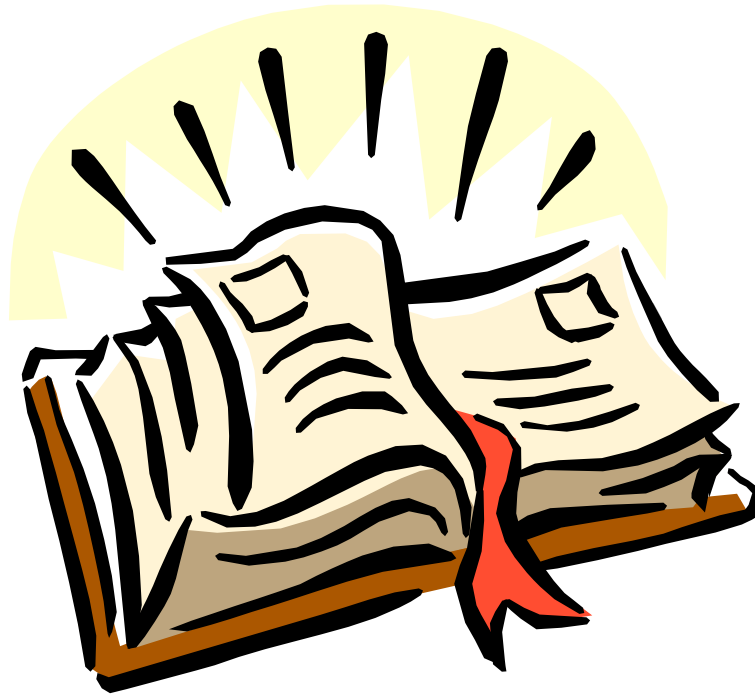


# Bible Time for Kids!



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

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**LESSON TITLE: Rejection at Nazareth**

**THEME: We need to come to Jesus with hearts of wonder and worship.**

**SCRIPTURE: Mark 6:1-6**

# 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 the time when **Jesus was rejected in Nazareth**. Nazareth was Jesus' hometown. It was where He grew up. Unfortunately it seemed that people were too familiar with Him to see that He was the Son of God. Many people there refused to believe in Him. It was so bad that the Bible says that He couldn't do very many "mighty works" because of their unbelief.

Sometimes we might be rejected because of our stand for Jesus. There may be someone who laughs at us because we believe in Jesus. We need to remember that Jesus loves us and will help us through these times. He wants us to just trust in Him.

The section of scripture that we studied was **Mark 6:1-6**. 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!

# My Favorite Teacher

**Text: Mark 6:2** - "And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue. And many hearing Him were astonished, saying 'Where did this Man get these things? And what wisdom is this which is given to Him, that such mighty works are performed by His hands!'"

**Also read John 6:41-51**

Do you have a favorite teacher at school? Maybe your teacher is so good that he or she can make a subject come to life. It is great to have a teacher who can make things like math and English something exciting. When I was going to college I remember a teacher that taught a class on the life of Christ. He spoke as though he lived during Jesus' life and was one of His disciples. He was so good at sharing about the life of Jesus that when the class time had ended we did not want it to be over. Have you ever been so excited about school that you didn't want it to be over? Often times some of us students would meet together after the class and continue to talk about the verses in the Bible we had gone over in class. The keys to a great teacher are simple. They should know what they are teaching and then be excited about telling others about it.

Jesus was a great teacher. He was the greatest teacher of all time. The reason He was the greatest is for the simple reason that He taught us about God. Since He is God He certainly knows His subject! Jesus taught about Himself and His Father. He was also excited about teaching others. He wanted others to know that God is loving and kind and wants everyone to come to Him and be saved. He knew that what He had to share meant life or death to those who were listening.

Is it any wonder that when we read about Jesus teaching in the synagogue that the people listening were amazed at His wisdom? They needed to realize then what we need to realize now; that Jesus is the greatest teacher of all time because Jesus is God. Could you imagine getting to listen to Jesus teach? What a privilege! But even though we don't see Jesus in person we can read all about the things He taught in the Bible. So let's read our Bibles every day and learn from the greatest teacher who ever lived, Jesus!

- Who is your favorite teacher? Why?
- How was Jesus the greatest teacher of all?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Synagogue:** A place of worship and learning for a local congregation of Jews.

# Rejection

**Text: Mark 6:3** - "Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?' And they were offended at Him."

**Also read 1 Corinthians 1:22-25**

Just about every person who has ever lived has at one time or another experienced rejection (not being liked or included). Rejection is an unfortunate part of life, yet it is definitely still a part of life. Some of us have faced rejection on a playground when we were not chosen for a team. Others of us have had friends tell us they no longer wanted to be our friends. And maybe our family has even rejected some of us. In whatever form rejection comes to our lives, we need to know how to handle it. Jesus gives us a wonderful picture of dealing with rejection.

Jesus understands rejection. He knows what it is like for us because He has been rejected more than all of us put together. Jesus was even rejected by His hometown friends and neighbors. The very people that He grew up around. Mark 6:3 says, "they were offended at Him." They didn't like Jesus very much in Nazareth. The Bible also declares that his own family rejected Him. His brothers refused to follow Him or believe in Him. Some of them even thought He was crazy. Jesus continues to experience rejection by man to this day. Every person that denies Him as Lord and Savior rejects Him. When Jesus died on the cross, He handled His rejection by asking God to forgive those who rejected Him. Jesus loved those who rejected Him. He did good to those who treated Him bad. He gave His life for those who were against Him.

We can learn some good lessons from Jesus' response to rejection. Did He get mad or want to get even? No Way! We can also take some comfort in knowing that even Jesus was rejected. When we are rejected we should respond as Jesus did, with love and forgiveness. The good news is that we can accept Him and receive eternal life. We should never reject Him!

- Has someone ever rejected you? What was that like?
- Have you accepted or rejected Jesus?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Rejection:** To strongly dislike someone, to not include them and to stay away from them.

# Don't Miss Out!

**Text: Mark 6:5** - "Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them."

**Also read Hebrews 11:1-6**

In our Bible passage today we learn an important lesson: without faith it is impossible to please God! Hebrews 11:6 says that "without faith it is impossible to please Him (God), for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." The people of Jesus' hometown refused to believe that He was who He said He was. They could only see Him as the young man that had grown up in their town. Unfortunately they felt that they knew Him too well and couldn't believe in Him.

But it was the people in Jesus' hometown who missed out on a great blessing. Think about all of the people in Nazareth who may have been sick and needed healing. Jesus was the one that could have helped them. Not only that, but how many people there needed to hear about Jesus and believe in Him. Jesus couldn't do any "mighty work" there because they refused to believe in Him. They were the ones who missed out on a great blessing. We need to be careful of knowing all "about" Jesus. We may go to church all of the time, read our Bibles, and pray; but that does not make us a Christian. Do we really know Jesus?

It is important that we make sure that we ask Jesus to come into our hearts. Not only do we need to learn about Jesus, we need to really know Him inside our hearts. The Bible says that He stands at the door of our hearts and knocks, and He will come in when we invite Him. The people of Jesus' hometown missed out on a great blessing because they wouldn't invite Him in. They could have seen Him do great miracles in their lives. Do you have faith in Jesus that He is who He says He is? If you do then you are pleasing God and you will see Him do great things in your life.

- Why didn't the people of Nazareth believe in Jesus?
- How did the people miss out on some great blessings?
- What do we need to do so that we don't miss out on any of God's blessings in our lives?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Nazareth:** Jesus' hometown, where He grew up.

# Through Thick and Thin!

**Text: Mark 6:1** - "Then He went out from there and came to His own country, and His disciples followed Him."

**Also read Luke 14:25-35**

We see here in our scripture verse that the disciples of Jesus followed Him wherever He went. They didn't just stay with Jesus when everything was going good. They were determined to stick with Him no matter what would come their way. Jesus talked about how serious the commitment is to become a disciple and what it would take. Let's take a look at what it means to be a disciple.

In Luke 14:26 Jesus tells us that being a disciple means that our relationship with Jesus should be the most important thing in our lives. We need to listen to Jesus and obey Him no matter what anyone thinks or says. He should be more important than our own wants and desires. We should obey Him in everything. This verse means that we must love God more than our father and mother, brothers and sisters and especially more than ourselves.

Luke 14:27 says that we need to pick up our cross and follow Jesus. We should be willing to give up anything in order to follow Jesus. Many of the disciples gave up everything in order to follow Jesus. Jesus suffered greatly on the cross. Are we willing to stand up for Jesus even when it may not be easy to do? Following Jesus won't always be easy, but that is what it means to be His disciple. John 8:31 says that a true disciple is one that abides (stays) in the word of God. This means that a true disciple loves the Bible as the truth of God. And he makes it a practice to live what the scriptures teach.

Are you interested in being a disciple of Jesus? In Mark 6:1-6 we see that Jesus' disciples were followers of Jesus through good times and bad times. They were committed to go where He went and do what He said. They were determined to be there with Him through thick and thin. Can you say that this is your desire...to be a disciple of Jesus?

- Did the disciples follow Jesus anywhere?
- How can we be a disciple of Jesus?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Disciple:** A follower of Jesus.

# Shake the Dust Off!

**Text:** **Mark 6:6** - "And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching."

**Also read Matthew 10:14**

Shaking the dust off of your feet is not just a term your mother uses when you try to get in the house with dirty feet. It is actually a term that Jesus used in Matthew 10:14. Jesus was giving instructions to the twelve apostles about going out to preach the good news of God to the lost sheep of Israel. He said to them, "whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet." Jesus wanted the twelve to know that not everyone would gladly hear and receive the message they were preaching. In fact some people would laugh at them and even persecute them. When that happened, they were not to get upset about it, but simply move on to the next place and continue sharing the good news.

Jesus encountered the same thing Himself when He went to His hometown to serve and minister to the people there. Even His own friends and neighbors rejected Him, people He knew and grew up with. But what did Jesus do? He shook the dust off of His feet and moved on to other towns.

We are no different than Jesus and His disciples. When we share with others the good news that Jesus is the Savior of the world some people may make fun of us. They may even try to be mean to us. But when they do, we know we are in good company. It is not our job to make people believe that Jesus is the Savior, but only to tell them. If they reject our message then we should just shake the dust off our feet and move on to someone who will hear.

- What did Jesus mean by "shake the dust off of your feet?"
- Have you tried to share about Jesus with someone else?
- What are some ways that you can share about Jesus to others?

## Kid's Prayer Time



This week as we pray let's ask the Lord for His help in our lives to be the disciple that He wants us to be. To continue to grow in Him and to do what He wants us to do no matter what. What a blessing it is to accept Jesus into our hearts!

# Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

"He was hated and rejected by men and He knew a lot about sadness and suffering. And people would not even look at Him or notice Him."

Third Grade and Above

"He is despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised and we did not esteem Him."

Isaiah 53:3