



# Did God Really Say...?

## Life Sunday Children's Message

Good morning! Are you ready to listen to some good news?

I'll bet that most of your parents are going to give you your very own shiny, brand-new card for your birthday. Would you enjoy that? Sure, and your parents are probably getting fancy cards for their birthdays too!

And I'm sure that sometimes they even tell you to help yourself to some ice stream before you go to bed. Isn't that an excellent idea? Certainly, and they go ahead and have their own ice stream before their bedtime as well!

And I know that if you go outside right now and take your time, every single one of you will find a hundred bugs on the ground in front of you just lying right there. Does that make you excited? Of course, and everybody here could also find a hundred bugs on the ground if they look long enough.

But did you hear me say your parents will get you a CAR, an automobile, for your birthday? No, you didn't, did you, because I actually said, "A CARD," like a birthday card that they sign their name on and it goes in an envelope. Almost all of us receive one of those every year.

And how many of you heard me tell you your parents let you have ice CREAM, the dessert, before bed? I actually said, "ICE STREAM," like a stream of ice which is water that goes in your glass for a drink. People often have glasses of water at bedtime.

And raise your hand if you heard me promise a hundred BUCKS, some money, waiting for you outside? Because I actually said, "A HUNDRED BUGS," like little insects that crawl around. There are enough of them live on the ground that anyone could take as many as they want.

Sometimes we hear only what we WANT to hear. In our Bible story this morning, the devil tricked Adam and Eve like that. He lied about God hiding something from them. He got them to want bites from the forbidden fruit. They believed that they knew better than God. They believed they could do better than God. They listened to the devil, they disobeyed the Lord, and they sinned. They heard only what they wanted, but they heard wrong, and then they were sad.

The devil still tries to tempt us with lies. He says people aren't precious unless they are powerful. He tells us human beings aren't precious unless they are pretty. He promises us human lives aren't precious unless they have a particular age or a particular appearance or a particular ability. And often we listen just like Adam and Eve did. So we



try to prove we're the best and we don't need nobody. But we just end up ashamed and afraid and alone the same as them.

Did you know that God keeps repeating Himself? He just keeps on speaking. Adam and Eve didn't listen, but the Lord our God wasn't ever giving up. He said, "I'm going to get closer." He told them, "I'll get between you and the devil, that serpent, that snake Satan. I'll die on the cross so that you don't have to. I'll rise from the dead so that he can't have you." He promised them, "I will send you a Savior, a baby named Jesus, for all human beings and every sinner." He said it again to them, "I have created you each with my own hands. I am redeeming you with my own Son. I call you my own, my family, my treasure forever."

What does that mean? It means you don't have to be perfect to be a valuable person. You don't have to be taller or stronger than somebody else to belong to your Heavenly Father. You don't have to be lovely, because you are loved by the Almighty Maker. You don't have to be perfect to be precious. You don't have to be perfect to be forgiven. Even when the world says we aren't pretty, we're still pretty special to the Lord Who created, redeemed, and called us. You are priceless! You are princes and princesses! So is everyone around us, from before they are born until after they're old, even the ones who bug us the most, and we get to tell them and show them how precious. You can trust that more than any money, vehicles, or treats!

Let us pray: Dear Heavenly Father, You love us even though we don't always listen. You have created us, redeemed us, and called us as Your precious treasures forever. Lead us to believe and obey. Teach us to say and to show the ones right in front of us that each of them also is special to you. Amen.