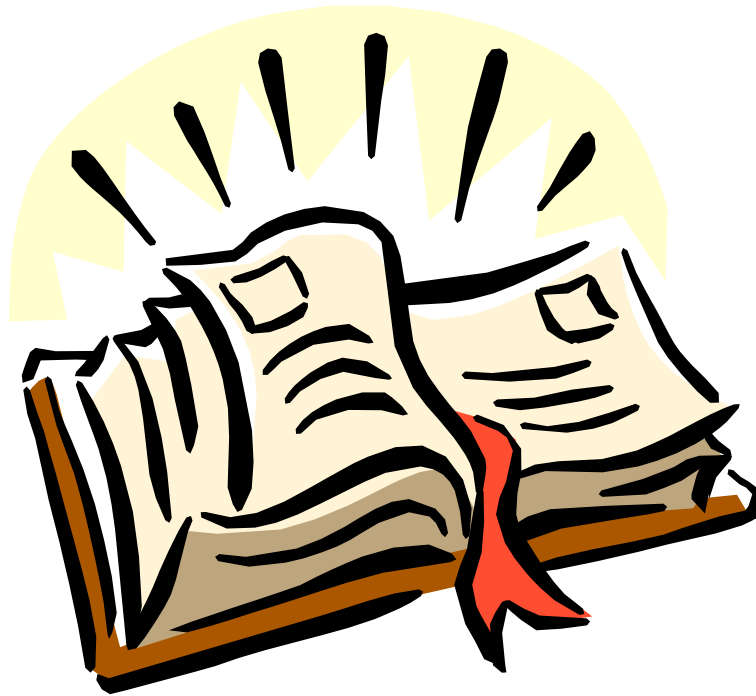


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:



LESSON TITLE: Simeon and Anna

THEME: God's promises always come true.

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:25-38

Dear Parents...

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 **Simeon and Anna (Luke 2:25-38)**. We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. God had made a very special promise to Simeon. The Holy Spirit had told him that he would not die until he beheld the Messiah. Then one day in the temple, he got to see and hold the Messiah, Jesus. Simeon learned that **God's promises always come true**.

God's promises are true for us, too. The Bible says that Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He will never change. We can count on Him to fulfill any promise He makes to us! He is always true to His Word! In devotions this week, we'll look at God's promises.

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

Just Like God Said!

Text: Acts 27:25 - "Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me."

Also read Acts 27:20-44

This week we are learning how that God keeps all of His promises. Have you ever been let down because someone has broken a promise to you? Or have you ever broken a promise to someone else? Because we are human and sin, there may be times when either we will break our promise to others or someone else will break a promise to us. It's not right for us to do that, but isn't it comforting to know that God is not like we are--all of His promises will never be broken. Every promise in the Bible has come to pass, and there are a lot of them! God has never made a promise in the Bible that hasn't come true!

The Apostle Paul found himself in a very scary and dangerous situation, and yet God gave him a promise, and he knew He could trust in God. Paul had been arrested because he told other people about Jesus. A Centurion (Roman soldier) was taking Paul as a prisoner on a ship to Rome where he would stand trial before Caesar. While on this trip, a very bad storm came up, and it appeared that the ship would be destroyed and everyone would die. But, the Lord gave Paul a promise.

An angel appeared to Paul and told him to not be afraid. He said that the Lord still had some plans for Paul and that he would make it to Rome to appear before Caesar. He also assured Paul that no one on the ship with him would lose his life. So, Paul told everyone on the ship what the angel had told him. What a great opportunity for Paul to witness for Jesus; they would see first hand that God could take care of them. The ship did end up being destroyed in the storm, but God honored His promise--no one lost their lives, just like God had said (verse 44)! When you read a promise for you in the Bible, you can know that God will bring it to pass, even when the situation in your life seems pretty scary!

- Do people always keep their promises? Does God always keep His promises?
- When we go through difficulties and scary situations, whom can we trust?
- Have you seen God's promises come true in scary or difficult times in your life? Have Mom and Dad seen God keep His promises in difficult times? Talk about it.

Kid's Bible Dictionary



- Caesar:** The ruler over the Roman Empire during the New Testament times; a king.
- Promise:** Something that someone says they will do. Keeping a promise means that you do what you say that you will do.

Yes and Amen

Text: 2 Corinthians 1:20 - "For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us."

Also read 2 Corinthians 1:19-22.

Joey was excited about the new boy, Stephen, who moved into his neighborhood. He went down to introduce himself. Steven was glad to meet a new friend and invited Joey to come back over at 3:00 to play with some of his toys for a while. Joey went back to Steven's house right at 3:00, but no one was home. Joey didn't think a lot about it; he thought, maybe, it was just a mistake. The next day, Steven came by Joey's house. Steven told Joey that his dad was a famous archeologist and that they have all this really cool treasure at their house. Joey couldn't wait to see it. But, later that evening, when Joey asked his mom if he could go see the treasure, his mom told him that Steven's dad really was not an archeologist, and there was no treasure.

All of this was starting to bother Joey, but he wasn't sure what to do. He prayed and asked the Lord to help him to know what to do. He wanted to be Steven's friend, but he did not like to be told lies. A few days later, Joey was over at Steven's house and Steven showed Joey a large scar on his leg. Steven explained, "I was swimming in the ocean, and this huge shark came up from out nowhere and attacked me!" "A large what?" Steven's mom interrupted from the other room. "Well, okay, so it wasn't such a large shark," Steven muttered. His mom corrected, "Try not a shark at all, you fell off of your bike last summer."

Stephen's mom looked in at Stephen with disappointment, "Why are you telling Joey such a story?" "Well, I guess that I wanted to impress Joey so that he would be my friend," answered Steven sadly. "You don't have to impress me," interrupted Joey. "I want you to be my friend just how you really are. I would rather know the truth than believe stories that are made up." "I'm sorry," said Steven. "That's okay," said Joey, "let's start from scratch, now what happened to your leg?"

It's important to always tell the truth. The Bible says that God's promises are "Yes and Amen." That means you can always count on them to be the truth no matter what. Praise the Lord that He is always truthful with us.

- What do you think that Steven learned in this story? Have you ever had someone not keep a promise? What does that feel like?
- How does it feel to know that God is always truthful and will always keep His promises?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Amen: "So be it; let it be done."

Elijah and the Widow

Text: 1 Kings 17:14 - "For thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the LORD sends rain on the earth.'"

Also read 1 Kings 17:8-16

There hadn't been any rain in Israel for a long time. Without water, the crops were not doing well, and because of this, the people were running short of food. God promises He will always provide for the needs of those who trust in Him. Elijah trusted in God. God told Elijah to go to a poor widow, and she would provide for him. When he got there, he asked for some water and asked for some bread, but the widow said that she didn't have anything-- only a little bit of flour and oil in a jar. She believed that she was going to die soon after using that because she had no more food for her son or herself.

But, God had said that He was going to provide for Elijah and bless this poor widow at the same time, and Elijah believed God's Word. Elijah told the widow that the Lord had said that her flour and oil would not be used up until the rain returned. She obeyed and made some food for Elijah. And, God did exactly as He had promised. He provided for her needs, her son's needs, and Elijah's needs.

In Ephesians chapter 3, the Bible says that God "...is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think..." God did that for the widow and Elijah in our Bible story, and He can certainly do that for us. God has promised to take care of our needs. In Philippians 4:19, we read, "... my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Let us trust in God! So often He will not only keep His promises, but also go way beyond them in blessing us.

- Did Elijah ever doubt that God would do what He promised to do?
- Talk about ways you have you seen God provide for you and your family?
- What is the wise thing to do when we are in need?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



flour and oil:

exceedingly abundantly:

ingredients used to make bread.

more than you could have ever thought of or hoped for. This is how God blesses us.

Day Four

The Promise is for Kids Too!

Text: Acts 2:39 - "For the promise is to you and to your **children**, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

Also read Acts 1:4-8

Before Jesus left to go to be with the Father, he made a very special promise to His disciples. He told them to stay in Jerusalem because He was going to send the Holy Spirit upon them. The Holy Spirit would be a their comforter and teacher, and He would lead them into all truth. He also told them that when the Holy Spirit came upon them, they would receive power to live the Christian life and to be a witness to others. In other words, the Holy Spirit would make such a difference in their lives that people would see it and want to know how they could come to Jesus.

God's promise came true! On a special day called the Day of Pentecost (Acts chapter 2), the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit. After Peter, one of the Jesus' disciples, was filled with the Holy Spirit, he preached a wonderful sermon and over 3,000 people got saved. In Acts 2:39, Peter said that this promise of the Holy Spirit was for everyone, including children.

When we believe in Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes and lives inside of our hearts. We can also pray and ask the Lord to "fill" us with the Holy Spirit, helping us to do what is right and to be a witness for Jesus to others. God is happy to answer our request to be filled with His Spirit. In Luke 11:13 we read, "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" The Holy Spirit can make such a difference in our lives that others will be attracted to Jesus.

- What special promise did Jesus make to His disciples? Is that promise to you, too?
- How will being filled with the Holy Spirit help us?
- If you haven't already, pray and ask the Lord to fill you with His Holy Spirit.

Kid's Bible Dictionary



The Promise:

Jesus' promise to the disciples that he would send to the Holy Spirit to help them to live for Him and be His witnesses.

Holy Spirit:

Third person of the Trinity.

Day Five

I'm Never Going to Leave You!

Text: Matthew 28:20 - "And lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Also read Acts 18:7-11

This day was a sad day for Katie—the day of the funeral for Katie's grandmother. Katie and her grandmother were very close, and she was going to really miss her. They had spent many wonderful afternoons together. Katie felt very alone and sad. Dad knew that Katie was sad and missing her grandmother. Before they left to go to the funeral, he stopped by her room to ask how she was doing.

"I'm okay," Katie said. "I just feel kind of lonely...I'm going to miss her very much." "I understand how you feel," Dad said, "I'm going to miss her very much, too." "Daddy?" Katie questioned, "Will it ever get easier to live without grandma?" "I suppose that you will always miss her," dad replied, "But, we know that she is in heaven with Jesus, and we will get to see her again some day. In the meantime, Jesus will help you because He is always with you."

"One day Jesus had to leave the disciples and go to the Father," Dad continued. "The disciples were sad; they knew they were going to miss Jesus. But, Jesus made them a promise. He told them that He would always be with them no matter what. We have that same promise, today. Jesus is with us; in fact, He lives inside of our hearts. So when we miss someone that we love, we know that Jesus is always there for us. He gives His Holy Spirit, who is a comforter to those who are hurting. Jesus knows that you are hurting, Katie, and He wants you to know that He will be with you always and will help you."

- What did Katie's Dad say comfort Katie?
- How did Jesus comfort His disciples?
- Who can we know will always be with us?

Kid's Prayer Time



There is a lot that we can be thankful for. This week when you pray, thank the Lord for all of His wonderful promises and His faithfulness to keep them. We can always trust in the Lord!

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

“And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.”

Third Grade and Above

“And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.”

Luke 2:26