

# Bible adventures

for young readers

9



God  
loves me  
28 ways



## GOD'S WORD FOR ME

"The Lord himself will come down from heaven. There will be a loud command... . And those who have died and were in Christ will rise first." *1 Thessalonians 4:16*

## STORY TIME

Have you ever heard someone say, "I'm going to fight fire with fire"? Do you know what that means? Davie sat watching a television news report about a terrible fire in California. The report showed flames and smoke rising high above the ground as fields and forests burned out of control. Then it showed some firefighters doing something very strange. These men and women were walking along an area where the fire hadn't burned yet, and they were starting new fires. That's right. They were dropping burning chemicals on the dry grass. Davie couldn't believe his eyes! What a crazy thing to do—start fires when they should be working hard to stop fires! "Why are they doing that?" Davie asked his father.

Dad watched for a moment, and then nodded. "Let me ask you a question, Davie," he said. "What does a fire need for it to burn?"

"Dry grasses or paper or wood," Davie responded thoughtfully.

“That’s right. The firefighters in California know the fire is coming in their direction, so they’re carefully burning away all the grasses and paper and wood where they are, so that when the big fire reaches them, there will be nothing left to burn—”

“And the fire will go out,” David gasped. “Hey, those are smart people.”

“They certainly are,” Dad agreed. “And brave, too. Fire—even if you set it yourself—is dangerous. They need to be careful each step of the way as they fight to control the bigger fire.”

Jesus used the same idea to fight Satan. Satan brought death into this world. Adam and Eve died. Abraham died. Moses died. Almost everyone who has ever lived since the Garden of Eden to our generation has died.

Jesus did something interesting. He fought death ... with death. He allowed angry people to put nails in His arms and feet and hang Him from a cruel cross. Then, a couple days later, something wonderful happened. Jesus rose from the dead! It was like He burned up all the dry grasses and paper and wood in front of a big fire. Only this time, He removed all the fear and sadness and anger from death. We, like Jesus, will live again if we die.

The next time you’re watching television and a news report about a big fire comes on the screen, watch to see if the firefighters are creating what’s called a “back burn.” Then think of Jesus, hanging on the cross, dying to stop the fire of death from destroying us forever.



### **DRAW A PICTURE OF A CROSS.**

In the background, draw the flames of a fire. That will help you remember that Jesus fought death with death. Somewhere in the picture, write the text found in the “Library.”

A large, empty rectangular box with a yellow and orange striped border. The box is intended for drawing and writing. It has a green and white checkered pattern in the top right corner, suggesting a sticky note or a piece of paper. The box is surrounded by a dashed line on the left side.



## MY BIBLE ADVENTURE

Carefully read the following texts, then look for the highlighted words hiding in the word search puzzles below. Circle each word you find.

**PUZZLE 1:** "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son. God gave his Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

God	whoever
loved	believes
world	lost
gave	eternal
Son	life

S B L I F E B G W V G  
 P O C O M D A L H L A  
 L V N R E H W B O E V  
 O R B E L I E V E S E  
 V E D G N U T A V O T  
 E A S W O R L D E E A  
 D W B A U D T O R N B  
 E T E R N A L E D F H

**PUZZLE 2:** "But God will destroy death forever. The Lord God will wipe away every tear from every face" (Isaiah 25:8).

destroy	wipe
death	every
forever	tear
Lord	face

C F O R E V E R H T C  
 D E S T E A R V A E O  
 W Y L W B R F L E L B  
 D I D E S T R O Y S Y  
 E E P A F C D R K O R  
 A M P E S A U D L C E  
 T F Y D L H C L W R V  
 H N A E C K U E B A E



## MY PRAYER

Thank You, God, for letting Your Son, Jesus, die on the cross so that I don't have to be afraid of death. I'm looking forward to living with You in Heaven forever. Amen.



## FUN FACTS

### FIREFIGHTERS:

- A firefighter's gear can weigh up to 60 pounds.
- "Bunker gear" is the lined protective coat and suspender pants, which all firefighters must wear.\*



\* Source: [http://www.ehow.com/about\\_5296317\\_firefighter-gear-information.html](http://www.ehow.com/about_5296317_firefighter-gear-information.html)



## LIBRARY

- “Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your power to hurt?” (1 Corinthians 15:55).



## MY FRIEND ELLEN WROTE

“The victory of the sleeping saints will be glorious on the morning of the resurrection. ... The Life-giver will crown with immortality all who come forth from the grave” (*The Youth's Instructor*, August 11, 1898).

The word immortality means “will never die again.” Isn't that wonderful? Jesus has truly burned up death. We can all live FOREVER! Praise God!



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## PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

What are some things you wouldn't worry about if you lived forever with Jesus?

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