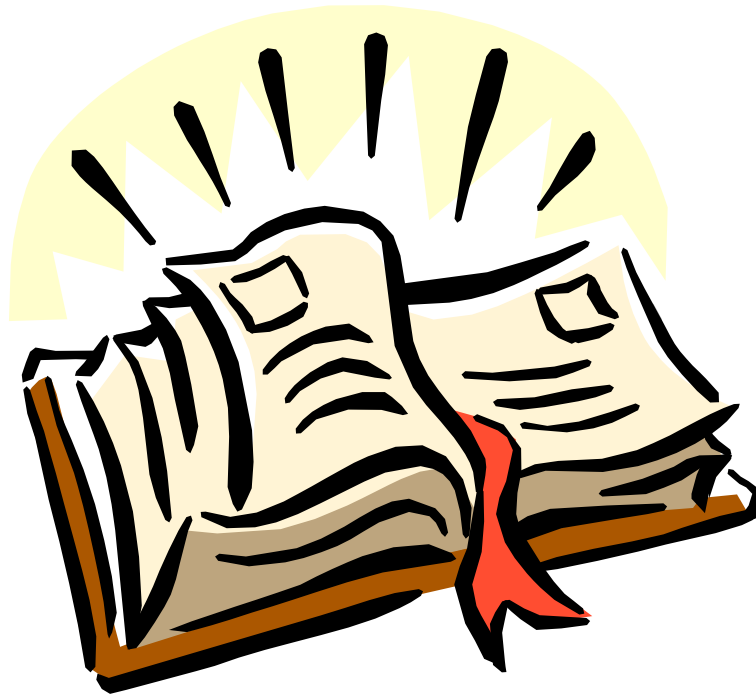


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: Feeding the 5,000

THEME: Jesus makes possible the impossible.

SCRIPTURE: John 6:1-14

Dear Parents...

Welcome to Bible Time for Kids! Bible Time for Kids is a series of daily devotions (five per week) for children and their families through which we hope to reinforce Sunday's lesson, provide ideas for the application of God's Word, and encourage your children to develop a daily devotional life. Since the age of your child will affect how they respond to the content, we suggest you make them age appropriate by adding your own ideas.

In the lesson this week, we learned about the time when **Jesus fed over 5,000** people with only two loaves of bread and two fishes (**John 6:1-14**). We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. It is exciting to know **the God who can do the impossible**. Even when it seems like a situation may be impossible, God can always change that situation and help His children.

Whether it is multiplying fishes and loaves or calming storms, Jesus is very much in control. He wants us to know that and trust in Him with any problem that may come into our lives. He loves His children very much, and He loves to help us. What a blessing to be able to serve such a great God.

We hope you and your family will be blessed as you study God's Word together.

The Lord Will Provide, Part One

Text: Exodus 15:25 - "So he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. There He made a statute and an ordinance for them. And there He tested them,"

Also read Exodus 15:22-27

Tommy knew his dad was home more than usual these days. Sometimes, late at night, from his bedroom, he could hear his mom and dad praying and talking. He knew his parents were worried about something, so one day he asked his dad what was wrong. Tommy's dad was quiet for a minute and then he told Tommy he had to find a new job. The place where he worked had closed.

Tommy wanted to help his dad. He asked, "What can I do, Dad?" "You can pray and ask Jesus to provide a new job for me and to provide what we need to live each day," Dad replied. "God will never let us down!" Tommy and his dad prayed right then. After praying, Dad assured Tommy, "The Lord is our provider, and nobody loves us more than Him."

Tommy's dad told him about the story of the children of Israel, when they left Egypt to go to the Promised Land. "God had parted the Red Sea, you remember the story, but then they had to trust the Lord to lead them through the desert. After leaving the banks of the Red Sea, the children of Israel wandered three days in the wilderness, finding no water. Because they were walking, it was not possible to carry more water than would last them a few days. So after three days, the people were thirsty and worried; the only water they could find was bitter. But Moses, their leader, cried to God for help and God supplied them with good water, miraculously changing the bitter water to sweet. Our God can lead us through the raging waters of the sea, and He can lead us through the dry desert. God takes care of His children." Just then they heard a knock on their door. A man was there who asked to use the phone. His truck had a flat tire, and he needed some help. He had to get a load of vegetables to the store before they went bad. Tommy and his dad offered to help and soon the truck was up and running again. The man was very thankful, and he gave Tommy's dad several bags of vegetables from the truck for helping him. **(Continued on Day Two)**

- Do you think Tommy's dad trusted in the Lord? Why?
- Did the children of Israel trust God? Did Moses?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Statutes and Ordinances: Rules, laws or commandments.

The Lord Will Provide, Part Two

Text: Exodus 16:15 - "So when the children of Israel saw it, they said to one another, 'What is it?' For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, 'This is the bread which the LORD has given you to eat.'"

Also read Exodus 16

(Continued from Day One) Tommy knew that his dad needed to find work, but it was nice having him home so much. They were able to have some special times together. They would pray together for God's provision and for God to help Tommy's dad find a job.

The man with the vegetable truck, Mr. Stedman, really liked Tommy's family, and since they had helped him with his flat tire, he came by every few days to leave the vegetables he couldn't sell for Tommy's family. Tommy's dad and mom praised God for the man's kindness. "The vegetables were 'manna' from heaven, a simple provision from an awesome Lord," Mom said. The family prayed for Mr. Stedman daily. They knew Mr. Stedman was not a Christian and had never been to church. Tommy's dad continued to tell the story of God's provision to the children of Israel while they wandered through the desert. "God brought food to them every single morning, except on the Sabbath. Even then, God did not forget His children. The day before the Sabbath, He would have the Israelites collect a double portion, so they would be able to honor Him by resting on that day."

Mr. Stedman, occasionally, came by during Bible time; Tommy's mom would invite him to share the family meal; and while waiting, he would listen to the Bible stories. It was a great opportunity for the family to share about the love of Jesus. Tommy's dad would discuss and read other parts of the Bible to Mr. Stedman after the family meal. One day, Mr. Stedman accepted Jesus as his Savior and everyone rejoiced. The next few weeks, Mr. Stedman did not come by. Tommy's family continued to pray for their friend. Early one morning, Mr. Stedman knocked on the door. He told the family how busy he had been in his business and that he needed someone to help him drive a new vegetable truck to the stores. He asked Tommy's dad to help out by coming to work with him. The family thanked the Lord together for His provision.

- How did Tommy's dad encourage his family?
- Why do you think Mr. Stedman wanted to accept Jesus as his Savior?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Manna: Food that God provided for the Israelites while in the desert.

Time for Homework

Text: Matthew 6:6- "But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly."

Also read Matthew 6:1-14

Jenny thought she would never get through her math homework. There were just too many problems and not enough time. She tried hard to understand her math, but she just was not getting it. Her parents were very understanding and tried to help her as much as possible. but, they were firm about her bedtime. Jenny looked at the clock. Only twenty minutes remained! Soon, her father would come upstairs and tuck her in for bedtime prayers. Discouraged, she dropped her head into her folded arms on the desk.

Jenny remembered her Bible lesson about Jesus feeding thousands of people with only a little bit of bread and fishes. Her heart lightened. She thought, "If Jesus could make the loaves and fishes multiply, He can make my time multiply."

"Maybe I should pray," she thought. She began, "If only I had just a few more minutes, Lord. You see all these math problems and you know how long it takes me. Help me understand all this math, and could you give me more time like You multiplied the fish and the loaves on the mountain? Please be with me, Lord. In Jesus Name. Amen."

She went back to her math feeling better. She picked up her pencil and began to tackle the next problem. She clearly understood it. She understood the next one, too, and the next! Her pencil moved across the paper quickly. Jenny was just finishing the last problem when her father opened the door. She was so happy. She looked at the clock and realized she had finished at her exact bedtime. Jenny told her father about her prayer and how Jesus had answered. She told him how the time seemed to stand still while she was working, something most people would think impossible. Her dad was happy that Jenny had trusted the Lord and seen Him do the "impossible." Together, they thanked the Lord for His help.

- Do you have an "impossible" problem you can bring to Jesus?
- Can you think of some prayers God has answered for you? What about Mom and Dad?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Prayer: Talking with the Lord.

Day Four

It's Not My Time!

Text: John 10:39 - "Therefore they sought again to seize Him, but He escaped out of their hand."

Also read John 10:22-42

Gabriel was in a terrible situation at school. Some boys had been cheating by looking at his schoolwork, and they said they would cause him big trouble if he didn't let them copy his homework on Monday morning. Gabriel did not like being threatened, and he knew it was wrong and unfair for him to do the work and the other boys to just copy his work. He spent all day Saturday trying to decide if he should just "give in" and let them cheat or tell the teacher. Either choice could cause him a lot of trouble! Finally, he remembered his mom's advice, "Always take your troubles to God." Gabriel got on his knees and prayed for God's wisdom in the problem.

On Sunday, Gabriel's lesson was about Jesus teaching in the temple. Jesus had been teaching the people, and they were amazed at the way He taught and the miracles He had performed. However, some of the Jews were doubtful about Jesus. Surrounding Him, they demanded, "If You are the Christ, tell us plainly." Jesus answered them by saying that His sheep know His voice, and He gives them eternal life. He stated, "I and My Father one." They were so angry they took up stones to kill Jesus. But, God had other plans for Jesus. Right before their eyes, Jesus escaped completely from the mob and went to teach others. Gabriel was very quiet during the lesson. He knew that God was speaking to his heart, encouraging him. He went home and prayed.

That afternoon, he called the boys who were causing the problems and asked them to come over. They came! Gabriel was a little scared as he passed out some snacks. He got out his study books and told the boys he would help them by showing them some good ways to study. He promised the boys they would know everything he did about studying when he was done, but they had to promise to come over to his house after school so he could help them. Gabriel was amazed that the boys took him up on the offer and by the end of the year they all became great friends. Gabriel thanked the Lord for being the God of the impossible!

- What helped Gabriel stop worrying about his difficult situation at school?
- Who can protect us from harm?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Seize: To take hold of.

Day Five

The Widow and the Stranger

Text: 1 Kings 17:16 - "The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the LORD which He spoke by Elijah."

Also read 1 Kings 17:8-16

The woman was having a hard time since her husband had died. She had a son to take care of and worked very hard to feed him. She traveled far to find fields where there was extra grain left after the harvest. The summer had been hot and dry with no rain to soothe the thirsty land. Even wood was scarce, and all of the olive trees had been picked clean of the olives that make oil to cook with.

One very hot evening, the woman was gathering whatever bits and pieces of wood that she could, so she could cook her very last bit of food for her son. Tears and sweat ran down her face when, suddenly, a shadow fell on her as she picked up the last little piece of wood. She looked up and saw a man, a stranger to Zarephath, standing by her, near the gate to the city. He called to her asking for a cup of water and a bit of bread. She could tell from the man's clothing he was an Israelite. She explained that she only had a bit of flour for bread and her firewood was for the last meal she and her son would eat. It had been a long day and she had found no grain for many days. In fact, in her mind, this was going to be her and her son's last meal because there was no food to be found.

The man spoke kindly and told her not to be afraid, but to go about with her preparations for her and her son *after* she prepared him a cake. The stranger told her that his God, the LORD God of Israel, would refill her barrel of meal and her bottle of oil until the drought was over. The woman thought for a minute about the stranger's God. She had heard many things of this Lord, how He cared and protected His people. Would He care for her too? Could this impossible miracle really happen? Should she trust this God of Israel? She did as this man named Elijah asked. Each day, she would go to the barrel; and each day, there was just enough to eat. Each day she poured the oil from the empty bottle. She had been visited by a prophet of God and had learned to trust in and to praise the true and living God. Do you trust in the Lord?

- Who made the food last in the barrel and the oil last in the bottle?
- What did the widow learn from this experience?

Kid's Prayer Time



As you pray, remember to thank God for all the wonderful things He has done for you in the past. Pray your life will bring glory to God as you trust Him for His wonderful works in the future.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**"This is truly the Prophet
who is to come into the
world."**

Third Grade and Above

**"Then those men, when
they had seen the sign
that Jesus did, said, 'This
is truly the Prophet who is
to come into the world.'"**

John 6:14b