

Bible adventures

for young readers

4



God
loves me
28 ways



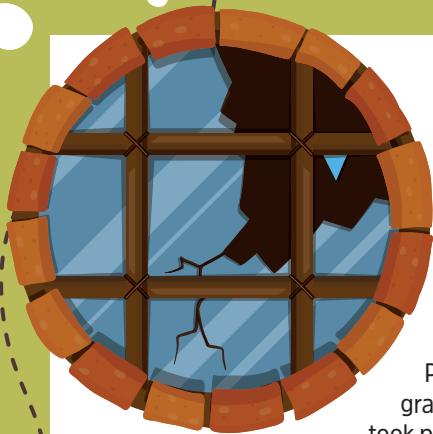
GOD'S WORD FOR ME

"She will give birth to a son. You will name the son Jesus. Give him that name because he will save his people from their sins." *Matthew 1:21*

STORY TIME

Jimmy Potter stood looking up at the broken window trying hard not to run away like all friends had done. Just moments ago, he'd hit the baseball so hard it had rattled his teeth. Like a rocket, the ball had sailed out over the vacant lot where he and his buddies were playing, flown silently over the hedge at the edge of the lot, and kept right on going until it finally smashed right through the big side window of the house next door. CRASH. He'd heard the sound just as he was passing first base. "Let's get out of here!" his friend Justin shouted. And before Jimmy knew what was happening, he was the only ball player left on the field.

What to do? If he ran, the owner of the house with the broken window would never know who sent the ball crashing into his living room. But if he ran, he wouldn't have to face an angry person who, he was sure, would demand payment for



a new window, which Jimmy figured would cost far more than the eighteen dollars he had in his savings account at the bank. If he ran, he'd save himself and his parents a lot of embarrassment. But Jimmy Potter didn't run. Instead, he walked slowly toward the house, toward the broken window, toward the embarrassing meeting he was about to have with whomever lived inside. Why? Because of his name. You see, the name Potter had been around his family for a long time. His grandfather Potter was a soldier in a terrible war that took place long before Jimmy was born. He'd heard stories of how his grandfather had saved his buddies by refusing to run away when the enemy stormed in his direction. Jimmy's father owned the grocery store in town and everyone said that he was always honest and kind, even giving food to people who were down on their luck and couldn't buy what they needed from time to time. People liked to shop in Potter's Grocery Store. No, Jimmy wouldn't run away because his name meant something. He would be as brave as his grandfather, and as honest as his dad. He would be a Potter, even when that meant getting yelled at.

When he reached the front steps, the door to the house burst open and a large man raced out onto the porch and shouted in his direction, "Who broke my window?"

"I did, sir," Jimmy answered, standing as tall as any soldier or grocery store owner would.

"And who are you?" the man asked, a frown darkening his face.

"I'm Jimmy Potter. I'll pay for a new window."

"Well, you'd better," the angry man stated. "And don't think I'll forget who you are. I know your name."

"Yes, sir," Jimmy said with a smile.

Then he turned and began walking toward town. His dad had offered him an afterschool job at the grocery store. He figured now was the perfect time to take him up on his offer.



MY BIBLE ADVENTURE

When we call ourselves a "Christian," we need to know what that name means. Being a Christian means we want to be like Jesus in everything we do. We want to honor His name in our words and actions. So, how does the Bible describe Jesus? Look up the texts in the "Library" section and write what Jesus is like in the spaces.

- Jesus is called F_____ and T_____ (Revelation 19:11). Is that how your friends think of you?
- Jesus' name is I_____. That means "G_____ w_____ u_____ " (Matthew 1:23). When people are with you, do they know that Jesus is living in your heart?
- Jesus called Himself the I_____ o_____ t_____ w_____ (John 8:12). A Christian makes people happy, like the sun brightens a day. Are people happy to be around you?
- Jesus is called a r_____ (1 Corinthians 10:4). This is strong and provides solid support. Are you a strong friend to the people you know?
- Jesus said that He was the w_____ as well as the t_____ and the I_____ (John 14:6). Do you point the way to Jesus with your life by being truthful and honest?
- Jesus said in John 10:7 that He is the d_____ for the sheep. This keeps bad animals away from sheep. Do you help your friends stay away from bad things in this world—like unhealthy food, sinful television programs, or hateful actions?
- Jesus is f_____. He gives s_____ and will p_____ those He loves (2 Thessalonians 3:3). People need friends who will not run away—who will stand next to them no matter what happens. Is that the kind of friend you are?

MY PRAYER

Thank You, Jesus, for telling me and showing me the kind of person I need to be if I'm called by Your name: "Christian." I want to be just like You. Amen.

FUN FACTS

BASEBALL:

- A regulation baseball has 108 stitches.
- The longest baseball game was between the Milwaukee Brewers and the Chicago White Sox and lasted eight hours and six minutes.*



- In baseball, a "can of corn" refers to a fly ball that is easy to catch.



LIBRARY

- “The rider on the horse [this is how John described Jesus in this chapter] is called Faithful and True” (Revelation 19:11).
- “[Mary] will have a son, and they will name him Immanuel.’ This name means ‘God is with us’ ” (Matthew 1:23).
- “[Jesus] said, ‘I am the light of the world’ ” (John 8:12).
- “[Moses’s followers] drank from that spiritual rock that was with them. That rock was Christ” (1 Corinthians 10:4).
- “Jesus answered, ‘I am the way. And I am the truth and the life’ ” (John 14:6).
- “I am the door for the sheep” (John 10:7).
- “But the Lord is faithful. He will give you strength and protect you from the Evil One” (2 Thessalonians 3:3).



MY FRIEND ELLEN WROTE

“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ as the sin-pardoning Saviour. He who confesses his sin and humbles his heart will receive forgiveness” (*Bible Training School*, March 1, 1906).

The word pardoning means “forgiving.” Jesus wants to forgive our sins. Isn’t it wonderful to know that Jesus is eager to toss our sins into the sea? All we have to do is ask! If you are hiding a sin in your heart, take a moment and tell Jesus about it.



FUN FACTS

THE OCEAN:

- Its deepest point is 36,198 feet, which is located in the Mariana Trench in the Pacific Ocean. It’s deeper than the height of Mount Everest!
- There are 328,000,000 cubic miles of seawater on earth.*

* Source: <http://see-the-sea.org/facts/facts-body.htm>

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PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

What sins do you want Jesus to toss into the sea?

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