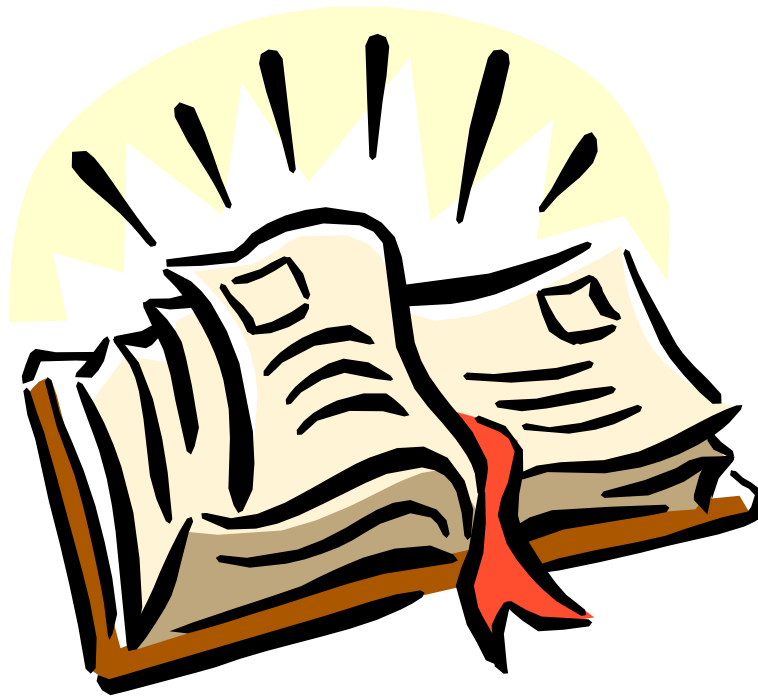


# Bible Time for Kids!



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

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**LESSON TITLE: Jesus Raises Lazarus**

**THEME: Jesus is in control of every situation.**

**SCRIPTURE: John 11:1-44**



# 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 time when **Jesus raised Lazarus**. The theme that we learned was, "**Jesus is in control of every situation**". This week the children got to learn a very wonderful and valuable truth. We learned about resurrection and how that Jesus has power even over life and death. He can take care of every need, even bringing someone back to life.

The fact that Jesus has power over death is so important to our Christian faith. This week we will be looking at different aspects of how the Bible presents the resurrection in a way that we trust children can understand and embrace. Have a wonderful time this week as a family digging into these wonderful truths!

The section of scripture that we studied was **John 11:1-44**. 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!

# The Greatest Sign of All

**Text: John 2:19** – "Jesus answered and said to them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.'"

**Also read John 2:13-22**

Have you ever heard of a moneychanger? They were people who traded other people's money for the official temple money. All of the people had to have official temple money in order to buy sheep or oxen for a sacrifice at the Passover time. Unfortunately the moneychangers were not very honest. They would make the people pay extra money just to trade it for temple money. They would also charge too much for the animals that would be used in the sacrifices. Then they would keep that money for themselves.

Jesus was not very happy with them, because the temple was to be a place where people were supposed to be able to come into contact with the Lord, not greedy people. It broke Jesus' heart that His Father's house had become about money, not about serving the Lord and showing His love. So Jesus tipped over the moneychangers' tables and chased the dishonest moneychangers out of the temple.

The Jews were very angry about this! They told Jesus that they wanted to see a sign so that they would know that He had the right to do this. That is when Jesus said, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." We see in these verses that Jesus was talking about His own death and His coming back to life (resurrection). This would be the greatest sign of all. Jesus raised Lazarus and others from the dead, but He also rose from the dead Himself. Jesus also did many other signs, but the Jewish leaders refused to believe in Him. But even if rising from the dead after 3 days in the grave was the only thing that Jesus ever did, it would be enough to believe in Him. Have you put your trust in Jesus?

- What is a moneychanger?
- Why was Jesus upset with them?
- How is Jesus' rising from the dead be the greatest sign of all for us to believe in Him?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Moneychanger:** A person who trades the people's money for temple money. In this story the moneychangers are stealing from the people.

**Temple:** The place of worship for the Jews. The Bible also refers to our bodies as the temple of the Holy Spirit.

Day Two

# Jesus Holds It All Together

**Text: Colossians 1:17** – “And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.”

**Also read Colossians 1:15-18**

“But what holds it all together?” Joel said as he scratched his head and had a puzzled look. “Well,” his older brother Jarred said, “the Bible says that Jesus holds everything together.” “So if Jesus just let go of everything, it would all fall apart?” Joel asked. “Yeah that is a good way of looking at it,” Jarred replied. Earlier that day Joel had a lesson in science at school. He was studying molecules. Molecules are the tiniest of particles, which make up everything that we see. You have to use a special microscope in order to see them. Maybe some of you have studied molecules before.

Joel learned a lot about molecules that day, but he still wasn't sure what it was that held them all together. It seems that these little molecules move around, but still stay together. Joel's brother, Jarred tried to help him to understand. Jesus was there with the Father at creation. As we see in our reading today, everything was created by Him, through Him and for Him. We also see that in Him everything consists, or holds together. That is how the molecules are held together! It is through Jesus' power.

We learned in our lesson on Sunday that Jesus is in control of every situation. If Jesus can hold together all of these molecules, then certainly He is in control of our lives or anything that may ever happen to us. Even though Lazarus had died and Mary and Martha were sad, Jesus was still in control of the situation. Jesus raised him from the dead. If you ever think that something is out of control or a problem too difficult for even Jesus to fix, just remember that Jesus holds this whole world together. He can certainly take care of us and any problems that we may have.

- Who created the world?
- Who holds everything together?
- How can we know that Jesus can take care of us and any problems that we may have?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Consist:** held together.  
**Molecule:** A small particle.

Day Three

## Jesus Said, "I Am..."

**Text: John 8:58** - "Jesus said to them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.'"

**Also read John 6:35; 8:12; 10:11; 11:25; 14:6; 15:1**

On Sunday we learned that Jesus made a very amazing statement to Martha concerning her brother Lazarus. He said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live." We can learn a lot about Jesus just by looking at what He said about Himself. Let's take a closer look at the seven statements that Jesus said about Himself in the book of John. There is a lot we can learn about Him.

1. **"I am the bread of life." (John 6:35)** - We all have a spiritual hunger, a need for a savior. Jesus said that when we come to Him we would never hunger again.
2. **"I am the light of the world." (John 8:12)** - This world is filled with darkness. Jesus came as a light in this dark world. When we follow Jesus we don't walk in darkness anymore, but have the light of life."
3. **"I AM." (John 8:58)** - This is one of the most amazing statements Jesus said about Himself. When God spoke to Moses in the wilderness, He said for Moses to say, "I AM" had sent him. By Jesus using this name He was saying that He is God.
4. **"I am the good shepherd" (John 10:11)** - God loves us very much and takes care of us as a loving shepherd. He loves us, protects us and watches over us.
5. **"I am the resurrection and the life." (John 11:25)** - Jesus wiped out death forever when He rose from the dead. When we believe in Him we will have eternal life. We will live with Him forever.
6. **"I am the way, the truth, and the life." (John 14:6)** - How can we have a relationship with God? Through His Son Jesus! Jesus is the way to the Father. He is truth and He is life.
7. **"I am the true vine" (John 15:1)** - When we live our lives attached to Jesus, like a vine is to a branch, our lives will produce a lot of fruit. You can't get very many grapes if the vines are cut off from the branches. But when we remain close to the vine our lives will be a blessing to others.

When Jesus says, "I Am," He is telling us He is everything we need. Let's continue to get to know Him more and more every day!

- How do all of these "I am's" help you to learn more about Jesus?

# The Good News

**Text: Proverbs 25:25** - "As cold water to a weary soul, so is good news from a far country."

**Also read 1 Corinthians 15:1-10**

Have you or your family ever received a letter in the mail maybe from a friend or relative from far away, which was filled with good news? How exciting it is to hear about good things that happen to those that we love. Imagine how excited the disciples and everyone else was when they got to see Jesus after He had risen from the dead! Imagine the news spreading that Jesus was alive, many had seen Him alive, and He has conquered death! For those who saw Jesus die on the cross they may have been very sad, and even without hope as they thought about Jesus dying. But Jesus' work wasn't done. Imagine the excitement they must have felt when they heard the "good news!"

This was certainly "good news" to everyone who heard. Did you know that the word "gospel" means "good news"? When we talk about hearing the gospel or sharing the gospel with someone else we are talking about hearing or sharing good news. What is the good news? The good news is that Jesus died on the cross for our sins, was buried and then on the third day rose again from the dead. He forever conquered sin AND death. When we trust in Jesus we also overcome sin and death in our lives. That is GOOD NEWS!

Imagine those 500 people who got to see Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:6). How they heard the good news and then saw Jesus. How excited they must have been. Jesus was alive again. And not only that, but He also wants to give us eternal life. Have you heard the good news? Have you asked Jesus to come into your heart? Jesus also wants us to share the good news with others (Matthew 28:18-20). The message we have is great news to a world that needs it very much. Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live."

- Tell about a time when you received good news. How did the news make you feel?
- What is the gospel?
- What does the Lord want us to do with this good news?

## Kid's Bible Dictionary



**Gospel:** Good News; the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.  
**Resurrection:** Rising up from the dead.

Day Five

# I Love a Mystery!

**Text: 1 Corinthians 15:51** - "Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep (or die), but we shall all be changed;"

**Also read 1 Corinthians 15:51-58**

Mysteries can be fun to solve! One time there was a boy who kept losing a sock out of his pair every day. He would set out a pair for the next day and when he woke up there would only be one sock! He couldn't figure out what was happening. He decided to get to the bottom of this mystery and set up a trap by his socks. His trap was set up so that if anyone touched his socks a bell would start ringing. Then he could wake up and catch who was taking the sock. That night as he was about to go to sleep he heard the bell! He jumped up to see who was doing it. The mystery was solved! The cat was coming in every night to play and would take a sock with her. The next morning he found his socks in a small pile near the cat's bed. Maybe this solves that great mystery that faces families everywhere that we can put a pair of socks into the laundry and only one sock reappears!

The Bible sometimes refers to mysteries. These are things that really aren't mysterious or scary, just things that have not been revealed or understood. In our reading today, Paul is explaining to us one of these mysteries. It is the mystery of what will happen when the Lord takes us to be with Him. He says that a change will take place. Our bodies will be different.

The bodies we have now wears out and grows old. In heaven our new body will never wear out. Here we can die, in heaven no one will ever die. Because Jesus rose from the dead and destroyed death forever we have eternal life in Him. All of us will one day be raised up like Jesus in a body that will never grow old or die. What a wonderful promise!

- Have you ever solved a mystery? Tell about it.
- In the Bible, what does mystery mean?
- According to 1 Corinthians 15:57, who helps us to win over death?

## Kid's Prayer Time



This week we got to learn a lot about Jesus' resurrection and power over death. As we pray, let's thank the Lord for saving us and giving us the hope of eternal life. Let's also thank Him for the Holy Spirit who continually reminds us that we are God's children and He has everything under control!

# Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**"I am the resurrection  
and the life."**

Third Grade and Above

**"Jesus said to her, 'I am  
the resurrection and the  
life. He who believes in  
Me, though he may die,  
he shall live.'"**

**John 11:25**