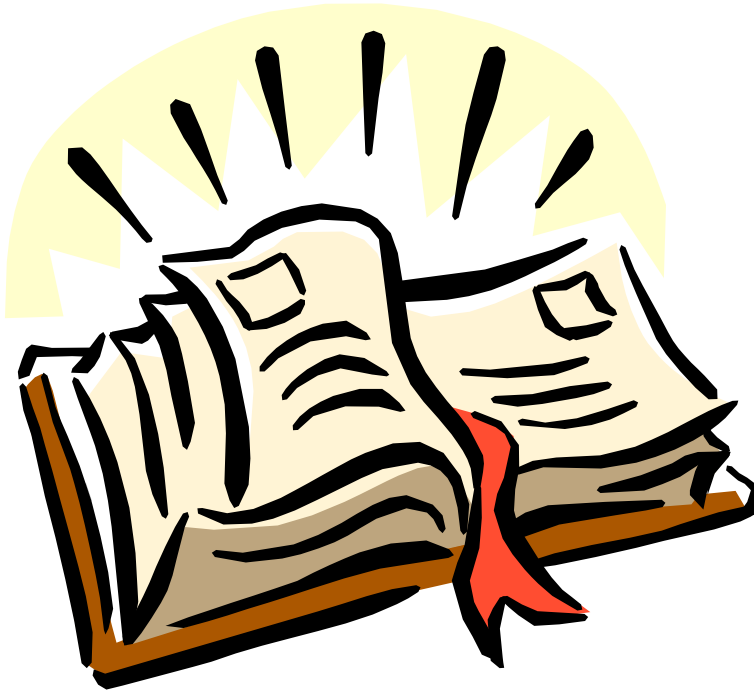


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: John Hears the Voice as of a Trumpet

THEME: God reveals Himself through Jesus.

SCRIPTURE: Revelation 1:9-19

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 **John hearing a voice from heaven that sounded like a trumpet**. John heard the voice of Jesus and received a special "revelation" from Jesus that he recorded in the book of Revelation for us to read. The theme this Sunday was "**God reveals Himself through Jesus Christ**." It's exciting to know that God is all powerful, all knowing, everywhere at once, and unchanging. As we see in the book of Revelation, God has primarily revealed Himself to man through His Son, Jesus Christ.

We will also see in our devotions this week that God reveals Himself to us through His creation and our conscience. We will also see that God speaks to us through His Word. How well do we listen to Him?

The section of scripture we studied was **Revelation 1:9-19**. 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 for your children.

May the Lord bless you as you study His Word together!

Day One

The Eternal Word

Text: John 1:1,2 - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.

Also read: Genesis 1:2, 26

This week in our devotions, we will be looking at how God reveals Himself to us. The main way God reveals Himself to us is through His Son Jesus Christ. Think for a moment about Christmas time; the fact that God came to this world and lived among us as a man is what Christmas is all about. God sent His son as a little baby in a manger to forever show His great love for every man, woman, boy and girl. Many of the things we learn about God we see in Jesus. We know that Jesus was PERFECT like His Father (1 Peter 2:22), LOVING like His Father (Matthew 19:14) and ETERNAL like His Father (John 1:1,2). We see God's great love for us shown by Jesus' sacrifice on the cross (1 Corinthians 15:3), and resurrection (coming back to life - Ephesians 1:20)!

In today's reading, we see that another name for Jesus is "the Word." A word is what we use to help others understand what we mean. If we want to let someone know something that we know we speak words to him or her. God uses words to talk to us. He speaks to us in the Bible and He also speaks to us through His son Jesus who is the "Word of God who became flesh" (John 1:14). In other words, Jesus shows us who God is because He is God. Whenever we want to know who God is we can look to Jesus and find out. His life speaks all day long about whom God is. We can also have a relationship with God through Jesus. All we have to do is believe in Him and we can have a relationship with the Father.

The Bible says that Jesus was with the Father and the Holy Spirit during the creation. The Word (Jesus) has always been with the Father. So when the time was right Jesus came as a baby and showed us who God is and what He is like. Jesus once told His disciples, "If you have seen Me you have seen the Father (John 14:9)." If you want to know what God is like, look to Jesus!

- Why do we use words?
- How has Jesus helped you to understand God?
- Do you have some of the characteristics of Jesus? If so, do others see them in you?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Eternal: Everlasting, without end.

The Word: In the Bible "the Word" is referring to Jesus Christ.

Day Two

"My Lord and My God"

Text: John 20:28 - "And Thomas answered and said to Him, 'My Lord and my God!'"

Also read John 20:19-29

Imagine being one of the disciples who walked with Jesus for three years and got to see all of His miracles and listen to His teaching. You walked along the same paths and saw Him as He fed the 5,000 and calmed the sea. And during that time you heard Him talk about a kingdom not of this world. You then watched Him die a very cruel death being nailed to a cross. It would be hard to fully understand everything going on, but suppose you heard the news that Jesus was alive again. That some of your friends said they saw Him alive, but you find it too hard to believe for yourself. You can believe everything else, but not that Jesus had risen from the dead.

This is what happened to Thomas. He heard that Jesus was alive again, but it was just too hard for him to believe. So he told the others that the only way that he would believe that Jesus was alive was to put his own hand into the scar of the nail prints and the scar where Jesus was pierced on His side. Until then he wouldn't believe. So Jesus came and appeared to the disciples and He asked Thomas to look at and feel His nail prints and the scar on His side. Immediately Thomas believed and made the statement, "My Lord and my God!"

The fact that Jesus came back from the dead reveals that He has power over death. He died for all of us, but death could not keep Him in the grave. Only God has power over life and death. This shows to us that Jesus is God and He shows us who God is. We need to put our trust in the One who has power over the grave, Jesus.

- Why do you think Thomas doubted?
- How does Jesus coming back from being dead show us who God is?
- Who can you tell about Jesus?

Kid's Bible Activity



Using a piece of paper draw a picture of a face. Put on the face the expression you think Thomas had when he realized that Jesus really did rise from the dead. Under the face write "My Lord and My God!" Hang this up to remind you about today's devotion.

Are You Listening?

Text: Revelation 1:10 - "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet"

Also read: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

Mrs. Johnson was sitting by the fire drinking a cup of tea and reading her new book. Her son, Tommy came inside the house and said he would be next door playing video games with his friend Michael. Mrs. Johnson was so involved with her new book she nodded yes without really hearing what Tommy said. After a couple of hours of reading, Mrs. Johnson realized she needed to prepare for dinner. She called for Tommy but was unable to find him. She looked outside, in the garage, out in the back yard, in the front yard, and inside of her house. There was no sign of Tommy.

She noticed Tommy's bike and roller blades were still in the garage. "Where did Tommy go?" she thought to herself. Mrs. Johnson started to get nervous. Tommy had never been gone for this long without making contact with her. Mrs. Johnson phoned her husband at the office and then got into her car and drove around the block. There was no sign of Tommy. She was really terrified now. She thought that something terrible might have happened to him. When she arrived home she entered the kitchen. She decided to make calls to all of his friends. Just then, she noticed there was an empty milk carton on the counter top alongside a bag of cookies. Tommy was in the living room sitting on the couch. "Tommy!!!!" exclaimed Mrs. Johnson, "Where have you been?" Tommy looked puzzled, "I have been over at Michael's just like I told you a few hours ago." "You did?" said Mrs. Johnson. "Yes I did", said Tommy, "you were reading your book and nodded that it was okay." "I guess I had better listen a little better next time," Mrs. Johnson said.

How well do we listen? Mrs. Johnson had to learn a valuable lesson about listening. Thankfully everything turned out okay. It is important for parents to listen, but it is even more important for us to listen to our parents and the Lord. God reveals Himself and His will for our lives in the Bible. We need to read His Word and ask Him to help us obey and do the things He says. We can also ask Him to help us to listen. Don't let other things distract you or keep you from listening to the Lord.

- What things keep you from listening to God or your parents?
- Pray and ask the Lord to help you to read and meditate on (listen to) His Word.

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Listen - To hear and understand what is being said.

Are You Contagious?

Text: 1 Chronicles 29:11 - "Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, The power and the glory, The victory and the majesty; For all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, And You are exalted as head over all."

Also read: Galatians 5:22-25

Jenny and Michelle were home from school, sick with the chicken pox. About one week ago both girls were exposed to a friend from their school who ended up breaking out everywhere with little red bumps. It turned out to be chicken pox. They had never had chicken pox yet, so they thought for sure they would get them and sure enough they did. Michelle started to wonder about how she could 'catch' the chicken pox but could not 'catch' something like freckles.

Michelle asked her father about where freckles come from and where chicken pox comes from. Michelle's father explained that whenever you have an illness like a cold or chicken pox, they are "contagious." This means you catch a virus or germ of some kind and can give it to someone else. Freckles are "non-contagious," which means they are something you are born with. You either have or don't have them based on the type of skin that you have.

Did you know there are certain characteristics of God that Christians can catch and pass on to others? God's contagious traits are things like love, patience and kindness. God's non-contagious traits are those that God alone possesses. Only God is all-powerful, all-knowing, everywhere at once, and unchangeable. We do not want to catch the chicken pox, but we certainly want to catch God's characteristics. But how can we? By being filled with the Holy Spirit. Then we will produce the fruit of the Spirit and can spread it to others who touch our lives. This is another way God reveals Himself to others, through our lives as believers living for Him.

- Do you possess any of God's contagious traits? Which ones?
- If you are contagious with God's traits go and infect the world. If you are not contagious then ask the Lord to fill you with the Holy Spirit and help you to be contagious.

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Trait: A distinguishing characteristic or quality of one's personality or nature.

Day Five

God is Revealed Through His Word

Text: 2 Timothy 3:16- "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

Also read: 2 Peter 1:19-21

We have learned this week that God reveals Himself to us through Jesus Christ and His Word. We read in 2 Timothy 3:16 that all Scripture is given by inspiration of God. There are many ways God could have spoken to us. He could have used the roar of thunder or the language of the angels, or even through a loud speaker system in the sky. But rather, God chose to use ordinary people, like us, to write His words down so we would understand and obey them. The writers that God used to write the Bible did not think up the words on their own; they were directed by the Holy Spirit to write God's words.

We see God through His truth. We need to read His Word and meditate on what we read. If we were to read scripture in the morning and then run outside to play without thinking on what we just read, how would that scripture get into our heart? We need to take the time to read and meditate on God's Word so we can grow in our relationship with the Lord.

If we were to snack on candy and soda all day long, would our bodies have the right nourishment for growth? We need to eat food that has a balance of nutrition in order for growth to happen. The Bible is our spiritual nutrition for growth in God. If we were to hurry up and read without thinking or meditating on God's Word we would starve spiritually. Read God's Word every day. Take extra time to think about God's Word and pray.

- How often do you read and meditate on God's Word?
- Why is it so important for us to read our Bibles?
- Are you listening to what God has to say?

Kid's Prayer Time



There are a lot of ways God reveals Himself to us. We need to sit at His feet and listen to His direction for our lives. Take time when you pray to think about what you have read and how to make application to your life. Ask God to reveal Himself to you through His word.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade (paraphrased)

"I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore."

Third Grade and Above

"I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death."

Revelation 1:18