



FAMILY RESOURCE PAGE

THE STORY



CHAPTER 23 JESUS' MINISTRY BEGINS

DEVOTION 1 THIS IS GOD'S SON

Today's reading: Page 165 through break on page 169

This reading covers: Matthew 3-4; John 1

Summary: John the Baptist tells everyone who Jesus is.

Do together: Pull out the birth announcements you sent out when your children were born. Let the kids look over the announcements and see the information, and perhaps the picture. Talk about how excited and happy you were to announce their birth.

If your child was adopted, what a wonderful time for you to emphasize the gift they were to you. Adoption is a beautiful picture of what God has done for us. He chose us! Wow!

Think about: When it was time for God to tell the world Jesus had come to take away their sins, he used John to bring the message. How excited John must have been to give the special news to the people. Jesus came to give everyone a chance to go to heaven. He came to die so the people's sins could be forgiven once and for all.

Also read: Luke 19:5-10

Prayer: Father, Thank you that you sent your Son, Jesus, to die for us. Thank you that you knew we needed him, because we cannot save ourselves. Help us to tell our friends the good news about Jesus. In Jesus' name, Amen.

DEVOTION 2 JESUS THE HEALER

Today's reading: Break on page 169 through break on page 172

This reading covers: Matthew 4; Mark 1-3

Summary: Jesus cared about people.

Do together: Think of someone who could use some encouragement from your family. Have the children make cards of greeting, support, good wishes, or some expression of encouragement that is appropriate. As they draw pictures and think of something to say inside the card, you can discuss the Bible story.

(Do not put the cards in an envelope or distribute them to the recipients. We'll do that tomorrow.)

Think about: Jesus cared so much about people that he did everything he could to help them. He sometimes made them well if they were sick. But always, always he loved them. Since we are just people, and not God, we cannot make others well. But we can show them God's love and pray for them.

Also read: 1 John 4:11-12

Prayer: Father today we pray for our friends. Please help them to feel your love today. Help the cards we are making to remind them of your love. Be close to them today, God. In Jesus' name, Amen.

DEVOTION 3

JESUS' HELPERS

Today's reading: Break on page 172 through end of chapter

This reading covers: Mark 3

Summary: Jesus had some special followers who would share his message.

Do together: Address the envelopes for the homemade cards from yesterday. Have the children do what is age-appropriate. Maybe they can address the envelopes themselves. Maybe all they can do is affix the stamp.

Think about: When the cards are ready to mail, or before you actually walk to the neighbor's house to deliver them, talk about how important it is to share God's love and the message of Jesus. We are God's special helpers to do the jobs he has for us. Telling others about him and doing things to show his love are the most important jobs we will ever have.

Also read: Matthew 25:34-40

Prayer: Dear God, we pray for our friend again today. We ask that you would help us to be your special helpers to show others your love. In Jesus' name, Amen.

NEXT WEEK'S PARENT VOLUNTEERS:

David & Sarah Sepe
Chris & Tiffany Shepherd

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Kids Ministry Raffle:** The drawing will be held on Saturday, March 21 at the Missions Auction. You do not need to be present to win. Cost \$1 per ticket, \$10 for 12 tickets, or \$20 for 30 tickets.
 - Grand prize - All Kids Ministry events/ programs for free for a year with the exception of childcare and Hume Lake
 - Ditch the Parents - free for a year
 - Christmas Kick Off Event - lunch for 4 and 2 gingerbread houses
 - 2015 Sports Camp / Theme days - free for one family
 - \$50 voucher for an Kids Ministry program or event
- **\$5 Gift Card:** if you are able we are requesting that families bring a \$5 gift card for a gift basket that will be auctioned off at the Missions Auction.

MEMORY VERSES:

- **2 & 3 year olds**
John 3:16 | That whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.
- **4 year olds & Kindergarten**
2 Corinthians 5:17 | Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!
- **First & Second Grade**
Matthew 22:37-39 | Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"
- **Third & Fourth Grade**
Colossians 3:12 | Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.
- **Fifth & Sixth Grade**
Philippians 4:12-13 | I know what is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through (Christ) who gives me strength.