

11
JULY 2021

JOHN 13:12-17

THE SELFLESS SERVICE

I believe there are times when your dad or mom washes your feet when they get dirty, or when you ask for their help. But, have you ever washed someone else's feet, like your little brother's or sister's feet when they got super dirty?

During the evening meal with His disciples, Jesus suddenly got up, wrapped a towel around His waist, poured water into a basin and began washing His disciples' feet. Not their hands or face, but their feet!

Jesus's action proved His love, humility and servanthood. Jesus set a valuable example of giving a selfless service to us.

Jesus washing the disciples' feet symbolises Him washing our sins away. We cannot wash our own sins with our own strength and capability. We need Jesus to wash away our sins so that we can be clean.

At the same time, Jesus was also showing how we should serve and love one another as one body of Christ, so that we can bring more people into the family of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Key verse:

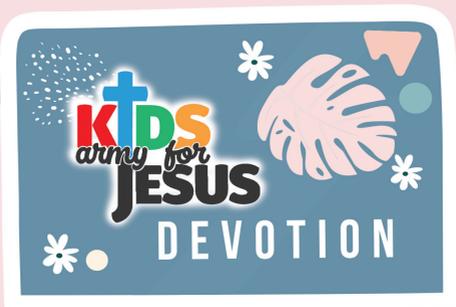
John 13:15

I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

Prayer

Dear God, give me a heart of servanthood like Jesus's heart, to give selfless service to the people around me. Amen.





12

JULY
2021

JOHN 14:1-7

THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE IS JESUS

A way is a road, path or street for traveling along. 'Jesus is the way' means He is the one who gives the correct direction and the good path of life and we should walk with Him daily. Even when we make the wrong turn on our way, Jesus will bring us back into the right path. Jesus is the only way to God, the Father. Jesus is the only way to Heaven.

The truth is the quality or state of being true. 'Jesus is the truth' means everything that Jesus said is the truth. Everything He said will take place. He really does everything He said He would do. No lies ever come out from His mouth. He only tells the truth as He is the truth.

'Jesus is life' means Jesus is the source of life. He is the reason and purpose of our life and He is the one who gives us a good and blessed life. Jesus is the one who gives us eternal life.

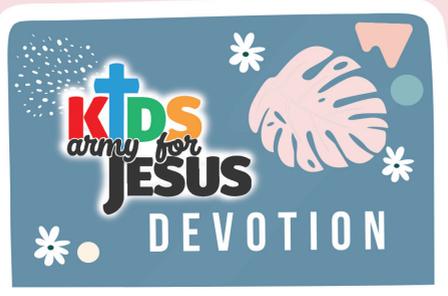
Key verse:

*John 14:6a
Jesus answered,
"I am the way,
the truth, and
the life.*

Prayer

*Dear Jesus, keep
me always in Your
way. Let me live
my life with Your
truth and enjoy
my blessed life
with a thankful
heart. Amen.*





13
JULY 2021

JOHN 15:1-8

THE GARDENER AND THE TRUE VINE

A gardener is a person who tends and cultivates a garden. Pruning is the process of cutting branches that are not producing any fruit so that the plant stays healthy and productive.

The Bible says that God the Father is the gardener, Jesus is the true vine and we are the branches. God wants our life to produce good fruit such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. To be able to bear fruit, we have to remain in Jesus, the vine. Sometimes, in order for us to produce more fruit, God will prune us.

“Pruning” here means cutting off some parts in our life that can prevent us from being fruitful, such as, bad habits, sins or the wrong relationship. This process might be painful and it can make us cry. However, this is one of God’s ways to make us grow up to be a better person and to enjoy a fruitful life. Just trust in God. He is making us into something more beautiful from time to time.

God cares about us so much that He will make us better day by day.

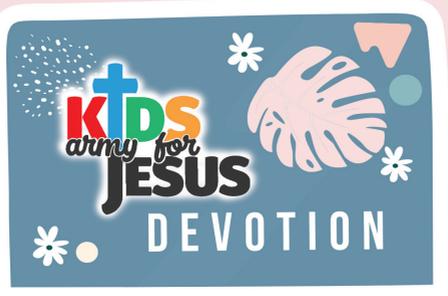
Key verse:

*John 15:5
“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing.”*

Prayer

Dear Jesus, You are the true vine of life and I am your branches. Help me to stay connected to You so I can bear spiritual fruit and be a blessing to others. Amen.





14
JULY 2021

JOHN 16:21-24

A RAINBOW AFTER A BIG STORM

We can see a rainbow after the rain or after a thunderstorm. No matter how difficult, how dry and how teary our days are, we do not have to face these alone. With Jesus, all of these can be turned into joy. We can face anything with so much hope from Jesus because Jesus lives and He is with us.

There is no sickness that Jesus cannot heal. There is no tear that He cannot wipe away. There is no broken heart that He cannot mend. There is no problem too difficult for Him to solve.

Just like the rainbow that appears after the storm, your sadness will be replaced with joy. No matter how nerve wrecking your coming exam will be, be assured that God is with you and you will be able to overcome it with joy from God. No matter how bad your day today is, remember that God's love for you never changes and tomorrow is going to be a better day!

Key verse:

*John 16:24b
But ask in My name, and you will receive. And you will have the fullest joy possible.*

Prayer

Dear Jesus, above all things, I only need You in my life. In You I find my joy and my rainbow. Amen.





15
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JOHN 17:20-26

WHO DO YOU PRAY FOR?

Do you feel loved when you hear your parents mention your name in their prayer? Do you feel special when you find out that your Sunday school teacher always prays for you? It always feels good to know that there is someone who cares about you.

Jesus does this. Jesus prays for you and me too because we are so special in His eyes. In fact, He is not only praying, but He is also offering a message of hope and encouragement to you and me. We can pray for one another as Jesus prays for His disciples and we can pray for others to feel Jesus's love too.

Pray for healing for your relatives who might be in a battle against covid or other sicknesses right now. Pray for your friend who might be struggling with certain subjects at school.

Pray for health and blessing upon your parents always.

Pray for your Sunday school teachers to be blessed in everything they do.

Pray for someone in your mind who needs Jesus in their life.

Key verse:

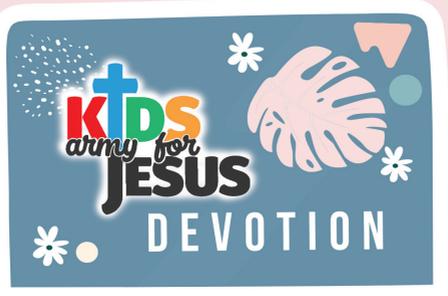
*John 17:13
But I pray these things while I am still in the world. I say all this so that these followers can have the true happiness that I have. I want them to be completely happy.*

Prayer

*Dear God,
I pray for*

.....
*Bless them with great health, the fullest joy and divine happiness.
Amen.*





16
JULY 2021

JOHN 18:36-38

WHAT IS TRUTH?

Pilate knew Jesus had no fault nor had He committed any crime, but because he was more inclined to please the crowd rather than to hold on to the truth, he chose to hand the innocent Jesus to be punished and release Barabbas, a murderer. Not fair! Sadly, this is the ugly truth in this world.

Yes, Jesus is Life. But injustice and unfairness still happen in this broken world. Sometimes being truthful means being the opposite of the crowd or the majority.

When you try to speak out the truth, the world might judge and condemn you.
 When you try to follow the right path, people might laugh at you and think you are so pathetic.
 When you try to choose the rightful choice, hatred and anger might be thrown at you.

This is how the world works. This world will never see things eye to eye with Jesus.

Would you want to be like Pilate who ignored the truth and went with the crowd, or would you want to be like Jesus who obeyed the truth all the way even when the world challenged and despised Him?

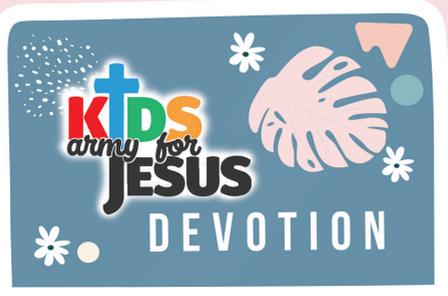
Key verse:

*John 18:37b
 In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me*

Prayer

*Dear God, give me courage to always hold on to the truth. Help me not to be scared to be different from the crowd.
 Amen.*





17
JULY 2021

JOHN 20:24-29

MOMENT OF DOUBT

Being doubtful means being uncertain about something. It is like when someone tells us something and we are not sure if it is true. That means we are doubtful. Doubting is sometimes just part of life and learning. When people are doubtful, they will try to find out the proof from other people or by searching for more information about it.

After Jesus died and came back to life, one of the disciples named Thomas had some doubt about what had really happened. Jesus invited him to find the proof that he needed: "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side."

When we are in the moment of doubt, God will also give us some proof like what Jesus did to Thomas. God will give us an assurance through the Bible, through guidance and advice from parents, grandparents or Sunday school teachers, or through the daily devotional reading.

Jesus said if we whole heartedly believe in Him, great blessings belong to us!

Key verse:
*John 20:29b
Great blessings
belong to the
people who
believe without
seeing Me.*

Prayer
*Dear Jesus, let
me have full faith
and zero doubt in
You. Amen.*

