

Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

LESSON TITLE: Pray for All Men

THEME: God wants us to pray for others.

SCRIPTURE: 1 Timothy 2:1-7



Dear Parents...

Welcome to Bible Time for Kids! This 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 our need to **Pray for All Men**. The theme was "**God wants us to pray for others.**" Prayer is a very important part of our spiritual life. One of the kinds of prayer that the Bible talks about is intercessory prayer. That just means prayer on the behalf of others.

We see a lot of examples of prayers for others in the Bible. All of us need to learn how to pray and learn to pray more for other people. This week in our devotions we are going to look at the subject of prayer and what it means to us.

The section of scripture that we studied was **1 Timothy 2:1-7**. 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!

Day One

A.C.T.S.

Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:17 - "...pray without ceasing..."

Also read 1 Timothy 2:1-7

In our devotions this week we are going to be learning more about prayer. Prayer is simply talking with God. He wants us to come to Him and give Him our worship and tell him about our needs. The Bible tells us about different kinds of prayer. The kind of prayer that we learned about on Sunday from 1 Timothy 2:1-7 is called intercessory prayer. That just means that we pray for other people. Intercessory prayer is just one kind of prayer that is talked about in the Bible. Today we are going to look at some other kinds of prayer.

An easy way we can remember these different kinds of prayer is by remembering A.C.T.S. These letters stand for Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication. By learning more about these kinds of prayer, it will help us when we to pray to the Lord.

The "A" stands for adoration. That just means worship or praise. An important part of our prayer life is adoring and praising the Lord. We might praise the Lord for the beauty of His creation, for our salvation or because He is awesome and holy. There are many things we can praise the Lord for. Sometimes this is a good way to start our prayer time. Think of one or two things that you can praise the Lord for.

The second letter, "C" stands for confession. This is just another word that means we need to talk to the Lord about the sin and disobedience in our life. No one is perfect, and we need to talk to the Lord and ask for forgiveness when we fail. He is always faithful to forgive us when we ask Him.

"T" stands for thanksgiving. We need to thank the Lord for everything that He has done in our lives. He blesses us with a wonderful family, a place to live, plenty of food, and freedom to worship Him. There are a lot of things that we need to be thankful for.

The final letter, "S" stands for supplication. This word simply means that we ask the Lord to take care of our needs. This is when we ask Him to help us with a problem or we ask Him to help a friend going through a difficult time. The Lord wants us to bring our needs and requests to Him. He wants to answer our prayers and help. So next time you pray remember "A.C.T.S." Adore the Lord, confess your faults, thank Him for all He has done and ask Him to take care of all of your needs.

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Prayer: Talking with God.

Whom Do I Pray For?

Text: Nehemiah 1:6 - "...please let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open, that You may hear the prayer of Your servant which I pray before You now, day and night, for the children of Israel Your servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel which we have sinned against You..."

Also read Nehemiah 1:1-11

In today's Bible reading we see an example of intercessory prayer. Do you remember what intercessory prayer is? It is simply praying for the needs of other people. In our Bible story we see a godly man named Nehemiah. He was serving the king in Babylon when he heard that his people in Israel weren't doing very well. They were having a lot of problems and couldn't build the walls around Jerusalem. Nehemiah's heart was broken for God's people. He began to weep and mourn for the people he loved. Then he immediately began to pray. The rest of the chapter is his prayer to the Lord for His people and the city of Jerusalem.

We can learn a lot from Nehemiah and his prayer. First of all we need to be concerned about others. We need to think about our brothers and sisters in Jesus who are going through difficult times. There are many Christians all over the world who can't worship Jesus any time they want to, like we can. They might be beaten or put in jail, or the children might have their parents taken away from them and thrown in prison. The Lord wants us to think about other Christians all over the world that are suffering for Jesus.

When we hear about or learn about others that are suffering what should we do? We need to be like Nehemiah. It should make us sad that other Christians are going through bad things in this world. Then we need to pray for them. We need to go to the Lord for their sake. Maybe we can't travel to where they are to help them, but through prayer we can ask God to help them where they are, just like Nehemiah was able to pray for those in Jerusalem without being there. Let's remember to pray for other Christians around the world and right here in our own town that may be going through difficult times. Jesus wants us to pray for one another.

- What did Nehemiah do when he heard about God's people suffering in Jerusalem?
- What should we do when we hear about other Christians suffering in the world?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Intercessory Prayer: Praying for other people.

Day Three

Respect Patch Project

Text: 1 Timothy 2:15 - "...(pray) for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence."

Also read Romans 13:1-7

Joel was excited to get his Respect Patch at Calvary Kids' Bible club. He worked hard on the group project and remembered to pray every day. For a group project all of the children decided to choose the name of a government leader. They would commit to pray for them every day for a month and write them a letter letting them know that they were being prayed for. Joel was especially excited to share with his group what happened to him and to read the letter that he received.

Joel hadn't thought very much about praying for government leaders until his respect project. When the group leader told everyone about the respect patch project he made a list of different government officials and gave one name to each child to pray for and write a letter to. Joel received the name of one of the city councilmen in town. He decided that he would pray every day for the city councilman. He asked his parents what city councilmen do and they explained that they help to make decisions about how the city will be run. It is an important job so that all will go well in our town.

After praying for a few days, Joel decided to write his letter. He told the councilman about his project for Kids' Club and that he was praying for him. Two weeks later he received a letter back. The letter was from the councilman thanking him for his prayers. He told Joel that he was a Christian too and that his prayers are very important. He said that he needs the Lord's wisdom to help him to make the right decisions. Joel couldn't wait to share the letter with his friends and receive his respect patch. He was excited to know that his prayers were helping someone run the city!

The Bible teaches us it is important for us to pray for our government leaders. We need to pray for our president, vice president, representatives, senators, governors, mayor, city councilmen, policemen and firemen and all those whom God appoints to serve people. Let's remember to keep them in our prayers.

- What did Joel do for his respect patch project?
- Why is it important for us to pray for our government leaders?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Respect: To feel or show favor for someone. To regard another person.

Constant Prayer

Text: Acts 12:5 - "Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church."

Also read Acts 12:1-19

We have been learning this week about how important it is to pray for others. In today's Bible story we see an exciting story about Peter and a church that was faithful to pray for him. King Herod was putting Christians in jail and killing them. He had just killed James and was planning to do the same thing to Peter. When Peter was put into prison the church gathered together and "constantly" prayed for him. That means that they kept on praying for him and didn't stop. Even late at night they were still praying for Peter.

We see in this story that the Lord heard their prayer and answered it. God sent an angel to Peter while he was peacefully sleeping in the prison because he was in the Lord's hands. The angel woke him up and told him to get dressed because he was going to get Peter out of prison. Peter got dressed and the angel led him out of prison without the guards knowing about it. It is kind of funny later in the story that when Peter shows up where the church is meeting to pray, they are surprised that their prayers were actually answered! Sometimes we don't always believe that God is going to answer our prayers. But when He does it blows us away.

When we see other Christians suffering or going through difficult times, we need to go to the Lord and pray for them. We can even join together with other Christians to pray for people and the different things they are going through. We never know how God wants to work in someone's life. God can do whatever He wants to without us praying, but He tells us in the Bible that He wants us to pray. When we pray we are showing that we need Him and have faith in Him. He is always eager to help us when we have needs. Remember to pray for others then look to see what great thing He will do!

- When Peter was put into prison what did the church do?
- How did God answer their prayers?
- What can we learn from this story?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Constant Prayer: Being committed in prayer for someone.

Answered Prayer: Sometimes the answer is yes, sometimes it is no, and sometimes wait.

Day Five

Keep on Praying!

Text: Luke 11:1 - "Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.'"

Also read Luke 11:5-13

Daniel returned home from a mission's trip late one night and couldn't wait to surprise his old friend John. He knew that John was probably asleep, but thought that John would be as excited to see him as he was to see John again. The doorbell rang and John got up out of bed. He was thrilled to see his friend Daniel. He invited Daniel in and listened to all of his stories about the trip. Then John asked Daniel if he would like something to eat. Daniel was very hungry and told John he would love to have something to eat. John had everything to make a great sandwich except bread. He decided to go to his neighbor's house to ask for some. When John knocked on his neighbor's door, his neighbor didn't even answer the door but yelled out saying, "My family and I are in bed. Come back tomorrow! Please do not bother us now." Because John really wants to make his friend that sandwich, he continues knocking and asking and finally his neighbor gets up and gives him bread.

In the book of Luke, Jesus said, "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find, and to him who knocks, it will be opened to him" (Luke 11:5). Jesus told a story to His disciples that is very similar to our story. He wanted to teach them about prayer and their need to be persistent in prayer. Persistence just means to keep on asking until God makes His answer clear. Sometimes we may be persistent when we ask our parents for something for our birthday. We keep asking until they tell us "OK" or "No, that's not what we are going to do at this time."

Just as John was persistent when asking for bread from his neighbor, we too must keep asking and seeking to find out what God wants of us. We may need the Lord's help to make a difficult decision. We may need to ask the Lord to help a loved one accept Him into their life or we may need the Lord to heal us. The important thing is that we continually seek the Lord. Sometimes He will answer "yes" and other times "no", but always remember that whatever His answer is, it is the best answer. The Lord has given us prayer so that we can talk with Him any time we need to. God says ask and you will receive and He is waiting for you to call on Him so He can help you, His child.

Kid's Prayer Time



This week we can pray and ask God to make us persistent prayers.
Remember to always pray for others.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade (paraphrased)

"I encourage supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for other people."

Third Grade and Above

"Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men."

1 Timothy 2:1