

Bible adventures



for young readers



God
loves me
28 ways

13



GOD'S WORD FOR ME

"Many people are invited. But only a few are chosen." *Matthew 22:14*

STORY TIME

Jessica stood by the playground swings and watched as a group of girls walked by. They didn't talk to her. They didn't smile at her. As a matter of fact, they didn't even look at her.

"They aren't very friendly," her friend Rose said as the group headed in the direction of the soccer field. "Why don't they ever want to play with us?"

"I don't know," Jessica said with a sigh.

"Well," Rose huffed, "they can just be mean all they want because I don't care."

Jessica thought for a long moment, then turned to her friend.

"Do you know what? We are going to be their friends even though they don't like us."

"How are we going to do that?" Rose asked.

“Remember what the preacher said at church last Sabbath? He talked about a group of people who would share God’s love with everyone, even those who were mean and made fun of them.” Rose nodded. “Yes, I remember. He called those people God’s rem ... rem ...”

“Remnant,” Jessica announced. “They were called God’s remnant people. And remnant means a small part of something big—like what’s left over when you put a carpet in your house. The preacher said these remnant people have a special job to do. So, here’s my idea. We’re going to smile at those girls even if they don’t smile at us. We’re going to talk to them even if they don’t talk to us. And we’re going to act friendly even if they don’t act friendly to us. We’re going to be ‘The God Squad.’ Yes. I think that’s a good name for us. Let’s go!”

With that, Jessica and Rose ran across the playground in the direction of a group of unfriendly girls. They were on a mission to share God’s love. What do you think happened when the two girls reached the group? What do you think they said to them? How did the members in the group act?

It really doesn’t matter how the story ends because, when you’re a member of *The God Squad*—when you are one of God’s remnant people—your job is to love, to accept, and to encourage others no matter how they’ve treated you. Sometimes, people will ignore you. But sometimes, when you do what God wants you to do, someone will say, “Thank you. I’m so glad you want to be my friend.”

Think of the people you know. Does anyone need a visit from *The God Squad* today? Well, then get busy and plan your attack. He or she may laugh at you. But he or she may not. There’s only one way to find out!



IDEA

Players on a squad sometimes have logos to define whose team they are on. Create a logo for your team, *The God Squad*.



FUN FACTS

SQUAD DEFINED:

- A squad means a small group of people having a particular task.*



* Source: <http://google.com> define: squad.



MY BIBLE ADVENTURE

God's remnant people—*The God Squad*—has been given a special assignment for the last days of this world's history. The Bible says that they are to share three important messages with their friends, neighbors, and family members. Would you like to know what those three messages are?

First, read the message. Then write down one idea of how you'll share that message with the people you know. (Some ideas are included.)

MESSAGE ONE

"[Love] God and give him praise.... Worship God" (Revelation 14:7).

How can you invite people to worship God? (Perhaps you could invite someone to attend church and Sabbath School with you. Maybe you could share a Bible story book with a friend. How about teaching someone about nature and telling them that God made everything?)

Write your idea here:

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MESSAGE TWO

"The great city of Babylon is destroyed" (Revelation 14:8).

Babylon is a city where the children of Israel were held captive for many years. It represents a place where you aren't free to worship God, and Satan is in charge of your life. This message is saying, "Don't be held captive by Satan anymore. Jesus has destroyed Satan by dying on the cross."

How would you tell a friend or family member this message? (Perhaps you could share how much God loves them by Reading some of God's promises to them. Maybe a nice, encouraging Bible text from this lesson's "Library," printed on pretty paper would do the trick. How about telling them that they can be happier and healthier if they follow what God says in the Bible?) Write your idea here:

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MESSAGE THREE

"It will be bad for the person who worships the beast and his idol" (Revelation 14:9).

The "beast" in this message is Satan. In other words, "Don't worship Satan and all that he has made in this world because, if you do, it will harm you and make you sad."



How would you share this message with a friend? (Perhaps you could tell him or her that drugs, alcohol, and smoking cigarettes hurt the body. Maybe you could say that eating the foods God created for us to eat—fruits, vegetables, and nuts—are better for you than eating harmful foods like sugary snacks and meat. How about explaining that with Satan there is no happy future in Heaven? With God, there is!) Write your ideas here:



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MY PRAYER

Thank You, Jesus, for asking me to help You spread the good news of Your love to everyone I know. Please, help me to have some good ideas for doing that. Amen.

LIBRARY

- “Your words are true from the start. And all your laws will be fair forever” (Psalm 119:160).
- “God is our protection and our strength. He always helps in times of trouble” (Psalm 46:1).
- “In the kingdom of God, eating and drinking are not important. The important things are living right with God, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit” (Romans 14:17).

MY FRIEND ELLEN WROTE

“This is a wonderful, definite message; it means everything to the receiver, and it is to be proclaimed with a loud cry” (*Testimonies to the Church*, vol. 9, p. 154).

The “receiver” is the person who hears the message. The “loud cry” means you shouldn’t be timid in giving the message. Just say it with love and respect for everyone.

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