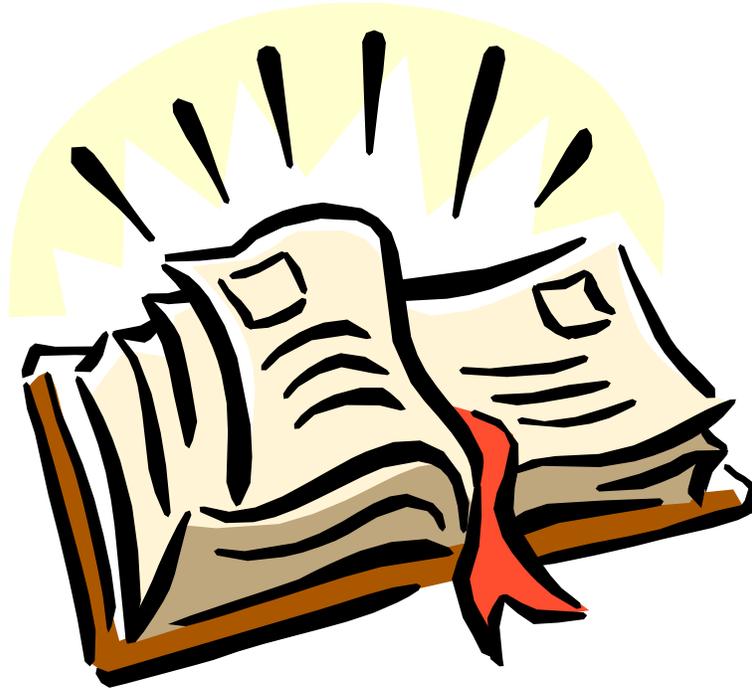


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: Jesus and the Children

THEME: Jesus loves you and me!

SCRIPTURE: Mark 10:13-16

Dear Parents...

Welcome to Bible Time for Kids! Bible Time for Kids is a series of daily devotions (five per week) for children and their families through which we hope to reinforce Sunday's lesson, provide ideas for the application of God's Word, and encourage your children to develop a daily devotional life. Since the age of your child will affect how they respond to the content, we suggest you make them age appropriate by adding your own ideas.

In the lesson this week, we learned about **Jesus and the Children (Mark 10:13-16)**. We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. The theme was "**Jesus loves you and me.**" What a special and wonderful place children have in the heart of Jesus. When the disciples wanted to keep the children away because they thought He was too busy, He said, "Let the little children come to Me."

Jesus said that a child's heart is a picture of how we must be when we come to Him. We must become like little children. In devotions this week, we'll look at God's love for children

We hope you and your family will be blessed as you study God's Word together.

Overlooked!

Text: Matthew 19:14 - "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Also read Matthew 18:1-4

Jimmy was standing in line at the hot-dog stand waiting to order some food. He had been waiting for over 30 minutes! People kept coming up and standing next to Jimmy. The employees at the hot-dog stand would help the adults, but they overlooked Jimmy. Jimmy was starting to get a little impatient. "I can't believe no one is helping me," he thought to himself, "I have money. Maybe it's because I'm shorter than everyone else?"

Jimmy went over to a table and grabbed a chair. He slid the chair over to the counter and stood on it. "Excuse me, he said, could someone please help me?" Seeing Jimmy on the chair, one of the employees leaned over to the counter and demanded, "You need to get off that chair, you could get hurt." Obediently, Jimmy stepped down off the chair. "Please, push it back to the table," the worker added. Jimmy was discouraged--he seemed no closer to getting his hot dog! "I can't wait until I am an adult," Jimmy said to himself, "then, people will pay attention to me when I need something!"

In the days of Jesus, like today, children were often overlooked. Even Jesus' disciples were guilty of not realizing how important children are in God's eyes. Jesus never looked down on children. He said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven." In fact, Jesus used children as examples for how we, who follow Jesus, should be. An unspoiled child is naturally pretty humble, lacking that selfish desire to be greater than others. An unspoiled child is naturally pretty trusting, willing to be dependant on others, and has a desire to make others happy. If someone overlooks you because you are a child, remember God values children highly. In fact, Jesus said when one welcomes and pays attention to a child, it is as though He has been welcomed (Matthew 18:5).

- How do you feel when someone doesn't notice you because you are a child?
- How does Jesus feel about you?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Overlooked: To fail to be noticed or considered.

Humble: The opposite of being proud and arrogant. Showing an attitude of respect, putting others above oneself.

What Does God's Love Look Like?

(Part One)

Text: 1 John 4:8 - "He who does not love does not know God, for God is love."

Also read 1 Corinthians 13

Tommy looked outside and saw Eric get off of his bicycle in front of Mrs. Wilson's house. He walked up the walk way and then disappeared into Mrs. Wilson's house. Mrs. Wilson was 92 years old and did not come outside very often. She had lived alone for over 30 years, and her house and yard needed a lot of fixing up. Tommy recalled his visit to Mrs. Wilson's house a few weeks back. He offered to mow her lawn for a pretty fair price, but she barked, "I don't need the help, and I don't want to be bothered." Tommy did not like being treated rudely, so he had no plans to visit her again. He wondered, now, what would bring Eric over to her house.

Eric left Mrs. Wilson's about an hour later. Tommy remained curious, "Where is Eric going?" he thought. "Why would Eric want to help that old rude lady?" About 20 minutes went by and Eric returned with a bag of groceries. He watched as Eric made his way to Mrs. Wilson's door once more and Mrs. Wilson welcomed him inside. "What's going on?" thought Tommy. "How much money is Mrs. Wilson paying Tommy to go to the store?"

The next day, Tommy went outside to ride his bike, and he noticed Eric was mowing Mrs. Wilson's yard. Tommy felt angry and jealous. He had offered Mrs. Wilson a fair price just a few weeks earlier. "Why is Eric coming to my neighborhood and cutting grass? He's taking away money I should be making." The more he thought about it, the more upset he became. "I know," thought Tommy, "I'll get even with Eric. When Eric goes into Mrs. Wilson's backyard, I will sneak over to his bike and let all the air out of his tire; that will teach him not to come into my neighborhood!" **Continued on Day Three...**

- Read 1 Corinthians 13. Can you list the qualities of God's love?
- If Tommy had God's love inside, how might he have acted differently?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Unconditional Love: Without any limits or restrictions.

Day Three

What Does God's Love Look Like?

(Part Two)

Text: 1 John 4:8 - "He who does not love does not know God, for God is love."

Also read 1 Corinthians 13

Continued from Day One... Eric finally finished all the yard work and needed to hurry home for dinner. Eric told Mrs. Wilson he was finished and asked her if she needed anything done tomorrow. Mrs. Wilson smiled, "That's all I have for a while, Eric. Thank you!" Eric went over to his bike and saw the tire was flat. "Oh no!" moaned Eric. He noticed Tommy across the street with a smile on his face. "Did you see someone messing with my bike?" asked Eric. "Maybe", replied Tommy. "Did you do this?" asked Eric. "And what would you do if I did?" responded Tommy. "Nothing," replied Eric, in a rather passive tone that surprised Tommy. Eric picked up his bike and began walking home.

Tommy called out, "You had better walk away, and I better never see you around here again! I mow the lawns around here Buck-o". Eric was well within hearing range of Tommy's harsh words, but he just continued to walk home.

Eric was a Christian. That evening, Eric prayed for Tommy and the whole situation. "Lord, You see everything. I don't want Tommy to think I'm at war with Him. Give me a chance to tell Him about you..." God was already answering Eric's prayer for Tommy. Still in a huff, Tommy decided to pay a visit to Mrs. Wilson's house once more. Tommy knocked on the door. "Can I help you, Tommy?" Mrs. Wilson asked. "Yeah," said Tommy. "I noticed that Eric was cutting your grass. I just wanted to point out to you that he did an awful job and that I could do a better job, and I would even charge you less than what Eric charged you."

Continued on Day Four...

- Do you think Eric should get even with Tommy? Why or why not?
- It was a difficult situation for Eric, but he did not worry that evening. What did he do?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Jealousy: Fearful of being replaced by another.

What Does God's Love Look Like?

(Part Three)

Text: 1 John 4:11 - "Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."

Also read Leviticus 19:18

Continued from Day Three... Mrs. Wilson looked surprised. "Tommy, that is not possible." Tommy retorted, "I do great work! Give me a chance!" "I'm sure you do," Mrs. Wilson replied earnestly, "but you can't pay less than Eric; he's helping me for free. I can't afford to pay anyone. Eric has been coming over here for the past few weeks helping out of the goodness of his heart. After Eric is finished here, he goes to Mr. Gibson's house and helps him with his yard work. Eric has not accepted a dime!" Tommy left puzzled. "Wow", thought Tommy. "Why would Eric do such a goofy thing? Work without getting paid?"

Tommy's attitude was much different when he ran into Eric the next day. He asked Eric why he was helping people without getting paid, especially Mrs. Wilson who could be pretty rude when she wanted to be! Eric knew that the Lord had given him this chance to share with Tommy about God's great love. He told Tommy about God's plan to save us, how He sent His Son to die on a cross for our sins. He continued, "When God's love settles down in your heart, it changes you; you have to share it with everyone...God's love is so strong that He refuses to give up on anyone, no matter what kind of person they are. God's love can change anyone's heart." Eric invited Tommy to church.

Tommy had seen God's love shining through Eric, and he wanted to know more! He accepted Eric's invitation and came to church with him Sunday. Even more exciting, Tommy asked Jesus into his heart. Eric's prayers were answered. The following week Eric was riding his bike home when he noticed Tommy carrying Mrs. Wilson's groceries for her. Tommy winked at Eric and said, "No charge!" Eric praised God again for what He had done in Tommy's life.

- What surprised Tommy about Eric's work for Mrs. Wilson?
- Because Eric was showing God's love to others, God was able to use him in some great ways? How?
- As you understand God's great love for you, you want to share it! Can you think of some ways you can share God's love with neighbors and friends?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



God's kind of love ("agape"): A self-sacrificing love. (1 Corinthians 13.)

Day Five

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know!

Text: 1 John 4:19 - "We love Him because He first loved us."

Also read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

What does the word love mean to you? Is love a warm feeling you have inside when someone cares for you? Do you see or hear of love from the radio, television, or books? Does the world give us perfect love? God's Word gives us a different definition of love than the world's definition. God gave us His Word to tell us about His love—1 Corinthians 13--and He also gave us a living example! The Bible says, "God is love" (1 John 4:8). Jesus showed God's love when He lived on the earth and when He presented Himself to the Father to be the sacrifice (payment needed) for our sins (Ephesians 5:2). Jesus' love for you is a picture of perfect love.

Do you know Jesus as your Savior? Do you love others with God's kind of love? Take a little test! Place your own name in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. God is working in us, by His grace, to help us love as He loves!

YOUR NAME

- _____ takes turns patiently without getting upset.
- _____ doesn't get jealous of a friend's new clothes.
- _____ doesn't show off or act as if others don't matter.
- _____ is polite and respectful to parents and teachers.
- _____ lets someone else have the biggest piece of dessert.
- _____ doesn't call someone names to get back at them.
- _____ doesn't stay angry at someone for what he did.
- _____ looks for good in someone others say is bad.
- _____ stands up for someone whom others pick on.
- _____ believes that God can change difficult people.
- _____ encourages others to do and be their best.
- _____ refuses to give up on someone, no matter what.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**"Let the little children
come to Me..."**

Third Grade and Above

**"Let the little children
come to Me, and do not
forbid them; for of
such is the kingdom of
God."**

Mark 10:14b