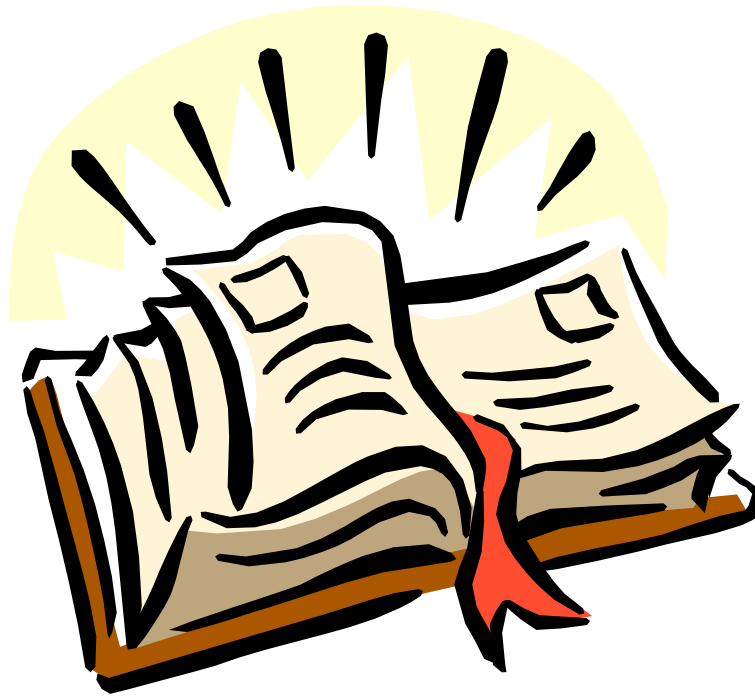


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: Jesus Calms a Storm

**THEME: We should never be afraid when
Jesus is with us.**

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 8:23-27

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 calmed a storm**. It was a very frightening time for the disciples. They thought that the storm would destroy their boat and that they might even die. They were experienced fishermen and were still afraid. They had forgotten that Jesus was there all of the time.

When we have troubles, we need to remember that Jesus is there for us. Our theme was how **we should never be afraid when Jesus is with us**. The disciples learned a valuable lesson about trusting in Jesus. We can learn the same lesson. We need to always trust in Jesus no matter what.

The section of scripture that we studied was **Matthew 8:23-27**. 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 Scary Day

Text: Isaiah 12:2 - "Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; 'For YAH, the LORD, is my strength and my song; He also has become my salvation.'"

Also read Isaiah 12:1-6

John and Jennifer were following their parents all morning at the flea market. At first it was a lot of fun. They looked at all the bright colored toys, tried on some clothes and had some soda to drink. In fact, they were so excited about seeing everything that they were not paying very close attention to where their parents were. When they looked up their mom and dad were gone! Jennifer panicked and yelled out, "Where's mom and dad!" to her brother. He tried to act calm, but in his heart he was just as panicked as her sister. They both called for their parents, but the flea market was noisy and loud with music blaring from the loudspeakers. They were both very scared and John held Jennifer's hand when she began to cry.

"Jennifer, we need to pray! God can hear our prayers. He knows where we are right now and where mom and dad are," John told Jennifer. The two children bowed their heads and prayed for God to help them. "Dear Jesus, we are lost and can't find our mom and dad. Please help us Lord. Help us not be afraid. Show us what to do."

John remembered that Jesus is always with His children, and that He always wants to help them when they call upon His name. He remembered about the time in the Bible when Jesus calmed the sea. They felt much better after praying. After a few more minutes a different song started coming out of the loudspeakers. All of a sudden the idea came to John. Maybe they could ask someone to call out for their parents over the speakers. They ran over to one of the food booths and asked the worker if they could call their parents over the speakers.

When the children's parents heard over the speakers that their children were safe they were very relieved. They ran over to the food booth and gave John and Jennifer a big hug. Later that day John and Jennifer shared with their mom and dad what they learned about trusting the Lord when they are scared.

- Have you ever been lost like John and Jennifer? What happened?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Salvation: Deliverance; rescue; source of safety.

Walking On Water

Text: Matthew 14:27- "But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.'"

Also read Matthew 14:22-33

It had been several days since the last storm on the sea and once again the disciples of Jesus were on their way across the water. Jesus had asked them to head across the sea of Galilee, this time though they were going without Him. Peter watched as a new storm blew in their direction. The disciples became frightened that they weren't going to make it. The last time they were in a storm Jesus had been with them. He was sleeping while the storm and sea raged. Finally He had calmed the sea with just a few words. This time was different. Jesus was not in the ship. He had stayed behind alone, choosing to go up to the mountain and pray. What were they going to do?

All of a sudden, Peter thought he saw something coming toward the boat on the water. Maybe it was another ship. It was hard to tell with all of the wind and rain. Peter knew the object was small but it moved so strangely. It was not affected by the wind or waves. Peter gasped in wonder as the object drew near. It was Jesus! He was walking on the water. The disciples were scared to death! They thought they were seeing a spirit and not their Master. Jesus called out to His friends, "Take courage, it is I; be not afraid." Isn't it interesting that even when it seemed like Jesus wasn't there, He still had control over the problem that was happening. We can rest in Jesus, whether or not it seems like He is there. He lives in our hearts.

Peter called out to the Lord, "Lord, if it is You, bid me come to you on the water." Jesus said, "Come." Peter took a few steps on the rough, rolling sea, steps of faith that held him for a few moments. He was not afraid, and walked on water! Peter made a mistake though. He took his eyes off Jesus and looked at the sea rolling and tossing the ship. Peter began to sink. He cried out, knowing that Jesus could save him, "Lord save Me!" Jesus stretched out His hand and caught His friend, saving him from drowning. Jesus asked Peter why he doubted, why his faith had faltered and then He and Peter got into the ship and the wind stopped blowing. Then the disciples worshipped Him as the Son of God.

- What do you think Peter learned from this experience?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Faith: Trusting in Jesus to save us.

Tornado Watch

Text: Matthew 8:26b - "Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm."

Also read Matthew 8:23-27

The wind was blowing very strong when Joshua got off the bus from school with his sister Debbie and brother Robbie. All day the clouds had grown darker and heavier. Joshua knew a storm was coming and he hurried his brother by carrying his backpack and held his little sister's hand. The wind became so strong the three children had trouble walking against it down the block to their house. When they got home, Joshua's mom hugged all three tightly and told them they needed to go the basement because the radio said there was a tornado watch for the area. Joshua thought about his dad at work and began to worry about him. Joshua's mom said it would be best to pray for dad, because he was on his way home.

They all huddled together in the basement and the wind howled outside. Joshua could hear glass breaking upstairs and he became very afraid. Joshua's mom just prayed for her husband and family. After she prayed she began to sing worship songs, and asked the children to sing with her. After a few minutes the wind began to die down and the four of them just praised God for His might and power. Joshua realized he was not afraid any longer. He knew that God would keep his family safe.

While they continued to wait for dad to come home, Joshua's mom told the children about the storm the disciples found themselves in one day while they were in a boat on the sea. She told her children how Jesus slept peacefully while the storm raged around Him. Suddenly Joshua heard his dad's voice on the steps leading to the basement. "Hey everyone! You must have been praying for me," Joshua's dad said. "A tree almost fell on my car but the wind blew it to the other side of the road! I'm so glad to see you are all safe as well. Let's pray and thank the Lord for watching over us."

- Would you be afraid if you were Joshua's family?
- Who do you think was in the room with the family the entire time?
- Do you believe and trust that God can keep you safe always?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Rebuke: To command to stop.

Lost and Alone (Part 1)

Text: Mark 4:39 - "Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace, be still!' And the wind ceased and there was a great calm."

Also read Mark 4:35-41

It was a fun day at the lake. It was starting to get late so Jim helped his dad put the tent up. As night fell over the campsite Jim's sister and mom were at the campfire roasting marshmallows. Jim thought campfires were kind of boring. He wanted to go exploring and find some bats or something. He had been told by his dad not to ever leave the campsite alone, but he just wanted to go for a little walk in the dark to see what it was like. He thought it would be much more fun to explore at night. Jim decided to sneak away with his dog, Scamp. "I won't be alone," Jim thought to himself. "I'll be with Scamp. Then I won't be breaking Dad's rule. Besides, I have a flashlight I can take with me."

Jim knew deep in his heart that what he was doing was wrong, but he went for a walk with Scamp anyway. He hadn't been gone very long when the flashlight he was using became very dim. Then Scamp heard a noise and started to chase something in the woods. Jim just held on to the leash and followed behind him. The only problem was that Jim forgot to check which way they were going. The flashlight flickered and went out, and Scamp was gone. All of a sudden Jim realized that he was all alone in the forest, by himself. He was terrified. He started to hear all kinds of funny noises. He began to walk in one direction and then another. Finally he stopped. He remembered that he was lost but Jesus knew right where he was. Jesus knew where his dad was too and Jim sure wanted to see his dad even if he was going to get into trouble for not listening to him. He prayed to Jesus for help to find his way back. "Jesus, help me! I know I was wrong and disobeyed. Lord I am afraid here alone in the dark. Please help me to get back."

Jim felt so much better after he prayed. He knew that Jesus hears our prayers and He would find a way to help him. Jesus hears all of our prayers and wants to help us. Sometimes when we don't listen to our parents we get ourselves into problems. But when we realize we were wrong and ask for the Lord's help He is always faithful to help us. Let's find out tomorrow what happens to Jim. **(Continued on Day Five)**

- Why did Jim find himself lost in the woods?
- If Jim had listened to his dad would he be safe right now?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Obedience: To do what we know is right.

Lost and Alone (Part 2)

Text: Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Also read Joshua 1:1-9

(Continued from Day Four) Now Jim was getting cold as well as being afraid. The moon had been up high in the sky when he started on his adventure, but now it was behind the trees. He knew he was wrong to disobey his father. He prayed again for God to give him courage and wisdom. Suddenly a thought came into his mind. "You are never alone. I will not fail you, nor forsake you." Jim could hear the verses his Sunday school teacher taught him to memorize. He just put his trust in the Lord. He knew that he would be safe and his dad would find him. "Be strong and of good courage." Jim felt better and decided to just start singing some worship songs to take his mind off of his circumstance. He sang as loud as he could the very best song he knew... "Jesus loves me, this I know for the Bible tells me so..." Jim sang it again and again. Then he heard a rustling sound. The noise came nearer. Jim just sang louder because he didn't want to think about the noise.

All of a sudden out of the bushes jumped Scamp, barking and licking Jim's face. Jim was never so glad to see his dog, but he still heard the rustling and he saw a tall dark shadow holding a flashlight. "Dad!" Jim yelled, jumping up and running to his father. "Dad, how did you ever find me?" Jim's dad laughed. "How could I not find you? Scamp came back to camp barking and I heard you singing almost as soon as I started looking for you. That was a real smart thing to do, even if you made the wrong choice to leave the fire," Jim's dad said.

Jim asked his father to forgive him for disobeying and told his father about the scripture that had come to his mind when he was lost. His father grinned and looked at the starry sky. "Thank you for keeping Jim safe, and being with him, Jesus. Thank you that Jim has hidden Your word in his heart. Thank you for providing a dishwasher for the rest of the trip. Amen," Jim just smiled and gave his dad a hug.

- Do you know Jesus is with you wherever you are?

Kid's Prayer Time



This week as you pray remember to thank the Lord for all of times that He has been with you when you have been afraid. Commit to always trust in him no matter how scary the situation may look.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

"In their misery they cried out to the LORD and He saved them. He calmed the storm and the waves and they were happy that it was quiet. And God guided them to the place they wanted."

Third Grade and Above

"Then they cry out to the LORD in their trouble, and He brings them out of their distresses. He calms the storm, so that its waves are still. Then they are glad because they are quiet; so He guides them to their desired haven."

Psalm 107:28-30