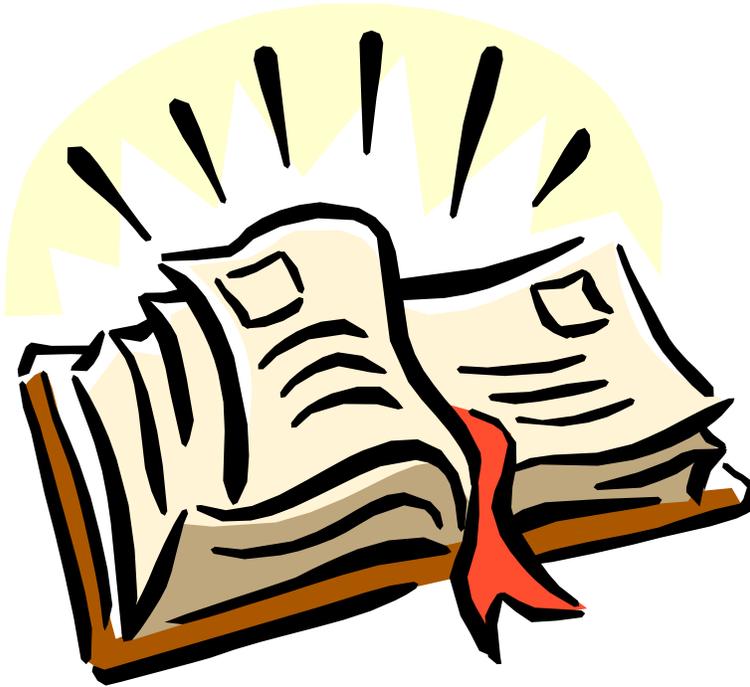


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

LESSON TITLE: Our Glorious New Bodies

THEME: God has prepared new bodies in Heaven for His children.

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 15:35-57



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 we learned about Our Glorious New Bodies. The theme was "God has prepared new bodies in heaven for His children." What will heaven be like? What will our new bodies be like? What does God have in store for us in heaven? These are questions that all of us have at different times.

Children also have these questions as well. The devotions this week will piggy-back off of our study from Sunday and hopefully clarify and give further understanding to the children regarding these things. All five devotions this week go together and develop a story about Tommy whose grandmother has passed away. He has a conversation with his grandpa that helps him to understand a little bit more about heaven and what the future holds for Christians.

The section of scripture that we studied was **1 Corinthians 15:35-57**. 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

Where's Grandma?

Text: John 11:25 – "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.'"

Also read John 11:1-44

This was the very first funeral that Tommy had ever attended. It was really strange to see so many of his relatives all gathered together and be so sad. He was used to family times that were filled with laughter and joy, not crying and sadness. He was pretty sad himself as he remembered his grandmother. After the funeral was over, all the family gathered back at Tommy's home to spend some time together.

Tommy and his grandmother were very close. His heart was sad and he knew that he was going to miss her very much. Tommy went up to his grandfather, and smiled as he sat down next to him. His grandfather reached out his large, wrinkled hand and wrapped his arm around Tommy as if to say, "everything is going to be just fine" without using any words. Tommy felt a great peace as he sat there with his grandpa.

"Grandpa, where is grandma? And what is a new body and resurrection? I'm not sure I understand all of the things that the Pastor talked about today." Tommy looked up at grandpa and knew that he would be able to explain these things. Grandpa replied, "Tommy I can understand how some of these things can be kind of confusing. Let me start with your first question, 'where is grandma?' Tommy, you know that your grandmother loved Jesus and walked with Him for many years. She asked Jesus into her heart just like you did. When she asked Jesus to come into her life she received eternal life, just like you have eternal life. That means even though we will die someday, we will continue to live with Jesus forever. Grandma is with Jesus right now. Just like if anything happened to you now, you would go to be with Jesus. One day Jesus told His friends Mary and Martha who were very sad because their brother got sick and died that He was the resurrection and the life, and if they would just believe in Him they would never die. That same promise is true for us also. In fact, to show everyone that He had power over death Jesus made Lazarus rise from the dead. We know grandma is in heaven with Jesus because that was His promise in the Bible."

Continued on Day Two...

- Are there things that you don't understand about heaven? Who has the answers?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Resurrection: the raising back to life of someone who has died. Jesus rose from the dead and has the power to raise us from the dead.

Day Two

He's Alive!

Text: Luke 24:6a - "He is not here, but is risen!"

Also read Luke 24:1-12

Continued from Day One... "And Jesus rose again from the dead also!" Tommy said with excitement. "That's right", grandpa replied. "You see if Jesus had died, but never rose again then He couldn't give us eternal life. But that isn't what happened. Jesus died on the cross, was buried in a grave and on the third day He rose again from the dead. That is what the resurrection is. Jesus has the **POWER** over death, so we know that when we put our trust in Jesus that he can forgive our sins and give us life that lasts forever! He will even give us brand new bodies, because these old ones wear out. A brand new body sounds pretty good to me!" Grandpa said with a big warm smile.

Tommy's eyes lit up as he began to understand some of these things for the first time. But Tommy also saw something else. His grandpa was sad because grandma had died, but grandpa still could smile and talk to him about these things. He saw the joy and happiness inside of grandpa's heart that Jesus had put there.

How do we know what will happen to us when we die? Well, the most important thing is that we accept Jesus into our hearts and make sure that we have received eternal life. Then we know that if anything happens to us, we will be with Jesus in heaven no matter what. We can count on that because we know that Jesus rose from the dead Himself. He took care of death for us. This is what makes being a Christian different from any other belief in the world. We will be resurrected and receive a new body because Jesus rose again from the dead. Buddha and Mohammed (the founders of other large religions in the world) are still in their graves. But Jesus is in heaven at the right hand of the Father ready to give anyone eternal life who will ask Him into their heart. He is the only way for us to have eternal life! Do you have eternal life? **Continued on Day Three...**

- In our Bible story today, who rose again from the dead?
- Why is it so important that Jesus rose again from the dead?
- How do we know that we will have eternal life?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Eternal Life: Life that lasts forever and ever.

Day Three

What Will We Be Like In Heaven?

Text: Luke 24:39 - "Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have."
Also read Luke 24:33-43

Continued from Day Two... "Lets go for a walk", grandpa said. "Sure!" Tommy replied. He was having a great time learning all of these new things about Jesus and the Bible. They went outside and began to walk down the street. Tommy looked up at grandpa and said, "Grandpa, I still have another question. You said that we would get brand new bodies one day. What are those bodies going to be like? Will I look the same? Will you be able to recognize me in heaven?"

"Oh, I think I will be able to recognize you in heaven", replied grandpa. "In the Bible we learn that our new bodies are going to be a lot like Jesus' body is after He rose again from the dead. First John 3:2 is a great Bible verse to help us understand. It says: 'Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.' So we see that when we see Him we are going to be like Him."

"After Jesus rose from the dead we do see some things about Jesus that might help to answer your question. When Jesus rose again He stayed here for 40 days and the Bible teaches a few things about Jesus' new body. The first thing we see is that people could recognize Him. We also see that He rose again in a real body, not as a spirit. He ate food in His new body and we also know that He kept the scars of His death on the cross after He rose from the dead. We will see His hands and feet that were pierced for our sins. So although we don't know everything about our new bodies, we know that we are going to be like Jesus, which is the best thing that could happen! We will probably be able to recognize each other, we will have a real body and may even be able to eat." "So do you think they have rainbow sherbet ice cream in heaven?" Tommy asked. Grandpa just smiled and said, "I hope so, but whatever we have it is going to be the best!" **Continued on Day Four...**

- Whose body will ours be like in heaven?
- What's your favorite ice cream?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



New Body: A brand new physical body that the Bible promises that each believer in Jesus will receive in heaven.

The Throne of Grace

Text: 2 Corinthians 5:8 - "We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord."

Also read 2 Corinthians 5:1-8

Continued from Day Three... "We also know that our new bodies are going to last forever", grandpa continued. "They will never wear out! The Bible tells us that our bodies now are kind of like tents. Do you remember last summer when we went camping?" "Yeah, that was a blast!" Tommy said. "Well, you probably remember the time there was a big wind and the tree branch fell and tore a hole in your tent", said grandpa. "Boy, do I! I was only out of the tent for about five seconds when the branch came down. It was pretty scary!"

"Our bodies are kind of like that tent", grandpa continued. "These bodies often get hurt or just wear out. We only use tents to live in for a short period of time and like with the branch that fell, tents can be torn or easily damaged. God knew that these bodies would only last for a while. That is why He is giving us new bodies that will last forever. It is kind of like the house we live in. You may only live in a tent for a few days, but can live in a house for years and years. In the same way, we will only live a short time in these bodies but we live forever in the new bodies that God has prepared for us. Our new bodies will be much stronger and we won't be able to get sick or die in heaven. Grandma has a brand new body that will never get sick anymore and is with Jesus in heaven."

The Bible promises that those who believe in Jesus will receive a new body. It will be a body made just right for us to live in heaven forever with Jesus. What a blessing to know that we will have a new body that will never wear out or get sick. This is a special blessing for God's children. If people don't know Jesus they don't have this hope. We need to tell others about Jesus so that they can have eternal life also! **Continued on Day Five...**

- How are tents like our bodies?
- Will our new bodies be like a tent or a house?
- Will people get sick or die in heaven?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Tent (according to 2 Corinthians 5:4) - Our bodies now.

House (according to 2 Corinthians 5:1) - Our new bodies in heaven.

Day Five

All Things Brand New!

Text: Revelation 21:5a - "Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.'"

Also read Revelation 21:1-7

Continued from Day Four... Grandpa continued, "Tommy, the Bible tells us in Revelation that one day when everyone who knows Jesus is gathered together, He is going to create a new heaven and new earth. When He does, He says that He is going to wipe away every tear. There will be no more death, no sorrow, no crying, and no more pain. All of these things will pass away completely. Jesus promised this for us so we can be filled with joy knowing that grandma is with Jesus. More than wanting her to come back, I am excited that one day I will join her in heaven with Jesus."

"Thanks grandpa," Tommy replied. The two continued their walk and came back to the house. Tommy learned a lot of things on his walk with grandpa today. There were a lot of things he didn't understand completely, but He knew that Jesus had everything all worked out. He knew his grandma was with Jesus, the best place she could be. He also knew in his heart that someday he would see grandma again. Maybe they could even share a rainbow sherbet cone again. You never know...

We learned a lot this week about eternal life and our new bodies. One of the most important lessons we can learn is that God has a plan for our futures. He has an eternity prepared for us, and it begins with a relationship with His Son Jesus. If you have never asked Jesus to come into your life you can do that right now. Simply admit that you are a sinner (less than perfect) and then ask Jesus to forgive you and come inside of your heart. If you will do that and mean it in your heart, Jesus promises to save you and give you eternal life. God bless you as you walk in Him!!!

- List 3 things the Lord is going to get rid of in the new heaven and new earth.
- Name one new thing you learned this week?

Kid's Prayer Time



In your prayer time this week spend some time thanking the Lord for all He has provided for you. Take some time to just praise and worship Him. Have a family worship time if you can. Then when you are afraid of the future or death, just remember that Jesus holds the future and you can put your trust in Him.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

“And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly man.”

Third Grade and Above

“And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly man.”

1 Corinthians 15:49