

foundations[®]
for PreSchool



5 Week Devotional for PRE-SCHOOLERS!

March 2015



SOUTHLAND
CHURCH

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Versions of scripture quotations are noted.

WELCOME TO

foundations[®]
for PreSchool



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Dear Parents,

This eBook is a devotional tool that we hope will help the littlest kids in our church to connect with Jesus and grow to one day love meeting with Him every day! These short devotions are based on stories called “The Animal Underground” which follow Ravi Raccoon and his friends on many adventures. These adventures will have a similar theme to what your kids are learning on the weekend in Early Years; kind of like a modern day mini-parable to help them understand a Truth in a deeper way. Each week there will be five days’ worth of devotions.

If you want to *read* more “Animal Underground” stories, or to *listen* to some audio adventures, you can download them at www.therenewedfamily.com.

Our desire is that preschool children of all ages will *enjoy* this and grow to enjoy spending time with King Jesus!

Foundations for PreSchool will help your children remember what they learned at church, but it will also serve as a way of letting YOU know what your kids are learning. Each month there is one memory verse that you may want to try memorizing with your kids, or just reading to them each day.

In Him,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thom Dick', with a long, sweeping underline.

Thom Dick
Pastor of Resource Development
Southland Church

We welcome any ideas you have to make *Foundations for PreSchool* better. If you want to offer some feedback or have questions about how to use *Foundations for PreSchool* effectively talk to the director or pastor in your child’s ministry area or email Pastor Thom Dick at thom@mysouthland.com.

Foundations for PreSchool is also available for download at www.therenewedfamily.com.

Memory Verse

*O Lord God! You have made the heavens and earth by
your great power; nothing is too hard for you!*

Jeremiah 32:17



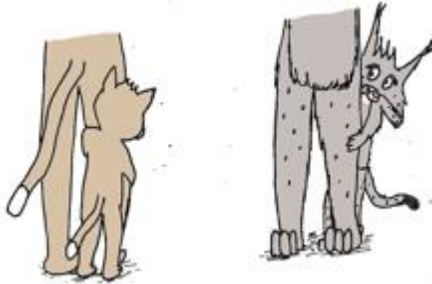
Monday, March 2

Anyone who hears and obeys these teachings of mine is like a wise person who built a house on solid rock.

Matthew 7:24 (CEV)

Calvin Cougar and Luther Lynx weren't very old when they first met. At first they didn't know each other very well because they were a little shy. As they became better friends, they got to know each other more. Imagine if they were friends for years and didn't know anything about each other. That wouldn't be a very good friendship! Just like Calvin and Luther, as we become better friends with Jesus we will get to know Him more. That should be the *foundation*, or center of our friendship with Him.

Prayer: *Dear Jesus, You know us so well. Teach us more about You.*



Tuesday, March 3

Anyone who hears and obeys these teachings of mine is like a wise person who built a house on solid rock.

Matthew 7:24 (CEV)

Wil Wolf is upset. He was playing cars with Calvin Cougar when Calvin took the car he was using. They began to argue and now they aren't talking to each other. It can be hard to go and apologize after, but Wil knows that it was just as much of his fault as it was Calvin's. When Jesus is the *foundation* of our friendships, it becomes much easier to put your friends before yourself.

Prayer: *Thank You Jesus, that with You I can be a better friend.*



Wednesday, March 4

Anyone who hears and obeys these teachings of mine is like a wise person who built a house on solid rock.

Matthew 7:24 (CEV)

Milton Mouse is at the shopping mall. He sees this cool truck and really, really, REALLY wants it. His mom tells him that she might get it for his birthday. When his birthday finally arrives, he gets the truck, but...it didn't seem quite as exciting as it was in the mall. Why is that? While it's okay to be excited about things like presents, the truth is, when it becomes more important than Jesus, we lose a lot of the joy and excitement in it.

Prayer: *Only You can fully please my heart, God. I want to put my hope in You.*



Thursday, March 5

Anyone who hears and obeys these teachings of mine is like a wise person who built a house on solid rock.

Matthew 7:24 (CEV)

Rebecca Raccoon is playing with her big pack of markers. Suddenly she realizes that she has lost the purple one, which is her favourite colour. She can't find it anywhere and she is pretty unhappy. But Rebecca knows that she can put her trust in God because He is her *foundation*. Rebecca decides to pray and asks God to help her find it. Later, she remembers that she had put it behind her ear. Whoops! She then thanks God for His help in reminding her where it was.

Prayer: *Because You are my foundation, I can trust You.*



Friday, March 6

Anyone who hears and obeys these teachings of mine is like a wise person who built a house on solid rock.

Matthew 7:24 (CEV)

Wil Wolf wants to play outside, but it is very cold. Suddenly, the sun comes out and it is warm enough to play. He gets excited and plays outside all day. When he comes inside, his mom reminds him that he should thank God for the warmer weather. Because Jesus is in control, we can always be thankful.

Prayer: *Thank You Jesus that You are always in control.*



Monday, March 9

Jesus got up and ordered the wind and the waves to be quiet. The wind stopped, and everything was calm. Jesus asked his disciples, "Why were you afraid? Don't you have any faith?"

Mark 4:39-40 (CEV)

Luther Lynx is swinging on a tire swing. He has to trust that the tree is strong enough to hold him and the tire, because if it isn't, he will get hurt. He knows that he can trust the tree because it has held him before. In the same way, we know we can trust in God because He's always been there for us and always will be. What are some things God has done for you? He is worthy of our trust.

Prayer: *Dear God, You are always there for me. I will put my trust in You.*



Tuesday, March 10

Jesus got up and ordered the wind and the waves to be quiet. The wind stopped, and everything was calm. Jesus asked his disciples, "Why were you afraid? Don't you have any faith?"

Mark 4:39-40 (CEV)

Wil Wolf's mom has asked him to put away his toys. He grumbles because he doesn't like to clean up. Wil then picks up a few things and decides to leave the rest for later. But instead of cleaning up later, he completely forgets and doesn't clean up the rest of the toys at all. We do the same thing with Jesus, sometimes we don't obey at all and sometimes we obey, but we don't do it with a happy heart. Obeying Jesus should give us joy.

Prayer: *Jesus, please help me to have a happy heart when You or my parents ask me to do something. I want to obey You in all things.*



Wednesday, March 11

Jesus got up and ordered the wind and the waves to be quiet. The wind stopped, and everything was calm. Jesus asked his disciples, "Why were you afraid? Don't you have any faith?"

Mark 4:39-40 (CEV)

Calvin Cougar doesn't like to read, he would rather go outside and play with his friends. Calvin's teacher wants him to read for an hour every week. He doesn't want to and doesn't understand why reading is so important. But there are some things we won't understand right away. God wants us to trust that what He says is good, even if we don't understand. God always knows best!

Prayer: *You know what is best for me. Show me how to trust Your understanding.*



Thursday, March 12

Jesus got up and ordered the wind and the waves to be quiet. The wind stopped, and everything was calm. Jesus asked his disciples, "Why were you afraid? Don't you have any faith?"

Mark 4:39-40 (CEV)

Milton Mouse has a problem. His dad is painting his bedroom on Saturday, and he promised to help out, but his friend has just invited him to a birthday party on the same day. He wants to go to the birthday party, but he made his dad a promise and he knows he should keep it. When we have problems and we don't know what to do, we can always go to Jesus for help, because He knows best.

Prayer: *Dear Jesus, no matter what, You know what's best. I can come to You with my problems.*



Friday, March 13

Jesus got up and ordered the wind and the waves to be quiet. The wind stopped, and everything was calm. Jesus asked his disciples, "Why were you afraid? Don't you have any faith?"

Mark 4:39-40 (CEV)

Remember Milton Mouse's problem last time? Well he decided to pray about what to do. He realized that he should keep his promise to his dad, and he did. He's a little bit disappointed to miss the party, but he had a happy heart and had a lot of fun with his dad. God always works things out in the end, even though we might not see it right away.

Prayer: *Thank You for always showing me what's best for me, even if I don't understand right away.*



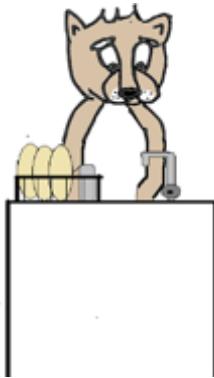
Monday, March 16

No one can please God without faith. Whoever goes to God must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Hebrews 11:6 (GW)

Calvin Cougar loves to make his mom happy. Sometimes he does the dishes without being asked. Other times he makes his bed extra neat. But his mom's favourite thing is when he gives her a great big hug! Sometimes we think that in order to please God we have to do all these hard things. But one of the best ways to please God is really just to love Him and put our trust in Him.

Prayer: *God I love You so much, and I want to please You. You love when I trust You.*



Tuesday, March 17

No one can please God without faith. Whoever goes to God must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Hebrews 11:6 (GW)

Wil Wolf is very curious. He loves to learn new things. Have you ever been really curious about something? Something like why the sky is blue? Or why it's so important to eat your vegetables? One thing Wil loves to hear is things about Jesus that he didn't know before. He always asks lots of questions. God loves it when we seek Him.

Prayer: *Jesus, there is so much about You that I don't even know. Please keep showing me new things.*



Wednesday, March 18

No one can please God without faith. Whoever goes to God must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Hebrews 11:6 (GW)

Rebecca Raccoon loves to help her mom with baking cakes. She finds all the ingredients, and even gets to stir the batter. Her mom really likes it when Rebecca helps her out. Do you think that her mom would still love her as much if she didn't help out? Of course! Her mom loves her so much, no matter what! In the same way, God loves us no matter what we do; we don't have to earn His love.

Prayer: *Father, You love me no matter what I do. Thank You for loving me!*



Thursday, March 19

No one can please God without faith. Whoever goes to God must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Hebrews 11:6 (GW)

Luther Lynx is hungry, and his mom goes and gets him a snack. Do you think she would get him a rock from her garden? Of course not! His mom knows what he needs; she wouldn't give him something like a rock. The Bible says that God is like Luther's mom. He knows what would be a good gift for us. He even has special rewards for the people who were obedient and loved Him on earth.

Prayer: *You always know what I need, Father. I can't wait to receive Your gifts in heaven!*



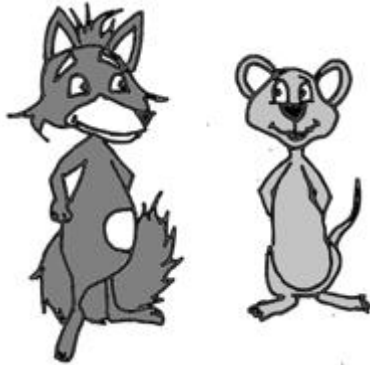
Friday, March 20

No one can please God without faith. Whoever goes to God must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Hebrews 11:6 (GW)

Milton Mouse and Wil Wolf are good friends. When they are with each other, they know that they can be themselves. They like each other no matter what. But what if Milton would only be Wil's friend, if Wil's favourite colour was green. Would that be a good friendship? No! That wouldn't be a very good friendship at all! Our friendship with Jesus should be like theirs. We don't have to act a certain way, or like a certain thing for Him to love us.

Prayer: *Jesus, no matter what I do or like, You love me just the same, thank You!*



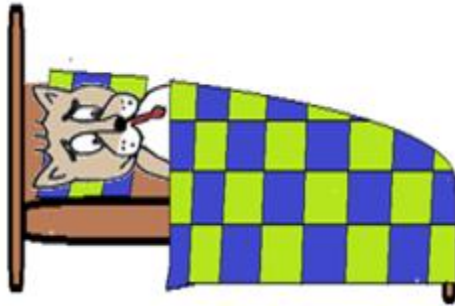
Monday, March 23

When Jesus got out of the boat, he saw the large crowd. He felt sorry for them and healed everyone who was sick.

Matthew 14:14 (CEV)

Calvin Cougar is sick. His head hurts and he has a rotten cold. His dad takes him to the doctor and the doctor gives him special medicine. In the Bible, we see a lot of sick people. Sometimes their sickness was even WORSE than a cold. Jesus had *compassion*, or felt sorry for them, and just like the doctor, but without medicine, He healed them.

Prayer: *Jesus, You have so much compassion for me, whether I'm sick, or having a bad day, or whatever is going on. Thank You for caring for me in every situation.*



Tuesday, March 24

When Jesus got out of the boat, he saw the large crowd. He felt sorry for them and healed everyone who was sick.

Matthew 14:14 (CEV)

Remember Stark, the grumpy dog? How he doesn't like being with other animals? Well did you know that he's sick? He's doesn't have a cold, it's not that kind of sickness. Stark is *unhappy*, and unhappiness can be kind of like a sickness. Jesus doesn't just heal our bodies; He heals our hearts too.

Prayer: *Thank You Jesus that you can heal all kinds of sicknesses. Even the ones that are not in our bodies. Please heal those who are unhappy and don't know You.*



Wednesday, March 25

When Jesus got out of the boat, he saw the large crowd. He felt sorry for them and healed everyone who was sick.

Matthew 14:14 (CEV)

Milton Mouse feels a bit lonely. He wants to play with his friends, but they're all busy. He sits in his room feeling sorry for himself. Then he remembers that no matter how he feels, Jesus is there for him. Jesus always sees how we are feeling, and He will stay by our side.

Prayer: *Thank You Jesus that You are always with me. Please be with me in whatever I do.*



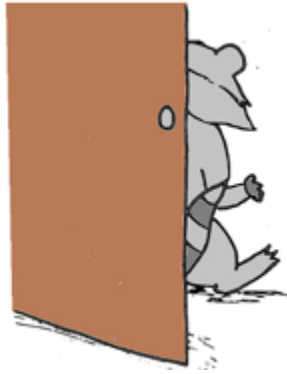
Thursday, March 26

When Jesus got out of the boat, he saw the large crowd. He felt sorry for them and healed everyone who was sick.

Matthew 14:14 (CEV)

Rebecca Raccoon is super busy. She has school, dance class, and chores to do, and she's not sure if she can do it all! Later, she remembers that she hadn't talked to Jesus at all that week. When we get too busy, sometimes we forget what's most important, Jesus. Did you know Jesus got really busy too? Huge crowds of people wanted to see Him all the time, but He never forgot what was most important and always put them first.

Prayer: *Lord, thank You that You never get too busy for us. Thank You for all You do for me.*



Friday, March 27

When Jesus got out of the boat, he saw the large crowd. He felt sorry for them and healed everyone who was sick.

Matthew 14:14 (CEV)

Luther Lynx is very good at football. Whenever he plays a game, everyone wants him on their team. But Luther never plays football for the attention. He plays football because he likes the game. Jesus got a lot of attention, too. When people started to realize that Jesus could heal them, He became very well known. People would come from very far away just to see Him and hear Him teach. Like Luther, Jesus never helped people, just to get attention. He did it because He loves all of us.

Prayer: *Dear Jesus, You never help us for Yourself. Thank You that You help us only because You love us.*



Monday, March 30

God loved the world this way: He gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.

John 3:16 (GW)

Milton Mouse is playing with Play-Doh. He makes a mouse, but right when he has finished, he drops the Play-Doh and the mouse is ruined. Oh no! Milton is patient though, and he remakes his creation. We are like Milton's clay mouse, in that God has made us perfectly. But instead of Him ruining us, we have hurt ourselves by sinning. Jesus had to come save us so we could be remade.

Prayer: *You made me perfectly, and even though I've sinned, You have remade me.*



Tuesday, March 31

God loved the world this way: He gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.

John 3:16 (GW)

Calvin Cougar and Luther Lynx are having a race. Rebecca Raccoon counts them down. Ready, set, go! They're off! Halfway through, Calvin starts to get really tired, but he keeps going and wins. Hooray! He knows he only won because he kept going, even when he got tired. When Jesus was sent to be put on the cross, it was hard. But because He kept going, it was worth it...for us!

Prayer: *Even though dying on the cross was hard, You did it for me. Thanks for not quitting.*



Wednesday, April 1

God loved the world this way: He gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.

John 3:16 (GW)

Wil Wolf feels terrible. His family had something he didn't like for supper and he complained. His dad got a little upset with him and sent him to his room. Wil knew he had made a mistake by complaining. Later, his dad comes in and they have a good talk. Wil realized that no matter what he does, his dad will always forgive him. And through what Jesus did on the cross, his sin is forgotten too.

Prayer: *Dear Jesus, You are so good to us. Thank You that You will forgive us no matter what happens.*



Thursday, April 2

God loved the world this way: He gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.

John 3:16 (GW)

Luther Lynx loves going for ice cream with his family. As they were on their way to get ice cream, he noticed his friend, Calvin Cougar, sitting on a stump all alone. He looked sad. Luther asked his mom if he could go see him. Mrs. Lynx told him he wouldn't get ice cream then. Luther thought for a moment, yes he was willing to give up ice cream for his sad friend! Have you ever had to give something up that was hard? God had to give up something really hard too. He had to give up His own son, Jesus! It wasn't easy for Him, but He loved us so much He did it anyway!

Prayer: *You have shown us just how much You love us by giving us Jesus. That is the greatest gift You could ever give. Thank You.*



Friday, April 3

God loved the world this way: He gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.

John 3:16 (GW)

Rebecca Raccoon is having trouble with her spelling at school. She needs help, but she is a little embarrassed to ask. Finally she asks her teacher for help and her teacher shows her what to do. Sometimes it is hard to come to God when we're having a hard time with something. But God didn't die for us because we were perfect. Otherwise, He wouldn't have had to die for us! No, He died for us because we needed His help, and it's okay to come to Him and ask for help whenever we need it.

Prayer: *You always know just how to help me. I want to come to You whenever I have a problem.*

