

JESUS STORYBOOK DEVOTIONAL TIPS!

- 1 Take your time and enjoy reading the story. Especially if you have younger kids, make it fun!
- 2 Questions are provided by age range, but feel free to use any that are helpful.
- 3 Some answers are provided, but there may be other answers that work as well.
- 4 Remember, it's okay to say, "What a great question, but I don't know that answer" and remind kids that you are learning about Jesus too!

SUNDAY OCTOBER 2

- 1 READ "FRIEND OF LITTLE CHILDREN", JESUS & THE CHILDREN, MATT. 18, 19, MARK 10, LUKE 18, PAGES 256 - 262 IN THE JESUS STORYBOOK BIBLE.
- 2 ASK THESE QUESTIONS

PRE-SCHOOL

What were Jesus' friends arguing about? (*Who was the most important*) Does Jesus love us because we are the nicest or smartest or most important? (*No! He loves everyone.*) What did Jesus do when the children wanted to be with Him? (*He played with them, laughed with them, loved them*) It will be so fun to play with Jesus in heaven one day!!

KINDERGARTEN-3RD GRADE

What were Jesus' friends arguing about? (*Who was the most important*) But God doesn't love us because we are the nicest or smartest or most important. What does the story say about God's love? (*God's love is a gift and it's FREE.*) The children knew Jesus loved them and they came to be with Him. What did Jesus do when the children came? (*He said "let them come", He played with them, He loved them*) What would you like to do with Jesus when we're together in heaven one day?

4TH-5TH GRADE

Jesus' friends were arguing about who was the most important. Have you ever felt competitive with a sibling or a friend? Jesus' friends thought they had to DO something special for God to love them. Is that true? (*No! God's love is a gift.*) The children weren't arguing. They just wanted to be with Jesus. How did Jesus respond when the children came to Him? (*He said "let them come", He played with them, He loved them*) What would you want to do if we could spend time with Jesus in person today?

M12/H12 THE MAN WHO DIDN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS (READ LUKE 19:1-10)

Zacchaeus felt left out. Where do you feel left out like Zacchaeus? (*share that with your family or M12/H12 Community Group Leader*) Why do you think Jesus invited himself over to Zacchaeus' house? Imagine Jesus inviting himself over for a meal and sitting at your table to catch up about what's going on in your life. Where do you feel convicted about how you're living? Reflect on the love and kindness of Jesus that meets you where you're at and calls you to something more.



SUNDAY OCTOBER 9

- 1 READ "THE MAN WHO DIDN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS", THE STORY OF ZACCHAEUS, LUKE 19, PAGES 264 - 271 IN THE JESUS STORYBOOK BIBLE.
- 2 ASK THESE QUESTIONS

PRE-SCHOOL

Poor Zacchaeus didn't have any friends. Why didn't people like Zacchaeus? (*He stole their money*) Zacchaeus was very short so he couldn't see when Jesus was coming. How did Jesus see Zacchaeus? (*Zacchaeus climbed up in a tree*) Zacchaeus realized stealing money was wrong and said he was sorry. Did Jesus forgive Zacchaeus? (*Yes*)

KINDERGARTEN-3RD GRADE

Why didn't people like Zacchaeus? (*He stole their money*) Zacchaeus was so short, he couldn't see over all the people. What did Zacchaeus do to try and see Jesus? (*He climbed a sycamore tree*) Jesus saw Zacchaeus in the tree and what did he say? (*Jesus told him to come down so they could go to his house*) Why do you think Jesus wanted to go to Zacchaeus' house? Why did Zacchaeus feel ashamed when Jesus was at his house? (*Because Zacchaeus knew stealing was wrong and being with Jesus made him want to do the right thing.*)

4TH-5TH GRADE

What stands out to you in this story about Jesus and Zacchaeus? Why were people so grumpy that Jesus wanted to be Zacchaeus' friend? (*Zacchaeus had stolen money and they thought Jesus should be angry too.*) How did Zacchaeus feel after Jesus came to his house? (*When he realized Jesus still loved him, Zacchaeus felt ashamed about stealing.*) We have all sinned in some way. Do you think Jesus knows what we've done? (*Yes*) After reading about Zacchaeus, how do you think Jesus feels about us when we sin? (*He still loves us. God has rescued us too! God's love never stops.*)

M12/H12 RUNNING AWAY (READ LUKE 15:11-32)

When have you felt like you messed up so badly that God wouldn't want to love you anymore? What is one area of your life where you feel like you're running away from God but you need to run towards Him? Talk to your family or M12/H12 Community Group Leader about a time in their lives when this story moved them emotionally.



SUNDAY OCTOBER 16

- 1 READ "RUNNING AWAY", THE STORY OF THE LOST SON, LUKE 15, PAGES 272 - 279 IN THE JESUS STORYBOOK BIBLE.
- 2 ASK THESE QUESTIONS

PRE-SCHOOL

What did the boy in this story do? (*He ran away.*) He took his Dad's money and ran far far away. What happened when he ran out of money and had no food? (*He had to eat with the pigs!*) When the boy finally went home, did his Dad still love him? (*Yes!*)

KINDERGARTEN-3RD GRADE

Why did the boy run away? (*Several possible answers on pg. 272*) What happened when the boy ran out of money? (*His friends went away, and he had to eat with the pigs.*) When the boy decided to go home, what did he worry about? (*He worried that his Dad wouldn't love him anymore.*) How did the boy's Dad feel when he saw his son coming? (*He was happy and he ran to greet him.*) Jesus said that God is like the dad in the story. What do you think that means? How does God feel about you?

4TH-5TH GRADE

Why did the boy run away? (*Several possible answers on pg. 272*) How do you think the boy felt when he was eating piggy food? Jesus said that God is like the dad in the story. What does that say about God? Have you ever felt far from God? What does this story tell us about how God feels about us?

M12/H12 WASHED WITH TEARS (READ LUKE 7:36-50)

What is your most important possession? How could you use your treasured possessions for Jesus? Do you think people need to be rescued more on the inside or the outside? Talk to your family or M12/H12 Community Group Leader about a time when they struggled with judging something based on "outside" things.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 23

- 1 READ "WASHED WITH TEARS", A SINFUL WOMAN ANOINTS JESUS, MARK 14, LUKE 7, JOHN 12, PAGES 280 - 285 IN THE JESUS STORYBOOK BIBLE.
- 2 ASK THESE QUESTIONS

PRE-SCHOOL

What special gift did the woman pour out on Jesus' feet? (*Very special perfume*) How did the Important People feel when the woman did these things? (*They were cross - or mad at the woman because she had done bad things. They didn't want her there.*) Jesus knew the woman was sorry for the bad things she had done. Did Jesus forgive her for those bad things? (*Yes!*) Does Jesus forgive us when we do bad things? (*Yes! Because He loves us.*)

KINDERGARTEN-3RD GRADE

Why were the Important People so mad at the woman who washed Jesus' feet? (*The woman wasn't invited to dinner and they knew she had done bad things.*) Why did the Important People think they were good and the woman was bad? (*Because the Important People kept the rules and they believed that made them good.*) What did the woman know about Jesus? (*She knew she needed Jesus to rescue her.*)

4TH-5TH GRADE

What stands out to you about the woman in this story? Why did the Important People think they were better than the woman? What does this story show us about what is important to God? (*You can keep the rules and look good on the outside, but still have a sinful heart.*) It took a lot of courage for that woman to do what she did in front of all those people. Have you ever had to do something brave in order to follow Jesus?

M12/H12 THE SERVANT KING (READ JOHN 13-14)

Jesus, God with us, chose to be a King who would serve others. What is one way that someone else has served you in a memorable way? Talk to your family or M12/H12 Community Group Leader about a way you can step up and serve others like Jesus modeled for us.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 30

- 1 READ "THE SERVANT KING", THE LAST SUPPER FROM MARK 14, JOHN 13-14, PAGES 286 - 293 IN THE JESUS STORYBOOK BIBLE.
- 2 ASK THESE QUESTIONS

PRE-SCHOOL

What were Jesus' friends arguing about? (*Stinky feet!*) Who washed everyone's stinky feet? (*Jesus*) What special food did they have at the Passover meal? (*Bread and wine*) Who came to rescue all of us? Who is God's Helper? (*Jesus*)

KINDERGARTEN-3RD GRADE

What were Jesus' friends arguing about? (*Who was going to clean their stinky feet!*) When Jesus washed His friends' feet, what did he say people needed most? (*To be clean on the inside*) Which one of Jesus' friends had a bad plan? (*Judas*) During dinner, what did Jesus say the bread was like? (*The bread is like Jesus' body and it will break.*) What did Jesus say the wine was like? (*The wine is like Jesus' blood and it will pour out.*)

4TH-5TH GRADE

Why was Jesus called the Servant King? (*Jesus is God's Son and a King, but he chose to wash stinky feet like a servant*) What did Jesus say when he was washing his friends' feet? (*"I am doing this because I love you. Do this for each other."*) What do you think Jesus was trying to teach his friends? What did Jesus teach his friends about the bread and the wine? (*pg 292*) Jesus is the Rescuer God sent to a broken world! Is there anything in your heart that you want to ask God to make clean?

M12/H12 A DARK NIGHT IN THE GARDEN (READ LUKE 22 39:62)

"God was going to pour into Jesus' heart all the sadness and brokenness in people's hearts." Take a moment and reflect on what that must have been like. All brokenness for all time. If you are a follower of Jesus, pray and thank Jesus for taking your sin away and rescuing you. This was all a part of God's plan to rescue us from the beginning. Talk to your family or M12/H12 Community Group Leader about how this story/scripture made you feel. Ask them about how it impacts them

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