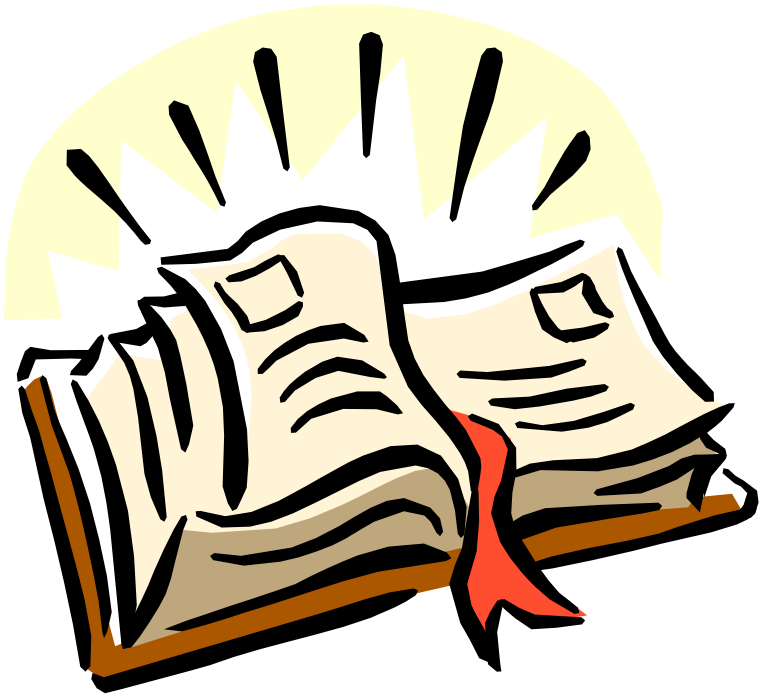
Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

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LESSON TITLE: The House Built on the Rock

THEME: We must hear and do the Word of God.

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 7:24-29

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 House Built on the Rock (Matthew 7:24-29).** We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. We found out that the "wise man" built his house on the rock so that when the storms came, his house would not be destroyed. But, the "foolish man" built his house on the sand. When the storms came, his house was completely destroyed!!

We must build our lives on the right foundation—Jesus and His Word. When our lives are built on Jesus, the solid rock, we will remain strong no matter what storms come into our lives. What a blessing it is to be able to rest in Him!

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

Day One

What Is Our Foundation?

Text: 1 Corinthians 3:11 - "For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

Also read 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

Nick called up Joel and asked if he wanted to come and spend a day with him and his Dad at his Dad's work. Joel was pretty excited and said he would love to go. Nick's Dad built houses, and it was always a fun day when he and Nick got to go out to the construction sight. Joel was happy when his Mom and Dad approved the idea.

The next night, Joel was getting ready for bed; he told his Mom and Dad of the wonderful day he had. He told them about the large cement trucks that were pouring all day long so they would be ready to pour slabs upon which the houses would be built. Joel was even allowed to write his initials in some of the wet concrete. Joel then asked his Dad a question. "Why do they need concrete slabs to build the houses on? Why can't they build them right on the dirt?"

"Well," Joel's Dad replied, "the concrete slab provides a foundation. There has to be a strong foundation for the house to stand on so that it won't sink down when storms come or crumble without good support. If they built the house right onto the dirt or the sand, the house may not stand long. It's kind of like what the Bible talks about when it says that Jesus is our foundation. We need to build our lives on a solid and strong foundation. If we build our lives on Jesus, nothing will be able to hurt us. If we build our lives on anything else, we may not be able to stand for very long. The foundation is the most important part of the building, *and it is the most important* part of our lives."

Jesus said that the wise man builds his house on the rock; the foolish man builds his house on the sand (Matthew 7:24-27). He explained that the one who builds His house on the rock is the one who hears His words and obeys them. Joel jumped in and said, "I definitely want to build my life on Jesus!"

- Have you ever seen the foundation of a house? Maybe your own house?
- What could happen to a house without a strong foundation?
- Have you built your life on the foundation of Jesus?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Foundation: What a building is built upon. For a building to stand up, it must be built on something strong, like rock or concrete. In the Bible, Jesus is said to be the foundation upon which we should build our lives upon. He is our Rock!

Day Two

The Cornerstone

Text: Ephesians 2:20 - "having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,"

Also read Ephesians 2:19-22

Have you ever been to a really old church building or maybe an old mansion or museum made out of stone? If you walked around the outside of the building you may have seen what is called the cornerstone. The cornerstone is a large stone in one corner of the building. It is used to mark where all of the other stones go so that the building will be built properly. In some of the older buildings, the cornerstone is even marked so that you can see which one it is. Some of them might have the date that the building was built and maybe even the name of the person who owned the building and had it built. Since every other stone had to line up with the cornerstone, the cornerstone is the most important part of the foundation.

In our Bible reading, Ephesians 2:19-22, we read that each one of us is part of the wonderful temple that God is building. Jesus is the chief cornerstone. The whole building has been fit together to be a dwelling place for God's Spirit. Each member is important. Each member serves a special purpose, being fit together to bring God glory.

In order for us to be a building that can give glory to the Lord all of the times, our lives need to be lined up with the chief cornerstone. We can grow in Jesus and be strong when we line up our lives with His. In a good, solid building, there cannot be any bricks off by themselves in a pile, nor can there be bricks askew (not lined up) that weaken the building and detract from it's beauty as well as causing other bricks not to line up. Each brick must be properly set in the building to be useful.

So, we need to realize our importance in the body of Christ—the holy temple built for the Lord. Obviously, we are going to need to be around other "bricks" (other Christians) in the temple. We will not be an effective part of the building if we try to live our lives on our own. And, we need to line our life up with Jesus, obeying what He wants us to do. What a privilege to be part of His body, His temple, built for His glory. Have you committed your life to be a well "fitted together" part of God's building.

- What is a cornerstone? How is Jesus the "chief cornerstone?"

- Why is each one an important part of the building?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Cornerstone: The stone placed at the bottom corner in the foundation of a stone building. It was the most important part of the building. A picture of Jesus in the Bible.

Day Three

Wise Boys and Girls

Text: Psalm 19:7 - "The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, **making wise the simple;**"
Also read Psalm 19:7-11

How do we build our lives on the right foundation? We need to hear and obey God's Word. God's Word is filled with wisdom and shows us how to live our lives in a way that is pleasing to Him. When we obey God's Word, our lives will be blessed. In the Psalm 19, we see some things that God's Word **IS** and some things that God's Word **DOES** in our lives.

GOD'S WORD IS:

- Perfect - It is complete, everything that we need.
- Sure - We can count on God's word.
- Right - His word is always right, we can find the truth in the word.
- Pure - There is no sin or any error in God's word.
- True & Righteous - The Bible is "right on." We can rely on the Bible.
- To Be Desired - Even more than gold, it is our most valuable possession.
- Sweet - God's word is gentle, very much a comfort when we are in need.

WHAT GOD'S WORD DOES:

- Converts the soul - The Bible leads us to Jesus and shows us how to be saved.
- Gives us wisdom - God's word teaches us how we are to live.
- Gives our heart joy - It encourages us and fills us with the joy of the Lord.
- Opens our eyes - Because it is truth it opens our eyes to what is right.
- Endures forever - Even though some have tried to destroy it, God's word can never be destroyed.
- Warns us - The Bible tells us what to stay away from so we can have a fruitful life.
- Brings great reward - When we follow God's word, great blessing will follow.

Can you see why studying the Word of God is so valuable?

- Are you learning God's Word and growing in wisdom?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Wisdom: Good sense or understanding, wisdom is a gift from the Lord.

Day Four

A Bad Hair Day

Text: James 1:23 - "For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror;"
Also read James 1:19-25

Joel was looking in the mirror early Sunday morning. He heard Mom say, "Make sure that you brush your teeth and comb your hair before we leave for church." "Okay," Joel replied. Wow, was Joel ever having a bad hair day! It was everywhere. After studying the mirror a little, he decided to go get dressed first. As he got dressed, he began to think about the fun day ahead. Tim had invited him to come over after church to ride scooters; he couldn't wait. Soon it was time to go. Joel sped out to the car.

Mom looked back at Joel and asked, "Did you comb your hair?" "Oh No," Joel said, "I forgot to comb my hair!" "I guess you'll just have to wear it like that for today, since we don't have time to fix it now," Mom said. Though Joel might later forget again that he looked quite messy, his friends were reminded of it all day!

Sometimes, we can look into the Bible and see how God wants us to live and take note of the changes we should make. It's like looking into a mirror and seeing that it's a "bad hair day." A "hearer" would be one who just walked away and forgot to comb his hair. A "doer" sees the need and takes action; he combs his hair! Maybe, after hearing God's Word, you know there is something you should change. If you walk away from the Word without changing, it is kind of like Joel with His bad hair; it doesn't get changed. We are still a mess! It is important to listen to God's Word, but even more important to do it! Let's be "hearers" and "doers" of God's Word!

- Tell about a time when you or someone in your family had a "bad hair day."
- What happens if you see something in the mirror that needs changing but you don't do anything about it?
- What is a "doer" of the Word?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Hearer: **Someone who listens to God's Word.**
Doer: **Someone who does those things that they hear in God's Word.**

Day Five

Hide It in Your Heart

Text: Deuteronomy 6:6 - "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart;"

Also read Deuteronomy 6:4-9

God has given us His Word so that we will know how to live for Him. Building our lives on God's Word is building our lives on a SOLID foundation. We want to be like the wise builder who built his house upon the rock. The Bible should play a very important part of our lives in helping us to do that.

In Deuteronomy 6, Moses spoke to the Israelites regarding God's Word. He said God's Word should be in their hearts. How important that we do not study God's Word with the idea of putting a lot of facts and things in our minds. We need to let God's Word sink deeply into our hearts. We know God's Word is in our heart when we become "doers" of the Word, taking action when we hear it.

Also, Moses commanded parents to teach the Word carefully to their children. It is important to pass on the Word to our children. Next, he said that we should talk about the Bible in our homes—when we are walking and when we are getting ready for bed. It should be the first thing we do when we get up. In other words, God's Word should be in our hearts at all times. He also talked about placing God's Word between our eyes and upon our hands. Everything that we see or do should be tested and filtered by the Word of God. If God's Word is hidden in our hearts, we will be careful that what we are seeing and doing is pleasing to God. Moses said God's Word should be on the doorposts and gates of our homes. Posting God's Word on the doorposts and gates of our home will not only remind us that the Word of God is very important in our life, but those who visit will know the importance of God's Word to us.

Have we given God's Word its proper place in our hearts? God has promised much blessing to those who highly value His Word.

- What has God given us to help us to know how to live for Him?

- Where should we hide God's Word? A) In the back yard? B) In an old coffee can? C) In our hearts?

Kid's Prayer Time



This week as you pray ask the Lord for His wisdom. Thank Him for His Word. Ask Him to help you to build your life upon Jesus, the only solid foundation.

Memory Verse…

First and Second Grade

"If you hear my words and obey them you will be like the wise man who built his house upon the rock. When the rains and floods came and beat upon the house, it didn't fall because it was built on the rock."

Third Grade and Above

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock."

Matthew 7:24, 25