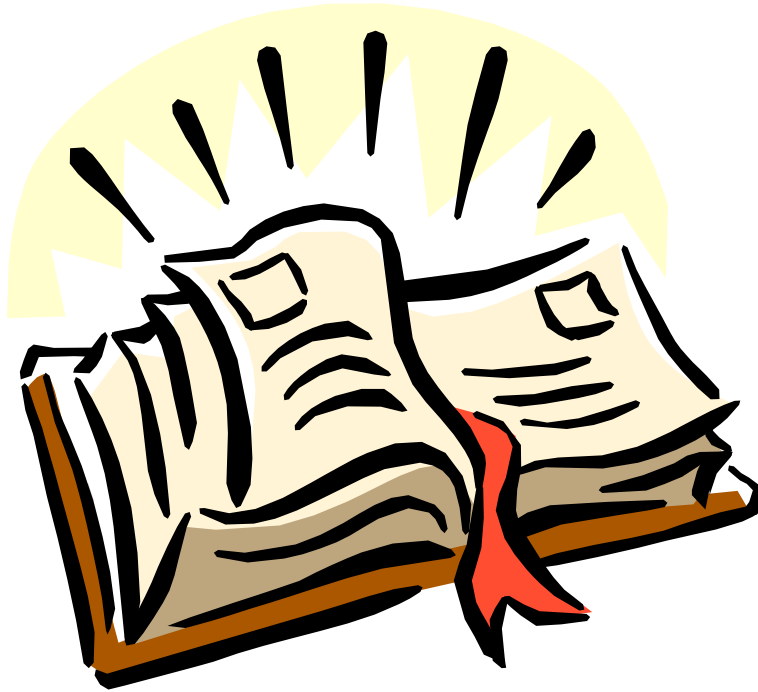


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: Walking in the Light

THEME: God wants us to walk in His light.

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 1:5-10

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 **Walking in the Light**. The theme was "**God wants us to walk in His light.**" It's exciting to know that in God there is no darkness at all. Jesus Christ is our light and He helps us to walk in the light. Also, we learned that God uses us as Christians to provide light to those who are in darkness. The light that people are attracted to is Jesus Christ living inside of us.

In order for us to shine as a light we must confess our sins, read God's Word daily, pray, and fellowship with other believers. Our flesh wants to continue to do our old bad habits. But since we have turned to the Lord our past has been forgiven and forgotten. So we need to live according to our new life in Jesus and obey Him.

The section of scripture that we studied was **1 John 5:1-10**. 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!

Out of Darkness

Text: Ephesians 5:8 - "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light."

Also read: Mark 10:46-52

Have you ever been in a terrible storm and had the power go out in your home? That can be a pretty scary experience! It is especially scary if you are in the dark for a long period of time. Did you find it hard to walk around without bumping into something? What was the first thing you or your parents did? They probably began searching for a flashlight and matches to light candles. The first thing we think of when we are in the middle of darkness is how we can get some light. Light not only helps us to see but also gives us security and safety. Not to mention how it keeps us from tripping over something and hurting ourselves. Darkness can be a very frightening experience. The Bible speaks about darkness as representing evil and that which is sinful. Darkness is separation from God. We can imagine being lonely and scared when the lights go out but can you imagine what it must be like without God? Our verse today tells us that we were once in darkness but now, through Jesus Christ, we are in the light.

In our reading, we heard the account of Blind Bartimaeus. Bartimaeus was in physical darkness because he could not see with his eyes; he was blind. But he had a much greater problem. Bartimaeus had darkness in his heart because of sin. God says that living in sin is like being in darkness because we are apart from Him and cannot find our way to Him. Sin has blinded us from seeing the truth about ourselves and of God (1 Corinthians 2:14). Jesus was the only one who could take away the darkness from Bartimaeus. Bartimaeus believed that Jesus could take away the blindness and he received his sight.

The Bible says that by dying, Jesus "delivered us from the power of darkness...through His blood" (Colossians 1:13, 14). Jesus died and was buried, but He came alive again. He lives today to take the darkness of sin from your heart. If you have never asked Jesus into your heart all you need to do is call on Him. Jesus is the only way to see your way out of darkness.

- Have you come to the Light of the World (Jesus) and asked Him into your life?
- Pray for those you know who are living in darkness, that they will come to the light just as you did.

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Light: brightness that enables us to see

Darkness: absence of light

Day Two

A Lighthouse

Text: Matthew 5:16 - "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

Also read: John 1:6-13

Have you ever traveled along a road near the ocean and noticed a lighthouse sitting close to the shore? What's the purpose of that lighthouse? The lighthouse sends a powerful beam of light out to the sea so that the ships traveling at night, in a storm or in the fog will not become shipwrecked upon the shore. It is difficult to travel at night by ship especially when there is a storm or fog. The lighthouse acts as a guide to keep the ships from crashing. How can our lives be similar to that of a lighthouse?

If we live for Jesus, we will shine like a light, showing others what He is like. When you read John 1:6-13 you see how that John the Baptist **reflected** the light of Jesus Christ. We, like John the Baptist are not the source of God's light; we merely reflect His light. Jesus is the true Light; He helps us to see our way to God and He guides us along that way. Jesus has chosen to use the lives of His followers to **reflect** His light on the unbelievers in this world. As His followers we need to be **witnesses** by setting an example and pointing others to Him. We are always to point others to the true light, Jesus Christ.

We need to be in God's Word daily, praying always, and attending church so our relationship and faith will grow stronger day by day. Satan wants to dim our light so others won't see God's glory. We hide our light by (1) being quiet when we should speak about God's truth, (2) going along with the crowd when we know it's wrong, (3) denying God's Word, (4) letting sin dim our light, (5) not explaining our light to others or (6) ignoring the needs of others. Be a beacon of truth and don't shut your light off from others who are in darkness.

- How do you let your light shine before others?
- What are some ways you can prevent your light from getting dim?
- Pray that you can be an effective witness to others.

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Witness: our role as reflectors of Jesus' light. To tell others about Jesus.
Reflect: to give back an image or likeness; the return of light; like a mirror reflects our image.

Walking with Trust

Text: Proverbs 3:5 - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;"

Also read: Jeremiah 17:5

Joel and Billy have been friends for many years. Joel is a Christian, and he has told Billy about Jesus more times than he can remember. Billy always listens and seems to be interested but he never really wants to ask Jesus into his heart. Billy would always tell Joel, "I am not yet ready to ask Jesus into my heart; I am having too much fun being a kid." All summer long Joel continued praying that Billy's eyes and heart would be opened to God's Word but Billy never seemed to change.

Billy had everything he ever wanted. Sometimes we might think that is a good thing, but what may happen is that we may be fooled into thinking that we don't need anything, including Jesus. Billy always said that He would ask Jesus into his heart "someday." One day, Billy told Joel that he had just found out that his grandfather was very sick in the hospital. He was very upset and didn't know what to do. Joel was able to pray for him and encourage him to trust the Lord. His grandfather became better and Billy knew that the Lord had healed him.

Billy always relied on his own understanding in the past. He knew he always had whatever he needed. But this was different. He couldn't keep his grandpa from getting sick or make him better. All of a sudden nothing else mattered more than asking God for help. There are so many things you can put your trust in instead of God. But what does God think about that? (Read Jeremiah 17:5). So many people never realize their need for the Lord until the object they put their trust in fails. God will not fail you! We need to put our trust in the Lord and nothing else! If you have been sharing with someone else about Jesus for a long time, don't give up! Keep praying for them and ask the Lord to reveal Himself to them.

- Who do you turn to when you are dealing with problems?
- What do you think it means to lean on your own understanding?
- List some things to help you to not lean on your own understanding.

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Trust: to put one's confidence in
Confidence: assurance, to believe in someone or something

God's Word

Text: Psalm 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path".

Also read: Proverbs 6:23

We learned earlier that Jesus Christ is the light in a world of darkness. When we ask Jesus to come into our hearts, our lives will begin to shine to others so that they will come out of the darkness and into God's glorious light. God wants us to continue to grow in Him. God has given us His Word so that we will be able to grow and be a light to others. The Bible is a lamp to our feet, kind of like a big flashlight. As we walk through this dark world, God's Word will light our paths so we will know how to walk and where to walk.

As we take each step, God gives us the light that we need. As we obey Jesus' commands He will continue to reveal to us His will for our lives. Light is kind of like wisdom. Just as we need light in order to see in a dark room, we need God's wisdom in order to see what is right in this dark world. In His Word, God promises to give us His wisdom whenever we need it. God will help us to understand more about Him and grow in Him as we continue to look into His wonderful Word.

Remember that we can find direction by reading and studying God's Word. We want to be witnesses in this world and in order for us to learn more we must read and meditate on God's Word. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God so we can be equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:16,17). Our lives can be a big flashlight for others to see the love of God when we spend time in God's Word and do those things we learn. This dark world needs to see the light of Jesus' love coming out of our lives.

- How often are you currently spending in God's Word?
- How can you learn more about "walking in the light" through God's Word?
- Read Psalm 1:1-3, and see how you can prosper.

The Calvary Kid Bible Dictionary



Wisdom: knowledge guided by understanding.

Meditate: to spend time in quiet thinking about God's Word.

Day Five

Overcoming Darkness

Text: Romans 5:8 - "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Also read: 1 John 1:5-7

The night seemed to be darker than usual. It was about 9:00 o'clock at night and Tommy's grandmother was walking down the street towards her house. She noticed five teenagers up ahead. She didn't know whether they were nice or not. She was kind of scared because there are so many bad things happening these days. Just the other day she read in the newspaper about a lady who was robbed at night. Horrible things started to enter her mind and she became very frightened and she started to panic. She then began to pray and ask the Lord to protect her.

She decided to stop under a street light and wait for them to pass. As they got close to the light she became so fearful that she started to scream out for help. Then the teenagers passed under the same street light and as they did she noticed that they were carrying books. "It is definitely too late for school," she thought to herself. Then she noticed that they were Bibles and learned they were just returning from a Bible study. Tommy's grandmother breathed a large sigh of relief. She actually felt embarrassed about what she was thinking. She said hello to the teenagers and they responded very kindly. In fact, they ended up walking her home. She was very thankful for her encounter with these boys.

Tommy's grandmother didn't know who the teenagers were or whether or not she was in danger until they were in the light. Sometimes we may come across situations in our lives when we won't know what to do or how to react. We need to bring that situation into God's light in order to understand what it is really about. We can test any situation to God's word and ask Him to help us to see what is really there. God's light will always expose the darkness, and depending on what we see, we can determine whether it is good for us or dangerous.

- Why was light so important to Tommy's grandmother?
- How can you tell whether or not something is good or bad?

Kid's Prayer Time



This week we can pray and thank the Lord for taking us out of darkness and providing Jesus Christ as our Light. We can also pray for others to see God's light and be saved.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade (paraphrased)

“But if we walk in the light
as He is in the light, we
have fellowship with one
another.”

Third Grade and Above

“But if we walk in the light
as He is in the light, we
have fellowship with one
another, and the blood of
Jesus Christ His Son
cleanses us from all sin.”

1 John 1:7