

Bible adventures

for young readers

25



God
loves me
28 ways



GOD'S WORD FOR ME

"Look, Jesus is coming with the clouds! Everyone will see him. ... Yes, this will happen!"
Revelation 1:7, 8

STORY TIME

Tasha stood in the doorway of her room and frowned. "This just won't do," she thought to herself. "I've got to make some big changes!"

Mother had just told her that Aunt Dorothy was coming to visit and that she'd be arriving right after supper. This always made Tasha excited because she loved Aunt Dorothy and enjoyed being with her whenever she traveled from the big city to spend some time with them in the country. Aunt Dorothy liked to read stories from Tasha's favorite books and go for long walks with her in the forest behind the house. They'd listen to the birds sing and watch the squirrels play in the branches overhead. Sometimes they even made a picnic lunch and walked to the lake to eat it. Yes, Aunt Dorothy was one of Tasha's favorite people on earth.

But, there was a problem. Aunt Dorothy always slept in Tasha's bedroom, which was OK because Tasha got to sleep on the living room couch with the dog. The

problem was that Tasha's room looked like a hurricane had blown through it. Aunt Dorothy liked things neat and clean; which was not exactly the way Tasha's room looked at the moment.

So, with an eager smile, Tasha rolled up her sleeves and got busy. She took all of her dirty clothes off the chair and carried them out to the laundry room. She emptied her trash can, which she discovered hadn't been emptied since Christmas, because there were still bits of wrapping paper with snowmen printed on them. When she cleaned off the top of her desk, she found the hair brush she'd been looking for for three weeks.

Tasha worked hard all afternoon sweeping, dusting, vacuuming, and polishing. Anytime she got tired, she'd think about Aunt Dorothy and how much fun they were going to have together. Then she'd get back to work.

Finally, her room shone like a new coin. Gone were the piles of paper in the corner. Gone were the candy wrappers and old cardboard boxes stuffed under the bed. Gone were the torn pants and sweaty T-shirts she'd worn last week. Gone were the crafts she'd started and never finished. What was left behind was a room fit to receive a loving, wonderful guest.

"Wow!" Mom gasped when she saw what Tasha had done.

"You have a rug! I'd forgotten you had a rug in here. And look at how nice you've made the bed. No wrinkles. Aunt Dorothy will be so pleased."

Later that evening, as Aunt Dorothy and Tasha sat in the newly cleaned room and read stories from the books resting neatly on a nearby shelf, Tasha remembered something her dad had said. "Jesus is coming soon," he'd announced at worship. "Are we ready to meet Him?"

Tasha realized that, just like getting her room ready for Aunt Dorothy, she needed to get things ready to welcome Jesus back to this old earth. How? By "cleaning up" her bad habits; by trying to make her body as healthy as it could be; by thinking about how wonderful it will be to live in Heaven with Jesus. She knew it might be hard work to get ready, but it would be worth it!



FUN FACTS

CLEAN LAUNDRY

- You don't actually need soap to wash most loads. The movement of the washing machines often does the job on its own.
- Sunlight bleaches and disinfects.*

* Source: <http://www.laundrylist.org/pdf/facts.pdf>



MY BIBLE ADVENTURE

Unscramble the letters in the texts to find the answers to the questions. If you need help, the texts are printed in the “Library” section. But see if you can unscramble the letters without any help.

- **When Jesus left His disciples and returned to Heaven to live with His Father, He made a promise. What did He say?**

“After I go and prepare a place for you, I _____ (LILW)
 _____ (MECO) _____ (AKBC)” (John 14:3).

- **What will it look like when Jesus returns?** “Look, Jesus is coming with the _____ (DUSLOC)” (Revelation 1:7).

- **What sounds will we hear when Jesus returns?** “There will be a loud _____ (MMCDNAO) with the _____ (ICOVE) of the archangel and with the _____ (MPUTRTE) call of God” (1 Thessalonians 4:16).

- **Who will see Jesus coming back to this earth?**

“_____ (OREVYNEE) will see him” (Revelation 1:7).

- **Who knows when Jesus will return to this earth?**

“_____ (ON) _____ (NEO) _____ (WSKON) when that day or time will be. ... Only the _____ (AFEHRT) knows” (Matthew 24:36).

- **When should we be ready for Jesus to come?** “_____ (SAYLAW) be ready” (Matthew 24:42)



List three ways you are going to start getting ready for Jesus to come. (Maybe you'll be kind to someone who bothers you. Maybe you'll forgive someone who hurt you. Perhaps you need to take better care of your body—God's temple—so your mind will be clear.)

Here's how I'm going to start getting ready for Jesus to come:

1. I'm going to
2. I'm going to
3. I'm going to





MY PRAYER

Thank You, Jesus, for promising to return to this earth to take us all to Heaven. I want to be ready. Help me to see what I need to do to be ready to welcome You back. Amen.



LIBRARY

- “After I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back” (John 14:3).
- “Look, Jesus is coming with the clouds!” (Revelation 1:7).
- “There will be a loud command with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God” (1 Thessalonians 4:16).
- “Everyone will see him” (Revelation 1:7).
- “No one knows when that day or time will be. ... Only the Father knows” (Matthew 24:36).
- “Always be ready” (Matthew 24:42).



MY FRIEND ELLEN WROTE

“We are to prepare the way for him by acting our part in getting a people ready for that great day” (*Review and Herald*, November 12, 1914).

Not only should we work to be ready to welcome Jesus; we can have the joy of helping other people get ready too, by telling them that Jesus is coming soon.



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PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

In what ways can you encourage others to get ready for Jesus' return?

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