

Life toward God

KIDS

daily devotions

Jehovah-Nissi: the Lord My Banner

Melissa Abraham

Scripture

“Now that I know that the Lord saves his anointed, he will answer him from his holy heaven with the saving might of his right hand” Psalm 20:6

Devotion

In this time of staying home, have any of you played any games with your family? Maybe you have played a card game like Go Fish, or a board game like Monopoly, or a game of backyard basketball or soccer. Have any of you wanted to win those games, but needed some help to actually win them? Maybe you needed your parents to help you with your cards, or to count your money in Monopoly, or you needed a teammate to pass you the ball so you could score a goal. You needed help to win, to be victorious.

In the Bible, we see a lot of different kinds of stories (all true accounts of real events). In some of them, there are battles that God’s people want to win. And like you need help winning in your family games, God’s people needed help winning these real battles. A few examples of battles in the Bible are: Joshua and the battle of Jericho, David and Goliath, and many battles the Israelites had with their enemies. Not all of these battles that God’s people fought ended with a victory. Only when they trusted and obeyed God were they able to win their battles.

There are a lot of names for God that reflect His character and His attributes and one of them is Jehovah-Nissi, The Lord My Banner. This means that God is always victorious. It means that we will be victorious when we trust in God. Now we might not be going to a real battlefield with swords to fight our enemies, and the games we play with our families are not battles, but we are fighting real battles every day. We are fighting battles in our hearts and our minds against sin. We are fighting to obey our parents, to be kind to our siblings, to love our neighbors, and to trust in the Lord.

How do we fight these battles? With the sword of Scripture. In Psalm 20, God says He will protect us and He will send us help. He says we will have victory in our battles. In verses 7 and 8, the psalm talks about how some people trust in chariots and horses. Chariots, especially iron chariots, were strong weapons in the Old Testament. But these verses say “we trust in the name of the Lord our God”. God is stronger and mightier than our strongest enemies. Rather than trusting in the iron chariots of our day, our own good behavior, our accomplishments, technology, we must trust in the name of God, Jehovah-Nissi The Lord My Banner.

John 4:4b says, “He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world”. What a comfort to know that all the battles we fight will be won when we trust in God. He is the solid rock on which we stand. All other ground is sinking sand.

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Questions

3-5-yr-olds

Do you trust God to take care of you?

1st-3rd graders

Do you look to God to help you do hard things?

4th-6th graders

Do you sometimes just “try harder” rather than trust in God? Ask God to help you fight your battles this week.

Prayer

Dear God, Jehovah-Nissi, We thank you that you have not left us alone to fight our battles. We thank you that you are immovable, steadfast and victorious. We thank you for sending Jesus to be a perfect sacrifice for our sins and for sending your Holy Spirit to be our helper and our comforter. We ask you that we would trust in you and trust that you will help us as we fight against sin and temptation. Amen.

Suggested Hymns

Victory in Jesus

On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand

I Know Whom I Have Believed #705