

Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF: _____

LESSON TITLE: Escape to Egypt

**THEME: The Lord is our rock, our fortress
and our deliverer.**

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 2:13-23



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 that Joseph and Mary had to **escape to Egypt** and hide out for a while (**Matthew 2:13-23**). We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. Jesus was still very young, but King Herod, fearing competition one day from the newborn king, set out to destroy all male children under the age of two.

This was no doubt a very scary time for Joseph and Mary--fleeing to with their new baby son to a country that they were unfamiliar with and knowing they would need to stay until it was safe again. They would have to trust and depend upon the Lord to see them through. But as God always does He proved Himself to be **a rock, a fortress and a deliverer** for Joseph, Mary and Jesus. He will be our rock, fortress, and deliverer, as we trust in Him through our difficult situations.

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

Day One

How Do We Know?

Text: **Hosea 11:1** - "When Israel *was* a child, I loved him, And out of Egypt I called My son."

Also read Matthew 2:13-23

"How do we know that the Bible is true?" Jarrod asked his Sunday school teacher. This question had bothered him for a long time, and he really wanted to know how we could know that the Bible is really from God. He sometimes thought about whether it could have been just written by men, or maybe they just thought up all of these stories. His teacher thought about the question for a moment and then responded with a story.

"Let's say that one day you were given a book. In that book were several things written about your life. It said who your family was, where you were born, when you were born, and what town you grew up in. The book continued to tell about other events in your life with amazing accuracy. Then, you found out that just one person did not write this book, but over 40 different people wrote it! The 40 writers never got together to talk to one another about writing the book. That would have been impossible since most of them lived at different times, hundreds of years apart! Yet, everything written about your life was completely true and happened exactly as it was told. Who could possibly know all this about you, even hundreds of years before you were born? Who do you think wrote this book?"

Jarrod answered, "God is the only one I can think of who could do something like that!" That's right!" his teacher said, "The Bible tells us everything about God's Son Jesus. Many things that Jesus did during His life (over 400 in fact!) were told hundreds of years before they ever happened in the Old Testament. These are called prophecies. The prophets told about Jesus' family, where He would be born, and how He would even die and then rise again. Different people, in different times, and in different places all wrote about the same thing—Jesus. Every single one of the things they foretold of Jesus happened just like the prophets said. We find three just in Matthew 2:13-23. No one could do this except for God. This is just ONE way that we know that the Bible is really true. No other book has ever been able to do what the Bible has done."

- Read Matthew 2:13-23 and see if you can find the three Old Testament prophecies about Jesus. How can this help you to know that the Bible is true?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Prophecy: The telling forth of truth. It can either be telling about the future (like some Old Testament prophets did about Jesus), or just declaring God's Word and truth.

Day Two

Our Rock, Fortress and Deliverer

Text: Psalm 18:2 - "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

Also read Psalm 18:1-3

We had a friend stay with us who was from another country. One day, we told him we would take him anywhere that he would like to go. Out of all his choices, he decided that he wanted to see Yosemite. He had only seen pictures of it and wanted to see it for real. He had a postcard of Yosemite with him and said that he wanted to see "El Capitan." Now, if you have never seen El Capitan, it is a huge rock in the middle of Yosemite. So we went up to Glacier Point, a place that you can look out and see all of Yosemite. We were all amazed at the size and beauty of the huge rocks that shoot up from the bottom of the valley.

One thing we knew for sure about those giant rocks is that they would stay put--no one could ever move them. In the Psalm that we read, today, David said that the Lord was his rock. David knew that God could never be moved or shaken. He is like that rock in Yosemite that will always stay put in its' place. We can always rely on Him, even when others may let us down. David had a lot of things happen in his life that caused Him to cry out to the Lord for strength. God was faithful—always there for him to deliver him from all of his fears and troubles.

For almost 10 years, David had to run for his life. King Saul was trying to kill him. In fact, King Saul had an army of over 3,000 men trying to catch David. Could you imagine having to hide for that long? But during that whole time David knew where his strength was. It was in the Lord. If we trust in the Lord, we know that we will never be moved, because He will never be moved. We will find strength, safety, and deliverance in the Lord. If you are going through a tough time, remember that the Lord is your rock, fortress, and deliverer.

- Have you ever been to Yosemite? What did you think about the giant rocks?
- Who did David trust in when King Saul was trying to catch him?
- Why can you trust in the Lord when you are going through a tough time?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Rock, Fortress and Deliverer: Titles given to the Lord that describe His strength, security, and ability to take care of us in all of our needs.

Day Three

Jesus is the Rock

Text: Matthew 16:18 - "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

Also read Matthew 16:13-18

Have you ever picked up a brand new book and read through the first chapter and got so excited that you wanted to skip to the end of the book to see how it ends? Especially, those books that begin by telling you a little bit about what is going to happen to the hero of the story and then go back in time to tell the story from the beginning? It's sometimes hard not to jump to the end!

One of the wonderful things about the Bible is that we can jump to the end of the book—the book of Revelation—to see what happens. We see that the Jesus our Lord has won completely! The enemy of sin and death that held us was defeated at the cross, and we will live with Him forever. How comforting to know that, though we go through trials while on this earth, Jesus has won the victory over the enemy, and we can put our trust in Him.

Jesus has built His church on the strongest foundation possible, Himself! He says, "...on this Rock I will build My church," referring to Himself. We are His church and if Jesus is our foundation, we will overcome with Him. Since Jesus is the rock, He cannot be moved. He is in control and everything will be okay. As we put our trust in Him, we are atop a solid rock—we will be okay as well.

- How did Jesus win over our enemy of sin and death?
- What did Jesus say His church would be built upon?
- When you think of Jesus as a solid rock underneath you, how does it make you feel?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Church - Called out assembly, all of those who believe in Jesus.

Their Rock is Not Like Our Rock!

Text: Deuteronomy 32:31 - "For their rock *is* not like our Rock, Even our enemies themselves *being* judges."

Also read Matthew 7:24-27

When someone builds a house, probably the most important thing about that house is the foundation. A foundation is what is under the house holding it up. If the foundation is strong, the house will be held up for a long time. But if the foundation is weak, the house can fall down under its' own weight. Jesus used an example of this in the story of the wise man and the foolish man.

Jesus said that the wise person built his house on the rock. When the rains came down and beat on his house, his house stood strong. The foolish person refused to build his house on the rock, choosing the sand instead. When the storms came and hit his house, it was destroyed because the sand moved out from under the house. Remember, Jesus is the Rock. When we listen to Him and His Word and obey Him, we are building our lives upon a rock, a strong foundation. When we build our lives on Jesus, we will remain strong no matter what storms (trials, sorrows, difficulties) may come our way.

If we build our lives on the things of this world—money, things, attention from people, etc.—ignoring God's Word, we will not hold up in the storms of life. The world's rock is not like our Rock, because the world's rock is really sand! It will shift under our feet, and we will find ourselves crumbling because our foundation could not support us. How much better to be the wise person and build our lives on the good foundation of Jesus Christ! Then, we need not worry when the storms come and beat upon us.

- What happened to the house of the foolish person? Why?
- What does Jesus say about the person who built his house on the rock?
- Who is the Rock? How does Jesus say the person who builds his life on Him and obeying His words will hold up in the storms of life?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Wise Person:

The person who builds their life upon the rock (Jesus).

Foolish Person:

The person who builds their life upon the sand (this world).

Storms:

Tough things that happen in life.

Day Five

The Rock That is Higher Than I

Text: Psalm 61:2 - "From the end of the earth I will cry to You, when my heart is overwhelmed; lead me to the rock that is higher than I."

Also read Psalm 61:1-4

Marina's heart was beating very fast. She had never had any kind of surgery before. And now, she was in the waiting room waiting for the doctor to arrive to talk to her and her parents before the surgery was to begin. There were so many things that she didn't know or understand about what was happening; she was very afraid. Her Dad took her hand and began to talk to her, trying to help her feel better. He had his Bible with him and turned to Psalm 61 and shared verses 1-4 with her. He reminded her how God has always taken great care of her and will continue to do so through the surgery.

Marina's Dad told her about a time in his life when he was a little boy and had a surgery to remove his tonsils. It was pretty scary for him, but his Mom and Dad prayed with him and the Lord helped him through the surgery. In fact, about the only thing he could remember from the surgery, now, was all of the ice cream and Jello he was given to eat because of the surgery. He shared that just as David cried out to God when he was overwhelmed (very afraid), so we can cry out to God and know that He, indeed, hears our prayer and cares about everything that is a concern to us. He is the rock that is higher than us. God gives us His peace and security. We can take shelter under His wings in hard times, just like baby birds hide under their mother's wings during scary storms. He reminded Marina to trust the Lord—she had no reason to be afraid.

Marina and her Mom and Dad prayed and asked the Lord to give her strength and to help her to not be afraid. After their prayer, the doctor arrived and explained everything. He told Marina that she should be home in a couple of hours and back playing in a couple of days. That was good to hear. But, even better than that good news was the peace Marina now felt. She knew God was with her, holding her hand, and she could rest in Him. And you know what? Marina did just fine! Isn't it great that we can call out to the Lord anytime we have need?

- How does David describe God's protection and comforting love in Psalm 61:1-4?
- Think of a time you were afraid and how it helped to know God was with you.

Kid's Prayer Time



This week we looked at how Jesus is our Rock. Thank the Lord for always being there for you. If you are going through a tough time, remember that you can pray and ask Him to help you. He is faithful!

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

"When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son."

Third Grade and Above

"When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son."

Hosea 11:1