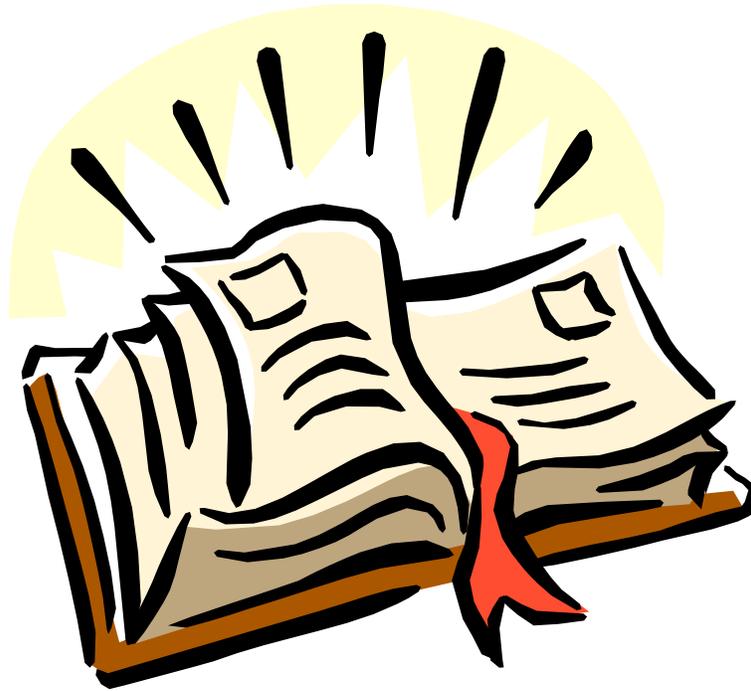


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: Jesus Walks on Water

THEME: We need to completely trust in Jesus.

SCRIPTURE: Mark 6:45-52

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 walked on the water (Mark 6:45-52)**. We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. Jesus' disciples learned they could put their trust completely in Him—the One who had control over the wind and the sea. We, too, will grow in our confidence that Jesus can see us through any storm as we grow in the understanding of His great power and love for us.

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

Day One

Row, Row, Row Your Boat!

Text: 1 John 2:3 - "Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments."

Also read 1 John 2:3-6

As a kid, I would sing the song, "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" over and over again without ever getting tired of it. I could even sing it together with a friend. One of us would sing the first part and the other the last, at the same time. Oh was that fun! I wonder if maybe the disciples were singing such a song as they were rowing across the Sea of Galilee! They had plenty of time to sing a few rounds. The Bible tells us that as they were rowing the boat, the wind was pushing them back to the place they had started. Why didn't they just give up and go back? Couldn't they just tell Jesus that it was too hard?

The disciples were going to the other side of the sea because Jesus told them to. They were being obedient to his command. It was not easy; in fact, it was extremely hard. But, they were not going to quit rowing that boat until it got to the other side. Jesus saw they were struggling, and He went out to them. He calmed the sea and helped them get to the other side.

Had the disciples "given up," quit trying, they would not have seen God's power and help to make it through to the other side. God is watching our lives. As we seek to obey Him, He sees our struggles and knows when things are becoming too tough for us! At the right time, He will step in with His great power and help. In Isaiah 40:29-31a we read, "He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, but those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength..." How important that we not "give up" and miss seeing God's power and help in action in our own lives! Let us keep "row, row, rowing" our boats, doing what God asks us to do. Jesus will make sure our boat gets to the other side!

- Did the disciples follow Jesus' command?
- How did the disciples make it to the other side?
- What would the disciples have missed had they "given up"?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Commandment: A rule or command given by God that applies to all people everywhere.

Day Two

“Trust Me, I Know What I’m Doing!”

Text: **Matthew 14:29** - “So He said, ‘Come.’ And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus.”

Also read Matthew 14:22-33

Years ago, there was a TV program about a police detective that always got into trouble. He always acted like he knew just what to do, as though he was confident he had “all” the answers. Before “messing” something up, his famous line was “Trust me, I know what I’m doing.” In reality, he was probably the last one to know what he was doing!

Peter reminds us of the “trust me, I know what I’m doing” guy. He often jumped out and did something or said something before he had really thought it through. This was one time, though, that Peter knew what he was doing! He did the right thing! He called out to Jesus to let him walk on water. He put his trust in Jesus and was willing to step out of the boat to prove it! He was a great example to the other disciples and a great example to us.

God wants us to trust Him to do the “impossible” in our lives. Perhaps you feel God would like you to share the love of Jesus with a friend, and it feels scary to do so. Perhaps doing the right thing even though your friends will laugh at you seems scary. Maybe, your parents feel God wants them to move to a new state or enter the mission field, and you must trust God to help you make new friends and settle in! Maybe, we cannot see “how” God will help us, but He wants us to trust Him like Peter—to be able to get out our boats and walk to Him on the water. Our boats may make us feel comfortable and safe; but sometimes, Jesus is not in our boat. He is out there in the water waiting for us to step out and trust Him. If our eyes are on the rough waters outside the boat, we will become frightened. Let us keep our eyes on Jesus. The One who helped Peter walk on water will help us!

- What “right” thing did Peter do in our story, today?
- How can we show the same kind of faith?
- When Peter stepped out the boat to walk on water, who was holding him up?

Kid Bible Dictionary



Trust: Confidence in and reliance upon, faith in, belief in, hope in, dependence upon.

Miracles, Miracles, Miracles

Text: **Mark 6:51** - "Then He went up into the boat to them, and the wind ceased. And they were greatly amazed in themselves beyond measure, and marveled."

Also read Mark 6:32-56

If something is impossible, it cannot be done. Sometimes, we are mistaken about what is really impossible. For example, people once thought it was impossible to fly to the moon, but now we are sending ships out to Mars! But, Jesus truly did the "impossible," and He did it many times. The impossible things that Jesus did are called miracles. In our Bible reading, we see that Jesus did not one, not two, but three miracles in the same day!

Let's take a brief look at the miracles to make sure they were truly miraculous. First, Jesus fed five thousand men, plus their wives and children. He did it with only five loaves of bread and two fish. How could five thousand men have dinner with only five loaves of bread and two fish? Of course, it had to be a miracle. No man could do this, not in a million years. Second, Jesus walked on water. How easy does that sound? It had to be a miracle. Third, Jesus stopped the wind. Have you ever tried to command the wind to stop? It is impossible for us to stop the wind. It had to be a miracle!

Only God can do all those things. With miracles, signs, and wonders, Jesus proved He was God in the flesh! Do you understand that God is a God of miracles? In Luke 1:37 we read, "For with God nothing will be impossible." When you get into a tough, "impossible" type situation, it is important to know God can do the miraculous. There is no problem too big or tough for Him! *Nothing* is impossible for Him!

- What does "impossible" mean?
- Name the three miracles that Jesus did on the same day.
- How does knowing that Jesus can do miracles help you?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Miracle: An act of God or a deed done by God's power that cannot naturally happen.

Do Not Be Afraid

Text: 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

Also read 2 Timothy 1:6-12

When I was a young child, I would sometimes have scary dreams. I took great comfort in the fact that my parents were right down the hall. Yet, there were times that having them down the hall was not enough, so I would get up and go into their room. As soon as I got into their bed, I knew I was safe. It was as though I had reached a safe zone—a place or area where I thought nothing could harm me. This is probably the way that Jesus' disciples felt when God took care of their scary situation.

Do you remember the story? The disciples were stuck out in the boat on the Sea of Galilee with nothing but paddles to try to push against a windy, stormy sea. Looking across the sea, they saw a dark figure moving toward the boat. They cried out with fear, "It's a ghost." But, soon their fears were relieved. Jesus called out to them, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." Jesus entered the boat and caused the wind to cease. Not only were their fears relieved, the Bible says the disciples were "greatly amazed." They were in awe of Jesus' great power.

The disciples came to see and trust Jesus in a whole new way that night. They marveled at His great power—power to deliver them, power to calm the sea. We, too, can trust Jesus to calm the stormy and scary times of our lives. Jesus is aboard our little boat. In Matthew 28:20 Jesus said, "...lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age...." Having Jesus in our boat is way more comforting than having Mom and Dad down the hall! Jesus is the ultimate "safe zone." There is no storm or scary situation that Jesus cannot handle. We need not fear. Instead, next time you face a scary situation, trust God and prepare yourself be "greatly amazed" and stand in awe of God's great power.

- Why were the disciples afraid?
- What happened when Jesus got in the boat?
- What should you do when you are afraid?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Fear: To be frightened or have a sense of danger.

Lord Over the Wind

Text: Matthew 8:27 - "So the men marveled, saying, 'Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?'"

Also read Matthew 8:23-27

Watching an earthquake shake a building like a musician would shake a tambourine, seeing a tornado pick up a car and throw it up hundreds of feet into the air, or looking at the devastation and destruction a hurricane has caused—all are a definite reminders of the awesome, and at times, frightening, power of nature. Yet, the disciples learned one day, on the Sea of Galilee, there is One who feels no threat by the awesome power of nature. He can restrain the power of nature with a simple command.

You know the story! While the disciples were rowing their boat across the Sea of Galilee at night with a wind blowing hard against them, they saw Jesus coming to them walking on the water. Jesus had seen them struggling. No doubt the disciples were tired and frustrated, so He came. When Jesus got in the boat, the wind ceased. The disciples had just witnessed Jesus feeding 5,000 with five loaves and two fish; now, they learned that God can bring the wind and sea into obedience—He has power over nature!

Throughout the Psalms and many other places in the Old Testament, God encourages His children to trust Him as we remember the power He has demonstrated over nature. He reminds us He created the Heavens and the earth. He reminds us of His wonderful, miraculous acts among us as He parted the Red Sea and rained manna from Heaven. In Psalm 77, Asaph was encouraged in His difficult time as He remembered "...the works of the Lord," God's "...wonders of old." His spirit lifted as he proclaimed, "Who is so great a God as our God? You are the God who does wonders; You have declared Your strength among the peoples." He continues through the psalm to describe the great power of God: "The waters saw You, O God...they were afraid; The depths also trembled... Your way was in the sea, Your path in the great waters...You led Your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron."

When you face a difficult situation, let God remind you of his awesome power. Even, the winds and sea obey the voice of their Creator. There is no limit to His power to help us.

- Who is more powerful than an earthquake, a tornado, or a hurricane?
- Why do you think God wants us to remember the greatness of His power?

Kid's Prayer Time



Thank the Lord for His mighty power and that we can always trust Him, no matter how scary out situation might seem.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**"Be of good cheer!
It is I; do not be
afraid."**

Third Grade and Above

**"Be of good cheer!
It is I; do not be
afraid."**

Mark 6:50b