amazed. They stopped and prayed to thank the Lord for His wonderful provision. Instead of worrying about what we don't have, let's thank the Lord for what we do have.

- Tell about a time you were worried about something. How did God take care of you?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Worry: Feeling uneasy or troubled about what may happen.

Day Five

Helping Others

Text: 1 John 3:17 – “But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?”

Also read 1 John 3:16-21

Mickey had been saving up for a long time for a new bicycle. He went around the neighborhood all summer asking folks if he could mow their yard or help out with other chores for a couple of dollars. The time finally arrived that he had enough money to get that new bike that he wanted. As Mickey got ready to get in the car and head down to the bike shop he got a phone call. It was his friend Norman from church. Mickey told Norman that today was the big day to get his new bike. Norman was thrilled for his friend. They talked for a couple more minutes then hung up.

After the phone call Mickey began to think about his friend Norman. Norman had always wanted a bike also, but could never afford one. He didn't have a dad and his mom worked full time and made just enough to get by. Mickey went out into his garage and looked at his bike. It really wasn't so bad. It still worked and looked pretty good to. Mickey prayed and asked the Lord what he should do. Mickey went back into the house and asked his mom about an idea he had. He wanted to buy the bike he had always wanted, but instead of buying it for himself, he wanted to give it to Norman.

Mickey's mom was very blessed by what Mickey wanted to do. She called Norman's mom and explained what Mickey wanted to do, but asked her not to tell Norman. Norman's mom began to cry because she was so excited. Mickey and his mom went down to the bike shop and bought the perfect bike. They went over to Norman's house and he came out to see Mickey and his new bike. “Wow, what a cool bike Mickey,” Norman said. “Do you want to ride it?” asked Mickey. “Sure,” replied Norman. Norman began to ride it around. He came back and said thanks. Mickey asked, “Do you like it?” Norman replied, “Yeah, it's really cool!” “Well, then it's yours,” Mickey said with a big smile. “What?” asked Norman. “It's all yours, I want you to have it.” “No way!” Norman said in disbelief. “No, really,” Mickey assured him, “I want you to have this bike. I have one already and you don't, so I want you to have it.” Norman didn't know what to say. He just thanked Mickey and then they all prayed together to thank the Lord.

Kid's Prayer Time



Pray that God will help you to be wise with the money he entrusts you with. Remember that God owns everything and all that we have comes from Him. Ask Him to help you to give to Him and to others as He directs.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**“Now godliness with
contentment is
great gain.”**

Third Grade and Above

**“Now godliness with
contentment is
great gain.”**

1 Timothy 6:6