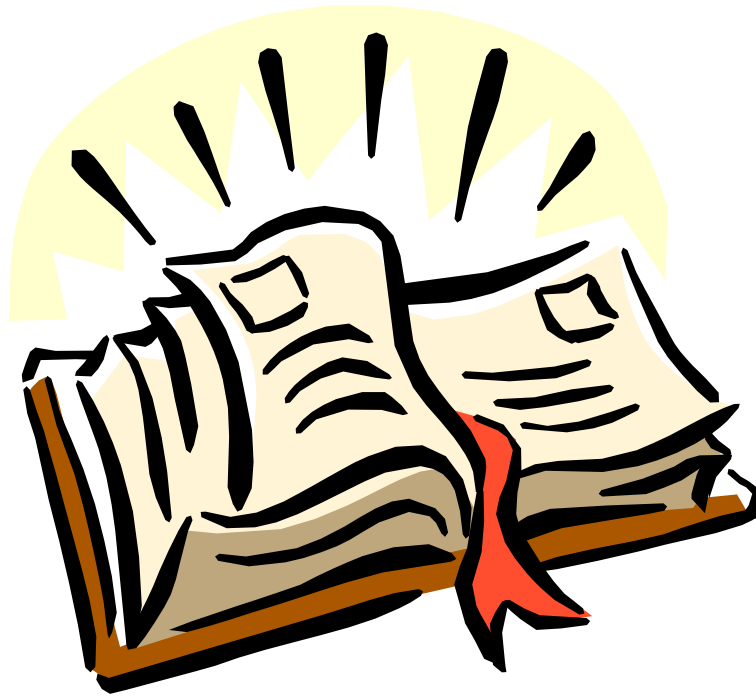


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

September 13, 2020



LESSON TITLE: The Promise of the Holy Spirit

THEME: Jesus satisfies our thirsty spirits.

SCRIPTURE: John 7:37-39

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 Promise of the Holy Spirit (John 7:37-39)**. We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. The theme was **Jesus satisfies our thirsty spirits**. Just as our bodies thirst for water, our spirits thirst for God. Only God can satisfy the thirst within our hearts.

The Bible says that Jesus gives us the Holy Spirit when we believe in Him. And because the Holy Spirit is in our lives, rivers of living water flow out of us. It is exciting to know that other people can see Jesus in our lives because of what the Holy Spirit is doing in our hearts. This week we will be looking more at how the Holy Spirit works in our lives.

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

Thirst Quencher

Text: Isaiah 41:17 - "The poor and needy seek water, but there is none, their tongues fail for thirst. I, the LORD, will hear them; I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them."

Also read Isaiah 41:9-20

"Wow, what a hot day!" Tony and Jimmy just came into the house after playing baseball for a couple hours at the park. The temperature was over 100 degrees and the boys could feel it. Tony opened up the refrigerator and grabbed a soda. "This will quench my thirst!" he said excitedly. Jimmy grabbed a pitcher of water and put some filled it up with ice. Tony drank his soda, and Jimmy drank his glass of water.

After a moment Jimmy said, "Wow, that water sure was great! It hit the spot!" Tony replied, "Really? I'm still thirsty. In fact, I'm even thirstier." So Jimmy picked up the pitcher of water and poured a glass for his friend, "Here, try this and see if your thirst is quenched."

Just like being thirsty on a hot day after a baseball game, our hearts can be thirsty for spiritual things. The Bible talks about an emptiness and a thirst in our hearts that can only be satisfied by God. We may think that other things can quench the thirst inside of us. We might try things like buying a lot of toys, or being the most popular kid at school, or eating as much candy as we want to whenever we want to; but we will only find that these things do not hit the spot—just like Tony found out that soda will not quench his thirst on a hot day.

God created us with a thirst for Him. Only the living water of the Holy Spirit given to us by Jesus can take care of our spiritual thirst. Are you a Christian? Have you tasted of the living water Jesus offers? The Bible says God is happy to give the gift of the Holy Spirit to those who ask (Luke 11:13). Like Jimmy with a big glass of ice cold water, your spirits' thirst will be quenched!

- What things do people sometimes try in order to quench their spiritual thirst? Why doesn't it work?
- Who quenches your spiritual thirst?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Thirst: A dryness related to our bodies need for water.

Quench: To put out or satisfy by immersing in water.

The Helper

Text: John 15:26 - "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me."

Also read John 15:26 - 16:15

Jesus is amazing! During His time on this earth, He fulfilled hundreds of prophecies in the Old Testament of the Bible. He performed many miracles like healing, feeding thousands, and raising people from the dead so they could be living testimonies of His great power. Can you imagine how it must have been for the disciples to have Jesus around? Out in a storm at sea, a lot of people to feed--Jesus was always there in time of need!

But, now, the disciples were sad! Jesus had just told His disciples that He would be crucified. He reassured the disciples they would not be left alone. He promised His disciples that He would send a Helper from the Father—"the Spirit of Truth"—to help them. With the power of the Holy Spirit inside of them, Jesus told the disciples they could do great things. The Holy Spirit would help them tell the world about the Good News of Jesus. What a wonderful comfort this must have been to Jesus' friends!

After Jesus rose from the dead and before He returned to Heaven, Jesus kept his promise. The disciples were filled with Holy Spirit. The Book of Acts in the Bible tells us all about the great things the disciples were able to do through the power of the Holy Spirit. They were bold to share their faith even though they had to overcome many roadblocks—arrests, beatings, imprisonments, physical hardships—and they performed many of the same miracles Jesus did.

The Holy Spirit helps us, who believe in Jesus, to walk with Him and to share His love. Jesus was speaking of the Holy Spirit, in John 7:38, when He said, "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." There is a world that needs to hear the Good News and see Jesus love. God's desire is to fill you up and overflow you with the Holy Spirit. Then, He can use you for His glory just as He used the disciples in the Book of Acts.

- Who is the Helper that Jesus talks about in the Bible?
- How does the Holy Spirit help us?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Helper: Another name for the Holy Spirit. He "helps" and "comforts" us.

Day Three

The Waters of Marah

Text: Exodus 15:25 - "So he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. There He made a statute and an ordinance for them. And there He tested them,"

Also read Exodus 15:22-27

God had delivered His special chosen people from captivity in Egypt. Using Moses, God showed Pharaoh that His people were to be completely free to worship Him and follow Him. At first, the Israelites were thrilled. God had freed them from hundreds of years of slavery! When Pharaoh tried to recapture the Israelites, God crushed the army beneath the waves of a great sea. But then, God led His people through a hot, dry, desert wilderness. It had been three days, and still, no water. They were thirsty! Back in Egypt, they had food and water. They had never had to be without food or water before, but God knew the Israelites needed to learn to trust Him with their very lives.

Finally, they came to water at Marah. But the water at Marah wasn't any good. It was very bitter, and no one could drink it! The people spoke against their leader Moses and began to complain. Moses knew where to turn for help. He cried out to the Lord for help and wisdom! God showed Moses a tree. When he cast it in the water, the water became sweet. After God tested the Israelites at Marah, He led them to a place called Elim where they camped by waters. The word "Elim" means strength or strong place. There was much sweet water at Elim—12 wells, one for each tribe!

We see a picture of Jesus. Our lives are bitter and unusable before we know Jesus because of our sin, which separates us from God. But through the cross (the tree) of Jesus Christ, our bitterness (sin) can be made sweet. Because Jesus took the punishment for our sins at the cross, we are forgiven, cleansed, and brought into a close relationship with God. The condition of our heart is changed! Just as God led His people to fresh, drinkable water, Jesus gives those who believe in Him His living water, the Holy Spirit, to quench their spiritual thirst for God. Jesus said if you drink of His water, you will never thirst again—it will become a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life! (John 4:13,14)

- Why do you think God allowed the Israelites to be without water for three days?
- Who changes the condition of our hearts and quenches our spiritual thirst?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Bitter: Having a taste that is very unpleasant.

The Woman At The Well

Text: Isaiah 44:3 - "For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, and My blessing on your offspring;"

Also read John 4:1-26

Jesus is a marvelous teacher. We can learn so much from Him, today, just by reading our Bibles. He is so kind toward even the worst sinner, desiring to extend forgiveness and His offer of eternal life. In John 4, we read about His kindness to a woman who, because of her sins, was so poorly treated by the other women in the city that she did not come to draw water from the public well at the time they all came. She preferred to find a time she could come alone. When Jesus asked her for water, the woman was amazed that He would even speak to her! Then, He amazed her even more. Jesus told her He would give her water that would quench her thirst forever. The woman felt she could use some of that kind of water! Her response was, "Sir, give me this water...." Jesus continued to talk to the woman, gently revealing her need for God and then telling her plainly who He was—the Messiah, the Christ. Can you imagine the joy she must have felt in her heart to know that she was talking to the Messiah—the One chosen by God to remove the sins of the world.

God promised to pour out water, His Spirit, upon the thirsty through the prophet Isaiah, hundreds of years before Jesus spoke to the woman at the well. God still desires to pour water upon those who are thirsty. The woman of the well was not deserving of Jesus' kindness. Neither are we. The Bible says we have all sinned and fallen short of God's glory (Romans 3:23). Yet, God desires fellowship with us and offers forgiveness and salvation to those who believe in Him. Romans 5:8 declares, "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Have you accepted His offer of salvation? Jesus said, "...Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life." Has your spiritual thirst been quenched forever? If it has, let the living water of the Holy Spirit in your life overflow to others—share His love so others who are thirsty can be satisfied, too!

- Why do you think Jesus spoke to the woman at the well?
- What did Jesus offer to the woman at the well? What does He offer us?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Christ: Messiah, or the chosen one of God who would take away our sins.
Well: A place or hole in the ground where people can draw water from.

Day Five

The River of Life

Text: Revelation 22:17 - "And the Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."

Also read Revelation 21:1-7; 22:1-5

In the very last book of the Bible, Revelation, the last two chapters tell about the new heaven and earth that will be created. An angel shows the Apostle John the beautiful New Jerusalem. A river, pure, clean, and clear flows from the throne of God and the Lamb (Jesus). In Chapter 22:17 we read, "And the Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."

In John 7:37, we read, "Jesus stood and cried out, 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink!'" The Holy Spirit and the bride (the church—the true believers in Jesus Christ) echo the invitation of Jesus to whoever is thirsty. The world seeks to quench their spiritual thirst in all sorts of ways—money, things, power, popularity, pleasure. But, God longs that man understand that only He can satisfy the deepest need of their heart.

We, the church, are commissioned (given orders) to spread the Good News to a world searching for satisfaction in all the wrong places. Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians that the love of Christ compelled (strongly persuaded) him to share the Good News, realizing that Jesus died for the sins of the whole world and that apart from Jesus, all men are spiritually dead. He went on to say that we all have been given the ministry of reconciliation—that is, we, by the help of the Holy Spirit, are to be helping people see their need and find their way into a relationship with God through faith in Jesus! Are you echoing the invitation of Jesus to the thirsty?

- What invitation does Jesus give to man?
- What was Paul compelled (strongly persuaded) to do? Why?
- Do you know people who need to know that God can satisfy their spiritual thirst?

Kid's Prayer Time



Thank the Lord for the gift of the wonderful Helper, the Holy Spirit, who satisfies our spiritual thirst and helps us to share the love of Jesus with others who are thirsty.

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

**"Jesus gives us living
water."**

Third Grade and Above

**"...Jesus stood and cried
out, saying, 'If anyone
thirsts, let him come to
Me and drink'."**

John 7:37