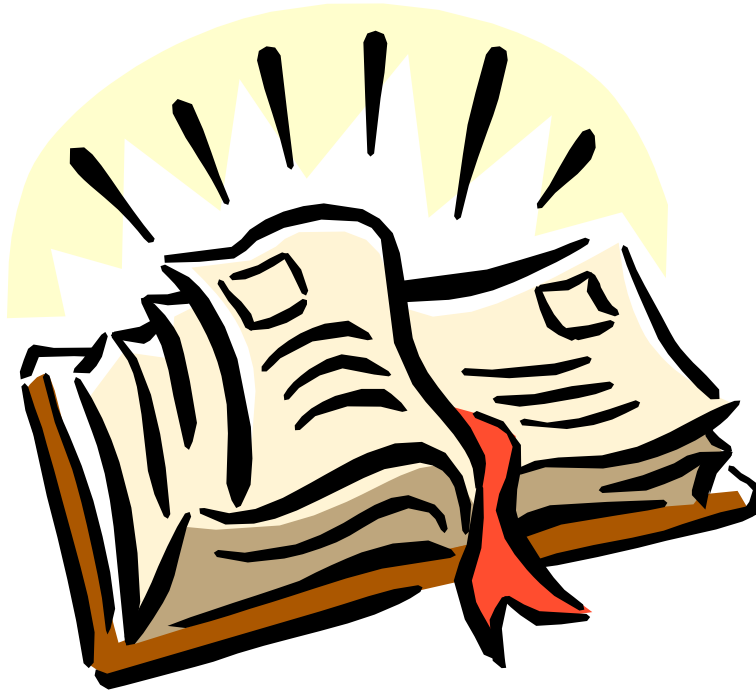


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

**LESSON TITLE: Jesus Cleanses the Temple
again**



**THEME: We are the temple of the Holy
Spirit.**

SCRIPTURE: Luke 19:45-48

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 we learned about **Jesus Cleansing the Temple Again**. The theme was "**We are the temple of the Holy Spirit.**" This is the second time in the Bible that we see Jesus cleansing the temple. There is a lot that can be learned in this story. Especially that we are the temple of the Holy Spirit today. That means that God's presence is always with us, but it also means that we have a responsibility to keep our temples clean as we represent Jesus.

For children they can begin to learn that they are the temple of the Holy Spirit when they ask Jesus into their heart. We can worship the Lord at any time. We don't have to be in a certain place to worship. What a blessing it that the Lord desires to have this kind of relationship with us!

The section of scripture that we studied was **Luke 19:45-48**. 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!

Living in a Tent

Text: Exodus 25:22 - "And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are on the ark of the Testimony, about everything which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel."

Also read Exodus 25:1-22

God loves to be with His people. He has always loved to be with His people. God has never needed a house, but God gave a plan to Moses to build a place for Him to live with His people after He led them out of Egypt. Have you ever been camping in a tent? God's instruction to Moses was a plan for a great big tent, called a tabernacle. God dwelt in the tabernacle for many, many years after that. There was even a special place for the Lord to sit upon, called the Ark of the Covenant. God gave Moses this plan to help the people understand how close the Lord desired to be to His children.

God asked that all of the things that the tabernacle was to be made from come out of offerings from His people. It is important to God that the offerings are given freely, from the heart. God did not force anyone to give to the building of the tabernacle or the things in it. He wants us, too, to give to Him freely from our hearts.

God still loves to be with us. He loves to hear us pray and he loves to help us to learn about Him. God no longer dwells in a tent in order to be around us. We can have God living inside of our hearts if we ask Him to. In fact our hearts are now the temple or tabernacle of the Holy Spirit. Imagine that, God living in your heart! When we ask Jesus to be our Lord and Savior we are asking God to make His home inside of us. Jesus would love to make His home inside your heart.

- Did you know how much God wanted to live near His people?
- Would you like to always live near Jesus?
- Did you know Jesus would make your heart His home if you just ask Him?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Tabernacle: A tent; the dwelling place of the Lord from the time of Moses until Solomon built the temple in Jerusalem. God now dwells in the hearts of those who ask Jesus to be their Savior.

Day Two

Time to Clean Your Room

Text: John 2:16 - "And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!"

Also read John 2:13-25

What is your most favorite thing to do? Did anyone choose cleaning your room as a favorite thing to do? Well, that may not be your favorite thing to do, but it is a very important thing to do. We need to have a clean room so we can live in it. It is good to be responsible with the things that Jesus gives us.

Jesus loved all of God's people and He wanted them to know how important it was to keep God's house clean or sacred. Jesus loved the temple of God. The temple was where people would come to bring their offerings to the Lord. But some of the leaders had found a way to make money from the offering people would give to God. These men were called "moneychangers." There was special "temple money" that people needed to use to purchase a sacrifice. They had to trade in their regular money to get the "temple money". The money changers would charge the people extra when they exchanged or traded in their regular money into "temple money." These moneychangers were getting rich while God's people suffered. This is what made Jesus angry.

Jesus wanted all of God's people to come into contact with God when they came to His house. The moneychangers made people hate to come to God's house to worship Him. Two times Jesus went to the temple and threw out the people who were making a profit from the worship of God. Jesus knew it was important to show that God's house was not a moneymaking business. Jesus was cleaning up the temple.

Since our hearts are the temple of God, how important it is to keep our hearts pure. We need to ask Jesus to get rid of anything in our hearts that is not pleasing to Him.

- Why did Jesus want to clean up the temple?
- If our hearts are dirty, what do you think can clean them?
- How does our heart get dirty?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Temple: God's "house"; a place of worship; a sanctuary that is used for worship.

A Fire and a Cloud

Text: 1 Corinthians 3:16 - "Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?"

Also read 1 Corinthians 3:5-23

It is exciting to know that when we become Christians that the Holy Spirit lives inside of us. Our bodies become a temple of the Holy Spirit. That means that wherever we go and whatever we do God, through the Holy Spirit, is always with us. If there is anything scary that happens to us we know that God is with us. Jesus told His disciples and us that He would never leave us or forsake us. When He went back to heaven He said that He would never leave us alone, but that He would give us a comforter, someone to help us. That is the Holy Spirit.

In the time of Moses, we saw that God's presence was with His people all of the time. At night His presence was a pillar of fire. He would give His people light and warmth. The people could always look at the fire and know that God was with them. Even when things may have looked scary around them, they knew that God was always with them. During the day the people would see a cloud. It was God providing shade for His people and direction for their lives. Whenever the cloud would move, the people knew that it was time to move to another place. This is really a picture of what the Holy Spirit does in our lives. He protects us, leads us to truth, comforts us, helps us and shows us where He wants us to go in our lives.

No matter what happens, when we ask Jesus into our life, the Holy Spirit is always with us. But also, because the Holy Spirit lives inside of our hearts, we should always desire to obey the Lord. We never want to make the Holy Spirit sad by taking Him places that we shouldn't be or doing things we shouldn't do. Did you know that we could make the Holy Spirit sad? By not doing the things that please God, the Holy Spirit can be grieved or made sad. Let's always remember that God, the Holy Spirit live in us. What a blessing to know He is with us all of the time!

- Why did Jesus send the Holy Spirit?
- What are some ways that the Holy Spirit comforts us?
- Is your heart a temple of the Holy Spirit?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Grieve the Holy Spirit: To make the Holy Spirit sad by our actions or neglect.

Walking in the Spirit

Text: **Leviticus 26:12** - "I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people."

Also read Leviticus 26:3-46

God made a promise many years ago to the children of Israel that He would bless them and give them favor if they would walk with Him. He said that He would walk among His people and be their God. Could you imagine how safe and secure His people must have felt knowing that God was walking among them? There would be no one that could hurt them. They would always be safe. Are there times that you sometimes feel afraid? Did you know that you don't have to be afraid because God is still walking among His people today? And not only does He walk among them, but also He lives inside of His people.

Have you ever heard of the term "walking in the Spirit?" It is found in Galatians 5:25. It really means that we live our lives every day under the direction of the Holy Spirit. We pray and read our Bibles and find out what the Lord wants for our lives today. We then choose to obey and follow God's ways. We say "no" to our wants and desires and say "yes" to what the Lord wants in our lives. We don't have to walk or live anymore being selfish or unkind, but we can become more and more like Jesus every day. The great thing is that the Holy Spirit gives us the power to live like Jesus.

Every day we have a choice. Even when we are God's children He doesn't force us to walk with Him every day. We must desire to walk with Him and to grow in Him. We will always find that we get into trouble when we don't listen to God. Kind of like when you don't listen to mom and dad at times, it will always lead to trouble. God wants to bless our lives and when we allow the Holy Spirit to lead us everyday we will live a wonderful life!

- What did God mean when He said He would walk among His people?
- What is "walking in the Spirit?"
- How do we walk in the Spirit?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Walking in the Spirit: Allowing the Holy Spirit every day to have control over our lives and to help us to become more like Jesus.

Day Five

Let My Light Shine!

Text: 2 Corinthians 6:16 - "And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

Also read 2 Corinthians 6:11-18

Imagine that you had a candle that was lit. What would happen if you took that candle and dropped it into a pool of water? Do you think that it would stay lit? But what if you made a raft to set the candle upon and then floated the candle out into the pool? Would the candle stay lit then? This example is a good way of describing how we should look at this world and other people who are not Christians. Knowing that our bodies are the temples of God we want to remain pure and holy, but God has also called us to be light in a dark world.

If we were to take the light of Jesus and jump into this world or if we were to begin to act like and do all of the things that people who are not Christians do, it will not be long before our light dies off. It will be drowned out by everything around us. If we lie or speak unkindly or steal from someone no one will see Jesus in us. No one will know that we are different because of Him. Like the candle being dropped into the water our light will be put out.

But if we live every day knowing that we are in this world and need to love people who don't know about Jesus, and don't do those things that non Christians might do then our lights can shine. Like the candle on the raft. It floats on top of the water and allows the light to shine, but the light is not put out. The raft is like Jesus. When we rest in Him and allow Him to work in our lives He will hold us up in this world and help us to shine for Him. Let's remember that we live in this world, but it is not our home. We are to be different, but the kind of different that makes people want to know more about Jesus.

- Why would it be important not to act the same as a non-Christian?
- How should we live in this world?

Kid's Prayer Time



This week as you pray be sure to thank the Lord for giving us His Holy Spirit. Thank Him for dwelling in us, comforting us and leading us into His truth. Pray that the Lord would help you to grow in Him and use you to be a light for Him in a dark world..

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**"My house is a house of
prayer."**

Third Grade and Above

**"...It is written, 'My
house is a house of
prayer,' but you have
made it a 'den of
thieves.'"**

Luke 19:46