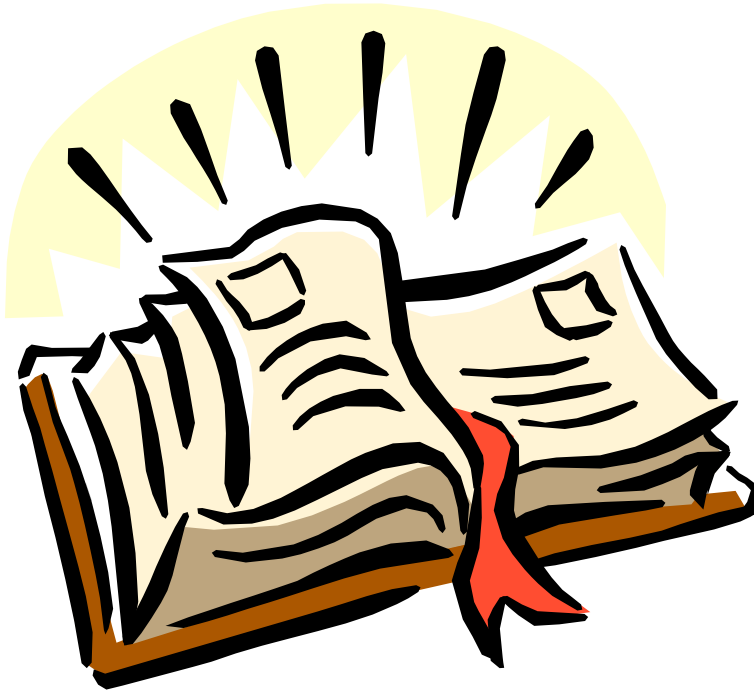


Bible Time for Kids!



CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF:

LESSON TITLE: Sowing and Reaping

THEME: We will always reap what we sow!

SCRIPTURE: Galatians 6:6-10



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 in Children's Church we learned about **Sowing and Reaping**. The theme was "**We will always reap what we sow.**" The Bible teaches us about a very natural process. In farming, a farmer will plant a certain kind of seed and will expect that plant to grow and produce fruit. If he plants corn, he does not expect asparagus to grow.

It is the same when it comes to walking with the Lord. If we sow or plant bad things in our hearts we cannot expect good things to come out. We have to be careful what we plant and only plant good things. Then we will reap or harvest wonderful things in our lives. This week we are going to take a closer look at these truths and how they apply to our lives.

The section of scripture that we studied was **Galatians 5:22-26**. 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!

Sowing

Text: Galatians 6:7 – “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.”

Also read Psalm 62:11-12

Salvador and Maria live together with their parents on a small farm in Mexico. Salvador is 10 years old and his sister is 8. Salvador loves to play and have fun, but his desire for fun is going to teach him a very valuable lesson. It is better to sow obedience than to sow disobedience and reap the problems that come with it. Salvador's father and mother are Christians and Salvador's father is always looking for good opportunities to teach Salvador about the Lord and His Word. Our story begins in the springtime, right about the time when all of the farmers begin to plant their crops for the summer harvest. Salvador likes to help his dad by working on the farm.

One day they were working together, planting some corn. Salvador's father began to tell Salvador what the Bible says about planting. “The Bible calls planting, 'sowing'. In fact it says that we have to be careful not to allow ourselves to be fooled, because whatever a man plants will be the very thing that will grow and one day be harvested.” “What does that mean?” Salvador asked. “Well, it means that if we plant good things into our lives then good things will come out of our lives, but if we plant bad things into our lives then bad things will come out. So we need to be careful to always plant good things.”

“Another way of putting it is that there is always something that happens if I do something good or if I do something bad. When I plant this corn into the ground, the corn will grow and one day we will have many ears of corn to harvest. But if I were to plant weeds then we would end up with nothing good to eat. When we do good things and live according to God's Word then good things will come into our lives. But if we choose to do bad things then we cannot expect good things to happen. We will have to live with the results of what happens. So let's finish sowing our corn.” “Yeah, then in a few months we'll have a whole bunch of corn to eat!” Salvador replied. **Continued on Day Two...**

- What kind of plants will corn seed produce?
- What will be produced in our lives when good things are planted into them?
- What will be produced in our lives when bad things are planted into them?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Sow: To plant. We should only plant good things into our hearts and lives.

Sowing Bad Things

Text: Deuteronomy 30:19 – "...I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live;"

Also read Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Continued from Day One... The next morning Salvador and Maria had some time to play together outside. Their dad owned an old green tractor that was kind of beat up from all of the years of use. Salvador jumped up on the tractor and started playing like he was driving it. Maria ran up to him immediately and said, "You had better get off of that, you remember what dad said about playing on the tractor." "That's OK," Salvador replied, "Dad's way on the other side of the fields, he won't even know."

Maria continued to warn Salvador, but he just ignored her. What Salvador didn't realize was that the key was in the tractor when he began pushing buttons and turning knobs. As he continued to push the various buttons next to the steering wheel the engine sputtered to life and the tractor started. Maria just covered her eyes and yelled out, "You had better turn that thing off!" "I will as soon as I have a little bit of fun!" Salvador replied. "Hey, hop on with me", Salvador reached down and pulled his sister up to sit with him. "I don't have a good feeling about this", Maria said with panic in her voice.

Salvador just shouted out, "Don't worry!" and put the tractor into first gear. They began to move. Now, Salvador had never driven a tractor before. But he watched dad do it several times. He drove around in a couple of circles to show off and then began to go straight. "Your heading right for the barn!" Maria shouted. "I can't stop it!" Salvador said, now with a panic in his voice. Salvador lost control of the tractor and it ran right into the barn. Wood and dust flew everywhere; even a few chickens ran for cover. Salvador and Maria were all right, but the tractor and barn looked pretty bad. "Now you did it!" Maria said sarcastically. It looks like Salvador really did do it this time. Thankfully they were all right. Salvador sowed something in our story today. It is called disobedience. Tomorrow we will see what Salvador reaps. There are always results to our actions. When we sow bad things, bad results will happen. **Continued on Day Three...**

- What was Salvador sowing in our story today?
- What might have happened if Salvador took his sister's advice?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Choose Life: Make your choices based on what will be a blessing for your future.

Reaping Bad Things

Text: Galatians 6:7 - "...for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap."

Also read Hosea 10:12-13

Continued from Day Two... Salvador knew that he had made a very bad choice. He also knew that he was going to be in big trouble. When his dad had talked to him about sowing and reaping just a few days ago he never thought that he would be living it out so soon. "This never would have happened if I had just obeyed the rules. How am I going to get out of this mess?" he thought to himself.

Salvador realized that he had disobeyed and had sinned. He also knew that he first needed to talk to the Lord about it. So he prayed and asked Jesus to forgive him for disobeying his dad and for crashing the tractor into the barn. He knew that he would have to face his father with what he had done wrong. But he also knew that Jesus forgave him for his sin.

When Salvador's dad came home later that afternoon, Salvador went up to him and told him everything that had happened. He took him out and showed him the tractor and the barn. Salvador's dad's jaw fell to the ground in disbelief. He took a few minutes and just silently stared at the tractor and the barn. Salvador was pacing nervously and he didn't notice that his dad was saying a short prayer and asking the Lord for wisdom on how to handle this situation.

"Salvador, how many times have I told you not to play around that tractor!" his dad said. "A lot?" Salvador replied. "Yes, a lot! I hope you have now learned your lesson," his dad said. "Please forgive me dad. I know that what I did was wrong and I asked Jesus to forgive me," Salvador said. "I forgive you son, I'm just glad that you and your sister weren't hurt, but you will be spending your playtime over the next several weeks helping me fix the barn. Remember when we talked about sowing and reaping? Well, you sowed something that wasn't good and now you are reaping the harvest of that. It isn't very much fun is it?" "No dad, it isn't!" Salvador replied. "But this is a lesson that I will never forget!"

- What did Salvador learn about sowing and reaping?
- What have you learned about sowing and reaping?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Reaping: the result of sowing; harvesting; receiving the fruit. When we sow good things, we reap good things. When we sow bad things we reap bad things.

Sowing and Reaping Good Things

Text: Proverbs 11:18 – “The wicked man does deceptive work, but to him who sows righteousness will be a sure reward.”

Also read Proverbs 11:17-21

The Bible talks often about two different paths that we can walk on. If you have ever been on a hike up in the mountains you find trails that will often split in two different directions. That means that you have a choice about which direction or path you would like to go. One path may keep you on course to where you want to go, while the other path may lead you off course or even cause you to get lost. So, we have to be very careful about which path we choose.

In our lives we are given many different choices. We will come across a lot of forks where we will need to make decisions about how we will live our lives. There may be a choice where we can either serve the Lord and draw closer to Him, or there may be a choice which may draw us away from the Lord. It is very important that we choose the path that will help us to grow in the Lord. That path may not be the easiest one for us to take, but it will always be the best path for us. Jesus said that the path that leads to life is narrow and can be rough, but the path that leads to destruction is broad and easy. We need to be careful not to choose the world's ways, which may seem easy, but will only lead to problems and destruction in our lives.

We have been learning about sowing and reaping, the decisions we make in life are very important. If we choose to do the right things and follow Jesus then we will live a very blessed and wonderful life. If we choose to follow our own desires or what the world wants us to do then we will have all kinds of problems. God wants us to reap good things. He wants to bless us with a wonderful life. Anytime we come to a fork in the road let's choose the path that will lead to life! Let's remember to plant good things in our lives so we can harvest wonderful things.

- Tell about a time when you had to make a decision.
- What path does the Lord want us to choose?
- What will you do when you come to a fork in the road in your life?

Kid's Bible Dictionary



Path: The direction our lives go based on our decisions. There is a narrow path which leads to life and a broad path leading to destruction.

Don't Wear Out!

Text: Galatians 6:9 - "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart."

Also read 1 Corinthians 15:58

Have you ever felt like giving up on something? Maybe you began something that you thought would be a lot of fun, but you found out that it took a lot of work to do it. I can remember growing up and wanting to learn how to play the piano. My parents took me to piano lessons every week. I had a great time learning new songs, but I had a problem. You see, I wanted to be able to play like Beethoven or Mozart after only a month or two. I didn't realize that even to be able to play okay, I would need a few years of...(yuck! I don't even want to think about it!)...PRACTICE.

I did not have the patience to practice in order to play the piano well. My parents would tell me to practice every day, but I would complain and moan and even get "mysterious" tummy aches so I would not have to. Well my complaining paid off. My parents finally told me that they weren't going to torture me anymore with piano practice, but it meant that I would have to stop the lessons. At first I was excited. I thought, "Yeah! Now I can use that time for real fun, like goofing off or playing." But what I did not realize was that later in life I would feel bad about that decision. I wish now I had stayed with it and learned how to play the piano. But like we have been learning this week, we reap what we sow. We also learn that we have to hang in there for good things in life. We cannot get weary doing good because one day we will reap the benefits.

Maybe you are getting kind of weary doing something that the Lord would want you to do. The Bible encourages us not to give up. We need to hang in there and keep our focus on Jesus and what He wants in our lives. Whether it is learning how to play an instrument or just learning how to live our lives for Jesus, we should never give up. Even in those times when it seems hard to be a Christian. Maybe other children laugh or make fun of you because you are a Christian. Hang in there, because the Lord will bless those who are His faithful servants.

- Is there something good in your life that you have felt like giving up on?

Kid's Prayer Time



This week as you pray, ask the Lord to help you to sow good things into your life. Also pray that He would help you by His Spirit to not grow weary in doing good. God bless you!

Memory Verse...

First and Second Grade

"Therefore, as we have
opportunity, let us do good
to all especially to those who
are of the household
of faith."

Third Grade and Above

"Therefore, as we have
opportunity, let us do good
to all especially to those who
are of the household
of faith."

Galatians 6:10