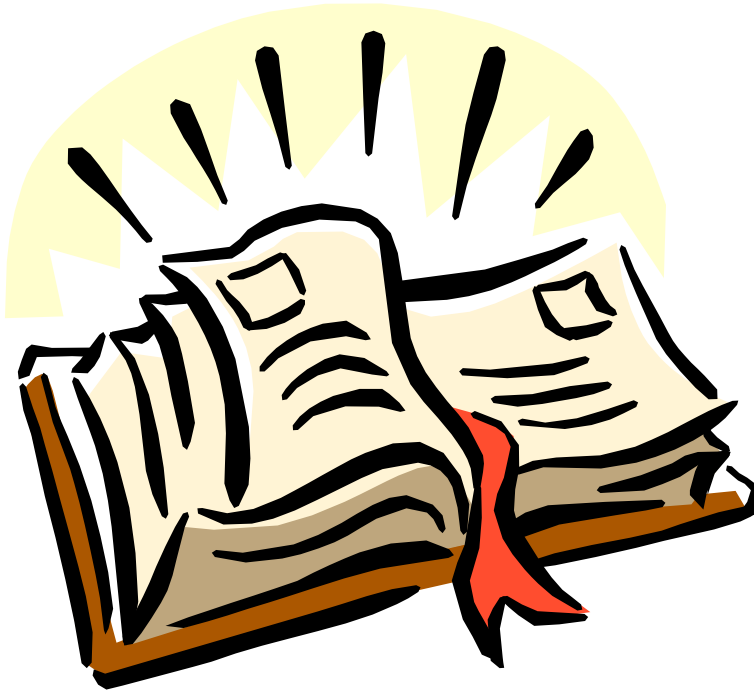


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

**LESSON TITLE: There is Therefore Now No
Condemnation**

**THEME: When we live in the Spirit
we can say no to sin.**

SCRIPTURE: Romans 8:1-39



Dear Parents...

Welcome to Bible Time for Kids! This 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 the title of the lesson was "There is Therefore Now No Condemnation." The theme was "When we live in the Spirit we can say no to sin." The idea of being free from condemnation and sin can be difficult for adults to understand, let alone children. But it is a very important truth for us to study this week.

We are declared to be free in Christ Jesus. As we read through Romans 8, Paul declares spiritual freedom because of our union with Jesus Christ. In chapter 8 an emphasis is placed on the Holy Spirit. This week we will study about freedom from the judgment of sin. We see that the law cannot control or condemn us because Christ has already suffered that condemnation on the cross.

The section of scripture that we studied was **Romans 8:1-39**. 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!

Paid in Full!

Text: Romans 8:1 - "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit."

Also read 2 Corinthians 5:21

The day arrived for Jimmy Smith to appear in court and receive the punishment for breaking the speed limit. One morning he was late for work and was driving 60 miles per hour in a 25 mile per hour zone. But that wasn't the only problem, he got caught speeding in a school zone and there was also construction being done in front of the school. This meant the fine he would have to pay would be doubled. The amount that Jimmy may have to pay for breaking the speed limit could be as much as two thousand dollars! Jimmy didn't have that kind of money to pay for it. What will he do?

Jimmy was very nervous about showing up to court. He had heard that the judge who is over the traffic court is a very tough judge. Jimmy knew he had done wrong and was caught doing something really dumb. What he was really afraid of was that when the judge heard that he didn't have the money to pay the fine that he would have to go to jail for a while. Jimmy sat quietly in the back of the courtroom until his name was called to appear in front of the judge.

When Jimmy's name was called, he walked very slowly and nervously down the aisle towards the judge's bench. The judge sat patiently awaiting his arrival. Jimmy stood in front of the judge's bench waiting for the sentence to be handed down to him. Jimmy knew he was guilty and that there was no way out. He couldn't say anything, do anything, or try anything that would make a difference.

Like Jimmy we are also guilty before God. The Bible says that "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." That means that we are all guilty and under the sentence of death, or separation from God. There is no way that we can pay the price for our sin. So we find ourselves in the same situation as Jimmy; guilty of sin and under "condemnation". What can be done about all of this? We'll find out as we **continue on Day Two...**

- What do you think will happen to Jimmy?
- Are we guilty of sin and deserving of punishment?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Condemnation: to judge or judgment.

Ransom

Text: Romans 10:11 - "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame."
Also read Acts 13:39, 1 Timothy 2:5-6

Continued from Day One... The judge looked down at Jimmy and said, "You are guilty of speeding and you must be condemned for your actions. The penalty I give you is the fine of two thousand dollars." Jimmy looked up at the judge, "Sir, I am unable to pay for my debt. Is there something I can do to pay for the debt?" The judge responded, "The law has been set and if you are unable to pay your debt I have no other choice but to condemn you to jail." Jimmy was speechless! Tears started to well up in Jimmy's eyes. What was he going to do?

Jimmy looked up and noticed that the judge was removing his robe. He laid down his robe and came down to stand next to Jimmy. The judge reached into his pocket and pulled out his wallet, "I wish to pay the price for this young man's debt." The judge put his wallet back into his coat and walked back up to the judges' bench. He put his robe back on and took a seat in the judge's chair. "Young man, your debt has been paid, you are free to go." Jimmy was full of joy. The price had been paid for his debt and he had been set free. He couldn't believe that the judge would do such a thing for him.

Like the judge, God stepped down from heaven and came to earth in the form of a man. Jesus laid aside the glory of heaven and to come as a baby. He grew up and lived a perfect life, free from sin. He then took all of our debt and all of our sin and paid the price for every bit of it by dying on the cross. He died the death that we deserved for our sin. So now when we believe in Him we are set free and are no longer condemned for our sin. The payment has been made. Has Jesus set you free? It is as easy as just asking Him to come into your heart.

- What did the judge do for Jimmy Smith?
- What has God done for us so that we wouldn't be condemned?
- Do you know others who haven't received Jesus? Pray for those who are lost that they would come to know Jesus.

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Ransom: The price and payment required to free a prisoner. Jesus paid the ransom for our sins.

Day Three

Suffering the Consequences

Text: Romans 3:23 – “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

Also read Galatians 3:22

“Please do not take your drink onto the carpeted area,” said Amanda’s mother. Amanda replied, “Okay”. There were a few rules about where to eat and drink in the Beck’s home. One of the areas off limits was the carpeted area. This was a rule Amanda struggled with, especially when she played at the coffee table in the living room with her friends. Amanda enjoyed having her friends over. She enjoyed having tea parties and often wanted her friends to have real tea.

One day Amanda had her friend Amy over. Amy and Amanda were planning to have a grand tea party. Amanda had her teapot, cups, sugar and cream ready to go. She would sometimes act out having tea, but remembered that there was some iced tea in the refrigerator. Amanda’s parents were in the other room. So Amanda decided that she would get just a little bit of tea from the kitchen to put into their pot and cups. She went into the kitchen and poured some iced tea into her pot. Then she went back into the living room and poured some tea for her friend. But what she didn’t realize is that her little two year old sister would come into the room and grab a cup of tea. Amanda grabbed for the cup and in the process the cup went flying up into the air and tea went flying everywhere, including the carpet. Both Amanda and her baby sister began to cry. Mom heard the commotion and came into the room.

Amanda’s mother was upset to see the large spill of tea on their new carpet. Amanda realized immediately that she had done wrong. “I’m sorry I disobeyed you mom” Amanda shared. Amanda’s mom forgave her, but said that she would still lose the privilege of having a friend over for a week. Amanda had consequences for disobeying her mother, but her mother still loved her. Their relationship wasn’t broken. Amanda asked her mom for forgiveness and she forgave her and prayed with her. Christians do fail and make mistakes, and they do sin. Abraham lied about his wife; Peter denied Jesus three times and tried to kill a man with his sword; Paul persecuted Christians before He came to Jesus. The Lord forgave them all. We are forgiven also when we ask Jesus to forgive us. There may be consequences for our sin, but never condemnation when we are in Jesus. Jesus made the way for us to always have a relationship with Him, no matter what.

- How does it make you feel to know that you are never condemned as a Christian?

The Calvary Kid's Bible Dictionary



Consequence: The outcome of an action or a condition as a result from sin.

Day Four

The Law Makes Us Want to Sin

Text: Romans 8:7 – "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be."

Also read Galatians 5:15 and 1 Corinthians 15:56

Have you ever been somewhere and seen signs that read "Fresh Paint - Do Not Touch!" Maybe it is a public place that has just received a fresh coat of paint and the owner doesn't want anyone to touch it so that they won't get paint on themselves and so they won't mess up the paint job. But what often happens is that people still reach out to touch the fresh paint anyway, getting paint on themselves and leaving fingerprints! Why is that? Probably because the sign told them not to! There is something in us that when we are told not to do something or see a sign to not do something, we automatically want to do it. That is what Romans 8:7 is talking about.

Sometimes people want to try to please God by living their lives by rules and laws. They may try to roll up their sleeves and say, "I'm going to do what is right no matter what!" But they aren't relying on God's help to obey. They will discover that trying to do that only creates more problems because we can't live by God's standard unless we allow God to change our hearts. When we ask Jesus into our hearts the Holy Spirit comes into our hearts to live. He will then help us to do what is right. If we try it without Him we will only mess up.

When God gave the law to the people in Old Testament times it was to help them to live their lives. It was also given to help them to understand God's standard of what was right. It also helped them to understand that in their own power they can't live up to God's standard.

When a law was broken, God's people would bring a sacrifice to burn at the altar so their sin would be covered. This was a picture of Jesus who would come one day and die on the cross for all of our sins. Trying to live by the law could never save anyone, only trusting in Jesus. Have you put your trust in Jesus or are you trying to please God by doing good things?

- Have you ever disobeyed? What happened?
- Are you trusting in Jesus for your salvation?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Carnal: Being controlled by the desires of my flesh; acting selfishly to satisfy my own desires with no thought of pleasing God.

Enmity: Deep-rooted hatred; to be enemies with someone.

Day Five

Living In and Through Us

Text: Romans 8:16 – “The spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.”

Also read Ephesians 1:13, Romans 8:11 and 1 Corinthians 6:14

Molly walked over to the candy counter and took a piece of candy and plopped it into her mouth. “What are you doing?” asked Lori, “you have to pay for that candy before you eat it”. Molly replied, “It’s only one piece of candy, no one will know.” “But you are a Christian,” said Lori. “So what does that have to do with it?” said Molly. “Everything!” replied Lori as she left the store without Molly.

“It’s only one piece of candy.” “Will anyone notice?” The truth is that God knows all things. If someone is capable of stealing and being dishonest in little things then they are capable of not obeying in larger things. It is important that we obey the Lord in all things. We should now be living our lives under the control of the Holy Spirit and His “fruit” should be coming forth out of our lives. Our lives should be marked by things like love, joy, peace...etc (Galatians 5:22-26). We should be different than the rest of the world.

How do others see your life? Are you a good example of the Holy Spirit living in your life? Do others draw closer to the light of Jesus because you are living in the light? What a difference it makes in our lives when the Holy Spirit lives in us. We experience new life and can live that life before others. Life in Jesus is abundant life. We can be filled with joy because of the promise from God that there is no condemnation in Christ Jesus.

- What does it mean to be in the light? (2 Corinthians 4:6)
- What evidence should your life show that the Holy Spirit dwells within? (Galatians 5:22-26)
- How can you help others who do not know the Lord? (Acts 1:8)

Kid's Prayer Time



This week we have learned about living in no condemnation when we are in Christ Jesus. Jesus has paid the price for our sins for all that believe in Him. The evidence should be seen in our lives by the promise of the Holy Spirit. Pray that the Lord will reveal His Spirit in your life so others will want to know Him.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

“There is ...no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus...”

Third Grade and Above

“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.”

Romans 8:1