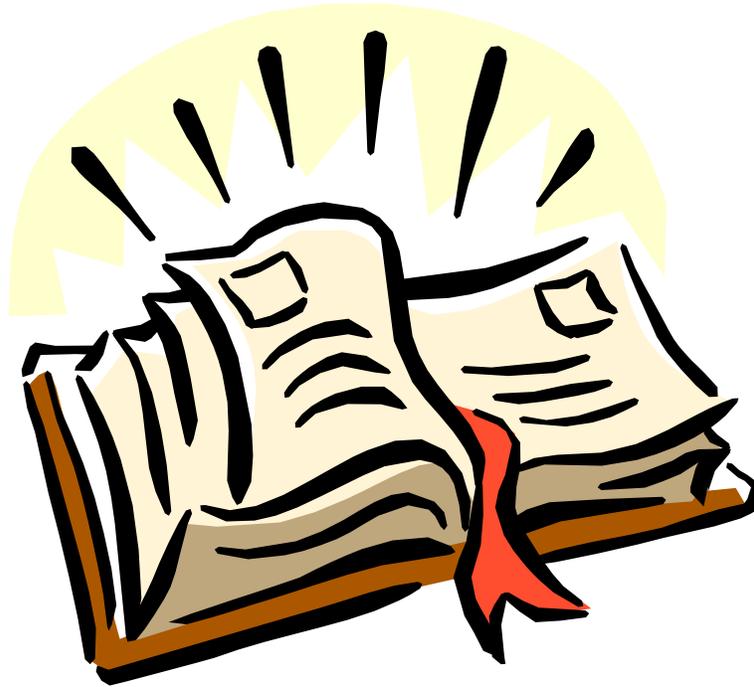


# Bible Time for Kids!



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

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**LESSON TITLE: The Marriage Supper of the Lamb**



**THEME: Jesus is planning a great ceremony for His bride, the church.**

**SCRIPTURE: Revelation 19:6-9**

# 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 **The Marriage Supper of the Lamb**. What an exciting time for all of us who are Christians as we get to be a part of the beautiful ceremony that God has planned for us. Everyone who are Christians are part of Jesus' church. In the Bible, it says that the church is Jesus' bride. In heaven there will be a big wedding ceremony as Jesus marries His bride.

Following the wedding ceremony will be a great celebration or feast. This is called the Marriage Supper. It will be a very special time for every one of us who know Jesus. Isn't it exciting to know that Jesus is preparing this for us right now! This week we will learn more about what it means to be the Bride of Christ.

The section of scripture that we studied was **Revelation 19:6-9**. 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!

# Come to the Wedding!

**Text: Matthew 22:9** - "Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding."

**Also read Matthew 22:1-10**

Jesus is telling this story to a group of religious leaders. They think of themselves as very good and not needing to listen to Jesus. Jesus told them stories (also called parables) to explain to them some very important things about the kingdom of God. In this story Jesus is explaining that He wouldn't always be calling them to enter the kingdom of God. They wouldn't listen and obey the Lord so He told them that He would soon go out and invite others to come to His wedding feast instead of them.

In the story, we see a king who is planning a wedding for his son. He sends his servants to invite those who were to come to the wedding, but those people who were invited weren't interested in coming. So he kept on sending out other servants. The people still didn't want to come to the wedding and they even began to kill the servants.

The king was very angry and he instructed the servants to go out and invite other people who weren't on the invitation list. Anyone who would like to come was now invited. So they went everywhere, inviting as many people as they could to come to the wedding. This is a picture of how God had tried for many years to reach His special people, the Israelites, but they rejected Him and even killed His prophets. Then God sent His only Son but they didn't want to follow Him either. So now the invitation has gone out into the whole world that "whosoever will may come," not just the Jews. God is preparing a great wedding ceremony and a wonderful feast. He has included us on the invitation list if we will only "come unto Him." How exciting that we are included on the invitation list!

- Why did the king begin inviting others to come to his son's wedding?
- How does it feel to be invited to the King's Son's wedding?
- How should we respond to the invitation to come to the wedding?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Parable:** A story with a special meaning.

**Wedding:** A special ceremony when two people get married.

Day Two

## No Spots or Wrinkles

**Text: Ephesians 5:27** - "...that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish."

**Also read Ephesians 5:22-29**

"Oh no!" Joel said, "I've got spaghetti sauce all over my new white shirt!" Joel was upset because it was a brand new shirt which now had this stain all over it. "Don't worry," Mom said, "we'll see if we can get some stain remover to take that out and it will be as good as new. Sometimes accidents will happen. We'll try to get the stain out." Joel felt better, but he wasn't completely sure the stain would come out.

The next day mom brought the shirt in to Joel. "See, as good as new!" Mom said, "It's even ironed and you can't tell that it ever had spaghetti sauce on it." "Thanks Mom," Joel said. "I was worried that I would have to wear the spaghetti shirt to school and someone would mistake me for a giant bowl of spaghetti!"

Have you ever had an accident and spilled something on your shirt? It's not very fun is it? Mom and Dad don't get real excited when we get something on our clothes either, do they? Did you know that when we get to heaven for the wonderful marriage feast with Jesus that we will be given special robes (Revelation 19:8)? These robes will be very fine, clean and bright. They won't have any spots or wrinkles. They will be very beautiful.

If we brought our own clothing, there would be stains all over them from our sins, but the Bible says there won't be any spots or wrinkles because Jesus will cleanse us and wash us with His Word. Jesus wants us to do what is right and keep our garments clean. So He gives us the Holy Spirit to help us to live for Him. Then, if we ever get a little bit of a stain by sinning, He is faithful to cleanse us again and forgive us.

- Tell about the last time that you spilled something on your clothes.
- How does Jesus clean us up when we sin?
- Are there any "stains" that you need to talk to Jesus about now?

### Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Sanctify:** Set apart for a special purpose, holy. According to Ephesians 5:27 we are sanctified by God's word.

Day Three

# Christ and the Church

**Text: Ephesians 5:32** - "This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church."

**Also read Ephesians 5:29-33**

The wedding was spectacular. The music was wonderful. The bride was beautiful. The groom seemed kind of scared but very excited about their special day. Today he would marry a very special woman, someone that he is very much in love with. He wants to show his love by vowing to always take care of her, to love her and cherish her, and to honor and respect her. When a man and a woman get married it is a very special thing. Have you ever been to a wedding? Maybe someone in your family had a wedding. Did you know that a wedding is a very special picture of Jesus and His relationship with us? In our Bible verse today we are told that the relationship between a husband and a wife is like the relationship that Jesus has with His bride, the church.

The church is all of us who believe in Jesus. We have a very special relationship with Him. In the same way that husbands want to take care of their wives, Jesus wants to take care of all of our needs. Just like husbands love their wives, Jesus loves us. Just like husbands cherish and respect their wives, Jesus cherishes His bride. Husbands and wives are a picture of the relationship between Jesus and the church. At the same time Jesus' relationship with the church is an example for husbands and wives to follow.

Jesus loves us very much and desires to have a special relationship with each one of us. He even gave up His life for us and has a wonderful future prepared for His bride as we learned on Sunday. He is preparing the great Marriage Supper (Revelation 19:6-9). What an honor it is to have Jesus want to do something so wonderful for us. Today, let's praise Jesus for all He has done for us!

- Have you ever been to a wedding? What were some of the things that you remember the most?
- How do husbands and wives show a picture of the relationship between Jesus and His church?
- What are some ways that you can show your love for Jesus?

## **Kid's Bible Dictionary**



**The Church:** All Christians everywhere.

# The Best Man

**Text: John 3:29,30** - "He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. He must **increase**, but I must **decrease**."

**Also read John 3:22-36**

There are two very important people at a wedding but they aren't the center of attention. The bride and the groom are the ones who have captured everyone's attention, but these two are very important to the bride and the groom. They are the maid of honor and the best man. To the groom the best man will stand with him as he marries his bride. He will be a witness to the ceremony and point everyone's attention to the groom and his bride. He also is an encourager who will help out anyway that he can. He is either the best friend of the groom or he is a very close relative.

In our Bible reading today John the Baptist refers to himself as the friend of the bridegroom. Some of the people at that time were confused and thought that maybe John was the promised Messiah they should be looking for, but he always corrected them and said that he wasn't the one. He always pointed everyone to the bridegroom, Jesus. John had a very special relationship with Jesus. He knew that he had to decrease in importance and get everyone's attention onto Jesus.

We can learn from John the Baptist. We should always put all of our attention onto the bridegroom. We shouldn't have anyone's attention turned towards us. Just like John, we should decrease in importance and Jesus should increase. John had a wonderful purpose of pointing people to Jesus. We can also point people to Jesus with our lives.

- What does a best man do at a wedding?
- How is John the Baptist like the best man for Jesus?
- What ways can you decrease and Jesus increase in your life?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Bridegroom:** The man who is getting married.

**Best Man:** The best friend or close relative of the groom who stands with him during the ceremony.

**Decrease:** To make less of something.

**Increase:** To make more of something.

# Future Glory

**Text: Revelation 21:2** - "Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."

**Also read Revelation 21:1-7**

After the wedding ceremony the bride and the groom will leave on their honeymoon. This is a very special time for them to just go away by themselves. Because of their great love for one another they want to spend as much time together as possible. In the Old Testament whenever a man was married he didn't have to serve in the military for a whole year so that he could spend time with his new bride (Deuteronomy 24:5). They then spend the rest of their lives together serving the Lord.

Jesus has wonderful plans for His bride. In John 14 we are told that He is preparing a special place for us. He wants us to be with Him forever. When we look around at the beauty of God's creation here which God created in just six days, we can't even begin to imagine what He has been preparing for the last 2,000 years! Whenever He returns for us we will get to spend all of eternity with Him.

We also see there will never be any more sadness or pain. Jesus will take it all away. Sometimes we can get sad here. Sometimes things happen in our lives that hurt us. That also makes Jesus sad because He loves us so much. He promises that he will one day remove all of that for His bride. We can look forward to everything that God has in store for us. Thank the Lord today for everything we have to look forward to.

- What is the most beautiful place that you have ever seen?
- How do you suppose that will compare to what heaven is like?
- How does it make you feel to know that Jesus will take away all of the sadness and pain?

## Kid's Prayer Time



There is a lot that we can be thankful for. This week when you pray you can thank the Lord for giving us this beautiful picture of a bride and a bridegroom to help us to understand His great love love towards us. **PRAISE THE LORD!**

# Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade (paraphrased)

"After this I heard many voices in heaven saying, 'Alleluia! Salvation, glory and power belong to our God.'"

Third Grade and Above

"After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, 'Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power to the Lord our God!'"

Revelation 19:1