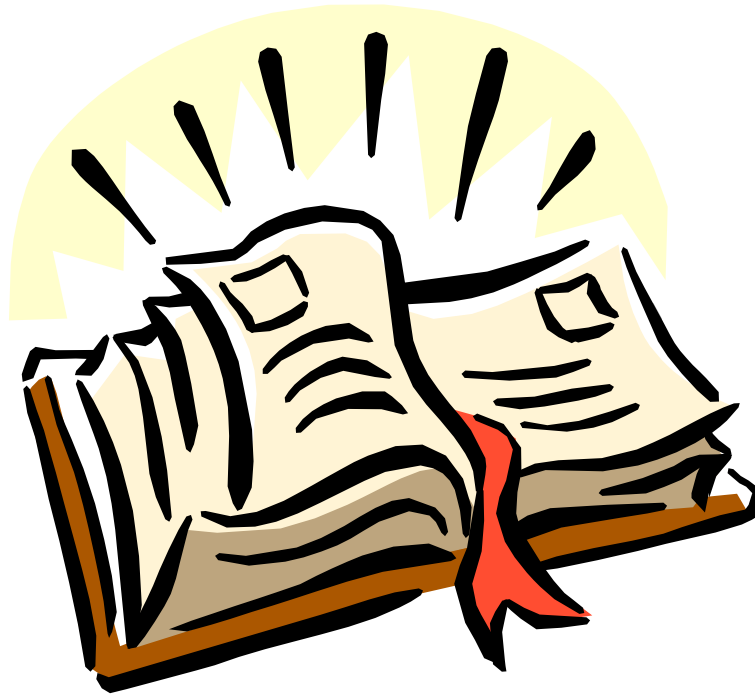


# Bible Time for Kids!



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

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**LESSON TITLE: The Son of the Widow of Nain**

**THEME: Jesus is the resurrection and the life.**

**SCRIPTURE: Luke 7:11-17**

# 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 Widow from Nain**. We saw how that Jesus had compassion on her and raised her son from the dead. Isn't it exciting to know that Jesus has power over death and He is the one who we put our trust in? We can have eternal life because when He rose from the dead He forever conquered death!

This week we are going to look at different aspects of this story. There is a lot we can learn from it. It will help us to understand a little bit more about who Jesus is and how much He cares for us, how He has conquered death and how we need to be compassionate just like He is.

The section of scripture that we studied was **Luke 7:11-17**. 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!

# A Visit from God

**Text:** **Luke 7:16** - "Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, 'A great prophet has risen up among us'; and, '*God has visited His people.*'"

**Also read John 1:14-18**

Have you ever had relatives visit you from out of town? Maybe they stopped by your house for a little while or maybe they spent a few nights. But after a little while they packed up and headed back to where they came from. Well that is what a visitor does. He comes over for a little while but always leaves. A visitor does not stay forever at your house. If he did he would not be a visitor but he would be a permanent resident.

Jesus is spoken of in the Bible as a visitor. The book of John tells us that he came in the flesh as a man and stayed here for a while. After He died and rose again, He went back to heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father. Our Bible passage this week uses the same word when it says, "God has visited his people." The people of Nain may not have realized that Jesus was God in the flesh visiting them, but they knew that it was God working in Jesus to raise the widow's son from the dead. Jesus had been in Nain only a short time, but God had visited the people.

Jesus came to this earth as a visitor to show us who God is. Whenever we try to describe what God is like to someone all we have to do is just point him or her to Jesus. Jesus came not only to show us God, but also to bring us into a relationship with God. God does not want to just visit us and leave. He desires to become a permanent resident in our heart. Jesus opened the door for us to have a relationship with Him when He took the penalty for our sins at the cross. The Bible says that Jesus desires to come into our hearts and to live with us forever. He does this through His Spirit (Revelation 3:20). God did visit the people of Nain that day and if they had trusted in Jesus as their Savior, He would have no longer been a visitor but a permanent resident in their hearts and lives. The same is true for each one of us. Let's invite Jesus into our hearts to live forever!

- Tell about a time when you had visitors at your house. How long did they stay?
- What did Jesus do when He visited the city of Nain?
- How did that event show that God had visited their town?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Visitor:** Someone who comes for a while to stay or visit.

# Fear or Fright?

**Text: Luke 7:16** - "*Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, 'A great prophet has risen up among us'; and, 'God has visited His people.'*"

**Also read 2 Timothy 1:13**

Have you ever been afraid of the dark? Or maybe you're afraid of spiders and snakes. There are a lot of things that can make us fearful. But what about being afraid of God? Should we be afraid of God? The Bible teaches us that we are supposed to fear God and keep his commandments so I guess that answers our question...well...kind of. Maybe we should take a closer look at what the Bible teaches us about fear.

The Bible does teach us to fear God. It says that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Psalm 19:9). It also says in Acts 9:31 that the Christians were "walking in fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit." Peter said it this way, "honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king" (1 Peter 2:17). Yet there are Scriptures that seem to say something else. For example, 2 Timothy 1:13 says, "God has not given us a spirit of fear." And another scripture says, "There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out all fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love" (1 John 4:18). Hmm...do these scriptures go against each other? No they do not. Let's take another look at our Bible passage for this week and see if we can find the answer.

Jesus raised the son of the widow from the dead. And when the young man began to speak, the Bible says that fear came upon all of the people and they glorified God. The answer is found in the people's response to their fear. They gave honor and respect to God. They recognized the power and might of God. This kind of fear is a good fear. Fearing God means that you recognize that He is awesome and powerful, but it also means that you realize that He loves you. It should cause us to turn away from our sin and to turn to Him because He loves us and died on the cross to save us from our sin. The other fear that is ungodly is fear that frightens us and upsets us. But that kind of fear needs to be brought to God. You can let His love for you calm your fear, for His perfect love will cast out that kind of fear as you grow closer to Him.

- Tell about a time when you have been afraid.
- What do you think the "fear of the Lord" means?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Fear of the Lord:** Respect for God; respect for His power and authority.

# Dead or Alive

**Text: Luke 7:12** - "And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her."

**Also read John 11:25**

Apart from Jesus returning to take His people to be with Him, there is something that every person who is ever born will have to face, and that is death. The Bible teaches us that each person will die and stand before God to be judged. Every person who is alive on planet earth will eventually die. Our Bible reading for today begins with the death of a young man who lived in the town of Nain. This young man was not the first person to die in that town nor would he be the last. So who could have dreamed that he would have been any different from anyone else who had ever died in that town. But he was.

One day while passing through the town of Nain, Jesus witnessed the funeral procession of a widow's son. He was the only son of his mother. Since his mother was called a widow, we know her husband had died also. Jesus looked at the situation and had compassion on the mother. Jesus reached out His hand, touched the coffin, and called the young man back to life again. The people were amazed. They had seen many people die, but never had one come back to life. There was only one thing that was different about this young man than all the others; and that was Jesus. Jesus showed everyone that He has power over death.

Jesus gives us all hope. That hope is for life after death. If Jesus can call a person back from the dead, then He certainly can give us life after death. Jesus Himself died on the cross, but then He rose again three days later. He promises for anyone that would ask Him into their lives that He will give them eternal life in Heaven with Him. Our story teaches us that through Jesus we have hope for life after death.

- What did Jesus do when he came into the town of Nain?
- Does Jesus have control over death?
- What happened three days after Jesus died to prove that He has power over death?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Death** - Physical: the end of life, vital functions of body stops.  
Spiritual: eternal separation from God in hell.

# Widows

**Text: Luke 7:13-** "When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, 'Do not weep.'"

**Also read James 1:27**

Do you know what a widow is? It is important for us to find out because the Bible tells us to care for widows. The Bible commands us to help them and visit them (Acts 6:1, James 1:27). In our scripture passage we see that Jesus helped a widow. So let's see who a widow is. A widow is a woman whose husband has died. In Jesus' day widows were usually very poor, especially if they had no grown children to help them. So God wants us to look out for others who have need so we can help them.

Since we want to obey God's instructions to help the widows, we would do well to understand the reasons why a widow would need help. Do you know why a widow would need help? Well let's look at our Bible passage and see if we can figure out why. The widow of Nain had obviously already lost her husband. But now she has lost her only son. This means that there are no men in her family. What this means is that there was no one who could work and provide for the family. You see, in those days it was the men's job to earn the living for the family. There were very few jobs for women. And the jobs that were available probably did not pay much. Most likely this woman had given her time and energy to raising her children and taking care of her husband. She had lost her husband and now her son who was the only one left who could support the family.

Jesus saw the need of this woman and He had compassion on her. He gave her back her son. But what about those that do not get their son or husband back? They will need the help and support of Christians. They will need someone to have compassion on them. That is where we come in. Do you know a widow who could use a visit? Or maybe someone who could use a helping hand? Let's follow Jesus' example.

- How did Jesus help the widow in this story?
- What does the Bible say we should do to help widows?
- Do you know a widow? What can you do to help?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Widow:** A woman whose husband has died.

# Compassion

**Text: Luke 7:13** - "When the Lord saw her, He had *compassion* on her and said to her, 'Do not weep.'"

**Also read Matthew 18:21-35**

Compassion is being concerned for the suffering of another. It really means to "suffer with" another. Have you ever had someone be compassionate with you? This would be a time when someone helped you when you were in a difficult spot. Have you ever shown compassion on someone else? Both are great experiences. The Bible tells us that God is full of compassion (Ps. 86:15). This means that He understands what it means to suffer in this world and desires to "suffer with" us. Jesus gives us a good example of compassion in our Bible passage as He raises the widow's son from the dead. He stopped, He looked at the problem the widow had and then helped her. Many times we see in the Bible where Jesus is compassionate to the people He came into contact with.

What is Jesus' attitude toward all people. In Matthew 9:36 it tells us that "when He saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered like sheep having no shepherd." Also we see the heart of Jesus as He looks out over a multitude of people and again "was moved with compassion for them and He healed their sick" (Matthew 14:14). Jesus had compassion on the multitude and fed them all miraculously—4,000 men and the women and children who accompanied them (Matthew 15:32-39). Jesus also showed compassion for the blind and sick when He healed blind Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52). The list goes on and on.

Since Jesus showed such great compassion on others, shouldn't we do the same? Jesus tells a story about a king who showed compassion to his servant by forgiving him a great debt. The servant went out and refused to show compassion toward a fellow servant who owed him money. When the king found out he said this to the unmerciful servant, "I forgave you all that debt... shouldn't you have had compassion on your fellow servant?" (Matthew 18:32, 33). The lesson tells us that since God has shown such great compassion on us by forgiving us of all our sins against Him, we need to do the same to those that have wronged us. We should be like Jesus and be known for great compassion.

- What ways have others shown compassion for you?
- How can you show compassion towards others?

## Kid's Prayer Time



As we pray this week let's remember what we have learned about the widow and her son from Nain. Let's thank the Lord that He is the Resurrection and the Life. Praise the Lord!

# Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

"Then fear came upon all,  
and they glorified God,  
saying, 'A great prophet has  
risen up among us'; and, 'God  
has visited His people.'"

Third Grade and Above

"Then fear came upon all,  
and they glorified God,  
saying, 'A great prophet has  
risen up among us'; and, 'God  
has visited His people.'"

Luke 7:16