

FAMILY DEVOTIONALS WEEK 14

These are built to allow each family the opportunity to have a 5-15 minute devotional that includes Scripture, Questions, Activities, and Prayer. When reading to children, please remember to use an easy to read version of the Bible such as the New Living Translation (NLT), God's Word Translation (GW), or the International Children's Bible (ICB). Each translation can be found at biblegateway.com or on the Bible app on your phone.

Day 92 - Jesus Forgives a Woman

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story on Saturday? What happened?

Read:

Luke 8:36-50

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Who came to visit Jesus while he was having dinner with the Pharisees?

What did the woman do for Jesus?

What did the Simon, the Pharisee, think about the woman kissing Jesus feet and rubbing perfume on them?

What did Jesus tell Simon?

What did Jesus do for the woman?

Activity:

In Jesus' day, people wore sandals and the roads were not paved, they were all dirt. So, when you would enter a house, everyone's feet would be very very dirty! That's why Jesus was surprised when Simon, the Pharisee, didn't offer water to Jesus to clean Jesus' feet. Have your child go barefoot in a dirty or muddy place (or, if you are unable to do that, just put some flour or something that you can wash off) and then come back and help them clean their feet. Watch the dirt wash away and discuss how the woman washed the dirt away Jesus feet and Jesus washed away the dirt from the woman's life by forgiving her!

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, it is amazing that you are always willing to forgive us, no matter what we have done. Help us to come to you and ask for forgiveness when we have done wrong. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Day 93 - Jesus Calms the Storm

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story on yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Mark 4:34-41

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What happened while Jesus and the disciples were in the boat?

What was Jesus doing when the storm came?

What did the disciples do when the storm came?

What did Jesus say to the storm when he woke up?

What did the storm do when Jesus told it to stop?

How did the disciples feel about Jesus after the storm had stopped?

Activity:

Sometimes it's tough to think about how scary it would be out in the middle of a big lake when a storm hits. The next time your child takes a bath place a small plastic object, such as a storage container or a toy, in the water with you. See how tiny it is in the bathtub. Then have your child be the storm. Have them blow and splash and make the boat shake. It is easy to see why the disciples felt so helpless. Then you be the disciples and beg Jesus to stop the storm and have your child pretend to be Jesus and tell the storm to stop. Watch how quickly everything in the bathtub become calm. It's a wonderful reminder of how powerful Jesus is in our lives.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you that when we face storms in our lives, when things seem big and scary, that we can always remember that you are there for us and that you are in control of everything, so we never have to worry. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Day 94 - Jesus Sends Demons into a Herd of Pigs

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

Please begin with: Right after Jesus calmed the storm the boat arrived on the other side of the lake, that's where today's story takes place.

Mark 5:1-20

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Who came to see Jesus when he got out of the boat?

What was wrong with the man?

What did Jesus do with the demons in the man?

What did the pigs do when the demons went into them?

How did the people in town treat Jesus when they heard about the miracle?

What did Jesus tell the man to do now that he was healed?

Activity:

When we first met the demon possessed man he had wild hair and chains on his hands and feet and didn't wear hardly any clothes. When the demon possessed man saw Jesus he jumped and yelled and hit himself. But Jesus was able to change the demon possessed man's entire life. In fact, the Bible says that people were afraid because the demon possessed man was fully clothed and acted perfectly nice. Can you imagine that type of change? Today, have your kids play a little bit of dress up. Have them dress up in a strange outfit and pretend to be a completely different person. Explain to them that this is how the demon possessed man felt, he felt like he wasn't himself, that he was a different person, until Jesus came to the demon possessed man and healed him. Then the demon possessed man went and told everyone he could about what great things Jesus had done in his life.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we know that you have the power to change our lives. We pray that we can be like the man in this story and go and tell everyone we meet about the great things you have done in our lives. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Day 95 - Jesus Feeds 5,000 People

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday? What happened?

Read:

John 6:1-14

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What was the problem that happened while Jesus was teaching?

How much food did the young boy have to help out?

How many people were there to feed?

What did Jesus do with the bread and fish?

How much food was left over when everyone was done eating?

What did people think about Jesus after he performed this miracle?

Activity:

When you have dinner this evening, give your child their plate and talk about the boy with the loaves and fish. Those loaves and fish were enough to feed on child just like them. Ask your child if your whole family could eat off of just the food they have on their plate? What about the entire church (or class or something that the child would have an idea of as 50-500 people)? Could they all eat just off of that one meal? What about everyone in your whole neighborhood, or town or school (depending on the size ratio to get it into the thousands)? No way, that seems impossible that they could all be filled by that one little meal. Yet, with Jesus' help, those loaves and fish from one small boy, fed over 5000 people! That's how powerful God is!

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, thank you for the food that you give us every single day to eat. We are so blessed that you love us and that you are a God of miracles. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Day 96 - The Good Samaritan

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday?

Read:

Luke 10:25-37

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

What happened to the man as he was traveling from Jerusalem to Jericho?

Who was the first person who came by the injured man?

What did the Jewish priest do?

Who was the second person who came by the injured man?

What did the Temple assistant do?

Who was the third person who came by the injured man?

What did the Samaritan do?

What did the Samaritan tell the innkeeper to do?

Activity:

Jesus tells this story because a religious teacher asks Jesus the question, "Who is my neighbor?" Today, help your child do something nice for one of your neighbors. For example, they could write your neighbor a card and give it to them, or put it in their mail box. They could help make some cookies. They could even just go over and say hello, ask their name, and get to know them a little better. Jesus says we are to love our neighbors and the best way to start that is by being nice to them and getting to know them better.

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

"Dear God, we pray that we be like the good Samaritan. That when we see someone who is hurt or sad, that we will take the time to go and care for them, just like you always take the time to care for us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen."

Day 97 - Jesus Shines Like the Sun

Recap:

Do you remember what happened in our story yesterday?

Read:

Luke 9:28-36

Questions:

What happened in today's story?

Do you have any questions about today's story?

Why did Jesus, Peter, James, and John go up the mountain?

What happened to Jesus face and clothes when they were praying?

What two men showed up to talk to Jesus?

What did Peter want to do for Jesus, Elijah, and Moses?

What did the voice of God, the voice from Heaven, say to Peter, James, and John?

Activity:

When Jesus was on top of the mountain the Bible says his face and cloths became a blinding bright white. You will need:

- Two pieces of paper that light can't get through. Construction paper, cardboard, etc.
- One piece of something that is thin but still opaque such as toilet paper, wax paper, etc.
- Tape, or glue, and scissors.

Use the first sheet of construction paper for you and your child to cut a man shaped hole. Then glue or tape the strip of wax paper to the back of that first sheet of construction paper so that it completely covers Jesus. Finally, hold the second piece of construction paper behind the wax paper. So there should be cut out of Jesus paper, wax paper, full piece of construction paper. Now retell the story and hold your project up to the light. When it comes time for Jesus face and clothes to glow, pull the full sheet of construction paper off and the light should shine through the wax paper, making Jesus glow!

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

“Dear God, the thing you told Peter, James, and John in the story today was that Jesus is your chosen one and that we should listen to him. We pray that we are thankful for how important Jesus is in our lives and that we always listen to him when he talks to us. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen.”

Day 98 - A Day at Church

Note: Depending when you begin these devotionals and your frequency of reading them, each week's church day may not fall on the day your church worships. However, remember that whenever your day of church worship falls, this is an opportunity to have a wonderful conversation with your children about God.

Church:

Enjoy a day at church!

Questions:

What did you learn about in church today?

Do you have any questions about the story you learned in church?

What was your favorite story from this week?

What did you like so much about that story?

Prayer:

Each day, ask your children if they have anything they would like to pray for (aka prayer requests). If you have suggestions, place those in your prayer.

“Dear God, thank you for this week and everything we learned. Help us to keep it in our hearts and to always follow you. Today, we want to pray for insert prayer requests. God, thank you for loving us. In Jesus' name, amen.”