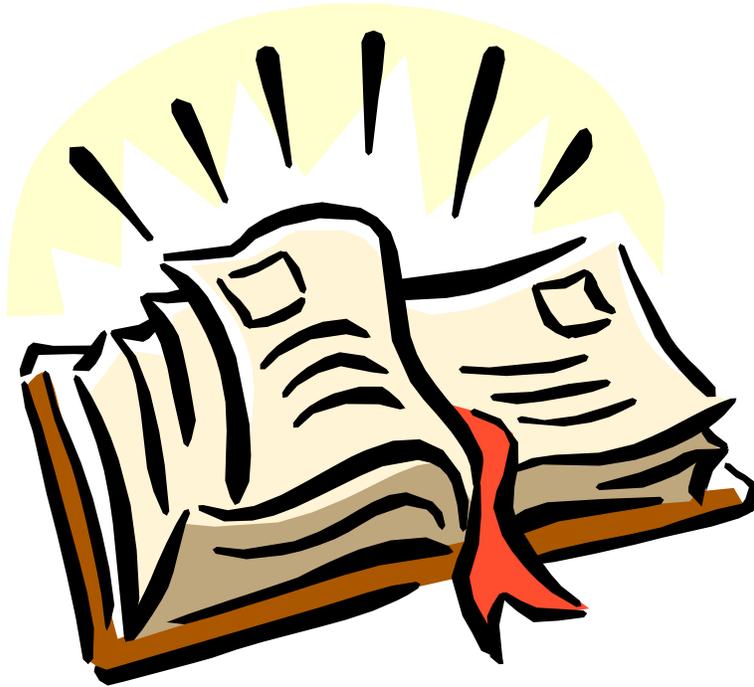


# Bible Time for Kids!



**CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:**

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**LESSON TITLE: The Hall of Faith**

**THEME: God wants us to trust Him.**

**SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 11:1-40**

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 **The Hall of Faith**. The theme was "**God wants us to trust in Him.**" It is good for us to learn about the faith of others in the Bible because it helps us to put our trust in God and watch Him do great things in our lives.

Sometimes we might think of Bible characters as being superheroes, but really they were just regular people like you and I. The true superhero is God. When they listened to God's voice, they decided to obey Him, and put their trust in Him. The same is true for us. If we would put our trust in God, He will do great things in our lives.

The section of scripture that we studied was **Hebrews 11:1-40**. 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!

# Faithful Sarah

**Text: Hebrews 11:11** - "By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised."

**Also read Genesis 18:9-15; 21:1-7**

The story of Abraham and Sarah in the Bible is very exciting! God used their lives in amazing ways and through them He began the nation of Israel. But God taught them many lessons about faith in the process. Sarah was Abraham's wife. God had promised that He would give them a baby and that they would have many descendants (children and grandchildren). But there was only one problem; Abraham and Sarah were too old to have any children.

One day three men (or angels) came to Abraham and began to speak to him. They told him that Sarah would have a baby. Now Sarah was standing at the door of her tent and listening in on the conversation. She probably wanted to know what these mysterious men were sharing with her husband. When they told him that she would have a child, she just began to laugh to herself. It was too impossible for that to happen. But little did Sarah know that the Lord was listening to her. The Lord asked Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh?" Sarah became afraid so she denied it. But sure enough, God kept His promise and a year later Sarah had a baby boy.

What is truly amazing about this story is that God still lists Sarah with all of the other "faithful" saints. Even though for a time Sarah didn't believe in God's promise, at some point she did "judge Him faithful". So she did believe God and God gave her strength and kept His promise in her life. It was impossible for her to have a baby at her age, but with God, all things are possible. Sarah learned a very important lesson and we can also learn from her life.

- Who was Sarah's husband?
- Why did Sarah laugh at the news that she would have a baby?
- Was God mad at Sarah for laughing? Did He still do what He said He would do?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Descendants:** Children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, etc. A family line.

# Abraham, Isaac and Faith

**Text:** Hebrews 11:17 - "By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,"

**Also read Genesis 22:1-14**

The story of Abraham offering his only son Isaac is an amazing story of faith. Abraham was about 100 years old and had waited 25 years for God to fulfill His promise to give Him a son. God had told Abraham that He would make Him a great nation with as many descendants as the stars in the heavens. God fulfilled His promise in giving Him Isaac as his son. But now Abraham's faith would really be tested.

God told Abraham to take his son Isaac and offer him as a burnt offering to the Lord. Now this may sound kind of strange, but think of it this way: It is a picture of what God has done for us in giving us Jesus and Him dying on the cross for our sins. Abraham may have thought, "How can God take my only son? How will He fulfill His promise?" Abraham put all of His trust in God and set out to do what God told Him to do.

Along the way to the place where Abraham would offer up Isaac, Isaac has a question. He asks, "Father, where is the lamb for the sacrifice?" Abraham responds, "God will provide a lamb." Abraham has complete faith that God is going to provide what is needed. Then Abraham goes to the place God told him to go and begins to do what God asked Him to do. Just when he is going to offer up Isaac, the Angel of the Lord calls out and tells him to stop and Abraham stops. Then we see that God did provide a sacrifice, a ram caught in some bushes. In Hebrews we are told that Abraham concluded that God could raise up Isaac, even from the dead. He had seen God's miracles in his life before, so certainly God could give his son life again. What a wonderful picture of God's gift of salvation to us and of complete faith in God. Let's learn from Abraham how to completely trust in the Lord, no matter what!

- What did God tell Abraham to do?
- Did Abraham obey God? Do you think it was hard for him to obey God?
- Did God make Abraham offer up his son? What did He do instead?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Offering:** In this story, a sacrifice brought to God.

# Faithful Moses

**Text: Hebrews 11:24** - "By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,"

**Also read Hebrews 10:24-29**

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a prince or a princess and live in a royal palace? To have servants wait on you all of the time and know that one day you will be the king or queen. Sounds pretty nice, doesn't it? Did you know that this is how Moses spent the first 40 years of his life? He was the "son of Pharaoh's daughter" and was royalty because Pharaoh's daughter had taken him in. Some day he might have been the next Pharaoh, ruler over all of Egypt, but God had other plans in store for Moses.

One day Moses had to make a choice. He had to decide what would be the most important thing in his life. God's people, the Israelites, were in slavery in Egypt and Moses was also an Israelite. God wanted to use Moses to deliver His people out of Egypt and take them to the Promised Land. God called Moses to a life of following Him so Moses had to choose whether he would obey God and forsake Egypt or stay as a prince and enjoy all of the riches and treasures of Egypt. This may have been a tough decision for Moses, but he made the right decision "by faith."

Moses chose the suffering of the people of God over the riches of Egypt. He could have had anything he wanted in Egypt, but he chose to follow God instead. The Bible says that he looked to the reward. He knew that what Egypt offered was only temporary, but living by faith means that God will reward us in eternity. Sometimes obeying God means that we have to make hard decisions, but we will never give up anything for the Lord that He doesn't respond with rich and abundant blessings toward us for our obedience and faith in Him, just like Moses.

- Imagine if you were a prince or a princess. What would it be like to just walk away?
- How do you think walking by faith (trusting God) helped Moses to make this decision?
- How can walking by faith help us to follow Jesus no matter what the cost is to us?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Pharaoh:** Ruler or king over Egypt.

**Affliction:** Suffering, having bad things happen to you.

**Reproach:** People thinking bad about you because of what you believe.

# Faithful Joshua

**Text: Hebrews 11:30** - "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days."

**Also read Joshua 6:1-20**

Have you ever wondered why God does things the way He does? Sometimes it takes great faith to trust in God when He asks us to do something that may seem strange to everyone else. When the Israelites were entering the land of Canaan, which God had given to them, they had to go to battle with the people of Jericho. Joshua was the leader of Israel and God told him that he would give the city of Jericho into his hands. In other words, Joshua was going to win the battle no matter what because God said so.

Now Joshua may have been ready to get an army put together to go in and attack Jericho, but God told him that He was going to do it another way. He told Joshua to have all the army along with the priests and the Ark of the Covenant to march around the city once per day for 6 days. I wonder what the people of Jericho thought of all these people just coming once a day for 6 days and marching around the temple and then leaving. They probably seemed kind of silly.

Even though it might seem silly, Joshua obeyed God. On the seventh day God told Joshua to march around the city 6 times and then shout with a loud voice. Again, Joshua obeyed. And sure enough, as soon as they marched around the seventh time and shouted the walls came tumbling down. God kept His promise. And God will keep all His promises to us. When God says to do something be careful to obey and do what He says. Don't think that His plan won't work because it seems silly or different from what might normally be done. Joshua won the battle against the whole city and he didn't even have to fight for it. He had faith in God. We need to have faith in God, now matter what He tells us to do.

- What city did Joshua have to battle against?
- What did God tell Joshua to do?
- What happened to the city of Jericho when Joshua obeyed?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Canaan:** The original name of the land that was given to the nation of Israel by God.

Day Five

# Who Are Your Heroes?

**Text: Hebrews 11:39,40** - "And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us."

**Also read Hebrews 11:32-40**

Whenever you think about your heroes, whom do you think about? Do you think about a superhero like Superman, or maybe a great football or baseball player? The Bible is filled with stories of great men and women of God who lived some pretty exciting lives. One thing about being a Christian is that it is an exciting life. Whenever we follow Jesus we can have a lot of adventure. Maybe it is going to a far away country to share the good news of Jesus with someone who has never heard about Him, or helping to serve others right here in our own city. There is always a lot of adventure.

Whenever we look at the lives of the people in these verses we see that they lived very exciting lives, but their lives weren't always easy. When we live by faith it might be hard sometimes. Not everyone understands why we want to live for Jesus, but when we live by faith we know that God has everything in control. There is nothing that we have to be afraid of. He will take good care of us.

Look at all of the exciting things these people did, as they trusted in the Lord. They took kingdoms, safely slept with lions, escaped the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, became valiant in battle and made armies run away from them. Wow, exciting lives! There are also many stories of modern day "faith" heroes. These also are great men and women of God who live by faith and live very exciting lives as well. This week, pick out and read a story on the life of a great Christian (maybe a missionary).

- Do you have any Bible heroes? Who are they and why are they your heroes?
- Who is it that makes all of these people heroes?
- What ways can you live by faith and become a hero for others to look up to?

## Kid's Prayer Time



This week when you pray you can ask the Lord to help you to live by faith (trust in Him). God has great things planned for your life just like the great people that we read about in the Bible.

# Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”**

Third Grade and Above

**“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”**

**Hebrews 11:1**