Whistling through the Graveyard

Amazing Adventure Bible Guides
You were having fun playing with a friend, but you stayed at his house longer than you planned. Now it is nighttime, and you must walk home in the dark. You need to hurry too, because your parents will wonder where you are. Luckily, your home is not far from your friend’s house, and there is a shortcut you can take . . . but it’s through the graveyard.

As you walk through the spooky iron gates of the cemetery and make your way by the many tombstones, you start to feel nervous. You’ve taken this shortcut many times during the day, but things just feel different at night. You wish you had a friend with you. So to occupy your mind, you start whistling while you quickly walk toward the other side.

About halfway across, you see the shadow of a tree moving in the wind and hear the rustle of its leaves. It’s enough to get you running as fast as you can! With great relief, you finally leave the graveyard behind and soon arrive at home.

What is it about graveyards that make us scared at night? In the daytime, they seem harmless enough. They look like nicely mowed parks with flowers and trees. It’s even interesting to read some of the tombstones and see the dates. But when it is dark, the last place in the world most people want to be is in a graveyard. It’s probably all of the Halloween and scary ghost stories that make people afraid of cemeteries.

Did you know that on the way to the city of light in heaven, most people will have to pass through a graveyard?

So let’s go on another adventure to see what God’s Word really says about where people go when they die. We’ll go during the day, so we can see everything clearly! And there is no need to be afraid, because God is with us and His Word will be our guide.
First, let’s say a prayer for God to teach us and help us understand this important subject.

You might say, “Dear God, thank you that the Bible has answers for all my important questions. Today, please help me to understand the truth about what happens when a person dies so I will never be afraid of death again. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.”

What really happens to you when you die? Where do you go?

**Answer:** “The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being” (Genesis 2:7). “Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it” (Ecclesiastes 12:7).

“The dust will return to the earth,” the Bible says. Are we really dust? The Bible says God created Adam from the dust of the ________ (Genesis 2:7).

Have you ever molded something out of clay — perhaps a figurine of an animal or maybe a vase or cup? It’s fun to turn things from just a lump of clay into something beautiful and valuable.

The Bible tells us that on the sixth day of Creation, God made Adam from the dust (or clay) of the earth and breathed into him the breath of life … and Adam became a living being (Genesis 2:7).

So when a person dies, it’s something like creation in reverse.

The body returns to clay (dust), and the breath of life from God returns to Him. So dead people do not go right to heaven or hell when they die. They rest in their graves until the resurrection. It’s as if they are having a deep, dreamless sleep. They have no idea what is happening around them.

What did God breathe into Adam’s nostrils?

His breath of life — His s__________.

A “body without the spirit is d__________”.

When we die, the spirit — or breath of life — goes back to God.

According to the Bible, the “spirit” is the life power or “breath of life,” which God originally gave to men at creation. The Bible often uses the words “spirit” and “breath” interchangeably. (See Job 33:4 and 34:14, 15).

Did you ever wake up in the morning and thank God for your breath? It’s a gift from Him that keeps you alive! All creatures breathe — even fish and worms. And when any creature stops breathing for very long, it dies.

**Did you know that an important key to understanding the Scriptures is to let the Bible interpret itself? One text often explains another.**

“ Did you ever wake up in the morning and thank God for your breath? It’s a gift from Him that keeps you alive! All creatures breathe — even fish and worms. And when any creature stops breathing for very long, it dies.

**What is the “spirit” that returns to God when someone dies?**

**Answer:** “The spirit of God is in my nostrils” (Job 27:3 KJV). “The body without the spirit is dead” (James 2:26).

**Here’s an amazing fact about breathing. Oh, but the second half is all jumbled up! You’ll have to unscremble the words to read it.**

“The surface area of the lungs is roughly the same size as a tennis court.”
If the “spirit” is the breath of life, what is a “soul”?

Answer: “The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul” (Genesis 2:7 KJV).

A soul is what some Bible versions call a “living being.” God formed Adam from the dust and breathed into him the breath of life — and Adam became a living soul or, in other words, a living person. It’s like a simple math equation that works both ways:

Dust + Breath = Soul

Where did the box go? The box didn’t go anywhere. It stopped being a box when you took it apart. Now think of the box as the soul and the wood as the body and the nails as the spirit of life given by God.

When a person dies, the body returns to the ground (the wood from the box is put on the wood pile) and the spirit returns to God (the nails go back in the can) and the soul ceases to exist (the box is no more).

Do saved people go right to heaven when they die?

Answer: “David … is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.” “For David did not ascend into the heavens” (Acts 2:29, 34). “As for me, [David says,] … I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness” (Psalm 17:15). “The dead do not praise the Lord, Nor any who go down into silence” (Psalm 115:17).

No, the dead do not go right to heaven, nor do they go right to hell to burn in the lake of fire. They sleep in their graves until the resurrection. More than 50 times in the Bible, death is compared to a sleep, because when a person is asleep he is unconscious of the things around him. When our loved ones die, they don’t go to heaven or hell. Instead, they rest in their graves like everyone else waiting to be resurrected. King David looked forward to the resurrection, and so can we. It will be a wonderful time to see family and friends resurrected when Jesus comes again!

What do dead people know after they die?

Answer: “The living know that they will die; But the dead know nothing. … Also their love, their hatred, and their envy have now perished; Nevermore will they have a share in anything done under the sun.” “There is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going” (Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6, 10). “His spirit departs, he returns to his earth; In that very day his plans perish” (Psalm 146:4).

The Bible says that a dead person knows ___________. They are not ghosts floating around the tombstones of a cemetery thinking up new ways of scaring children! Many people in India and other countries think that after someone dies, they are reincarnated (come back to live another life) as a cow or a monkey or something else, depending on whether they were good or bad people before. Imagine being afraid to kill a fly in case it was once your grandfather! But God’s Word clearly says that the dead will “nevermore … have a share in anything done under the sun.”

Does the sun still come up every morning and shine above our heads? Yes, but dead people don’t know anything about it. They have no life or part in anything done under the sun. Yet Satan has deceived many people.

A soul is what some Bible versions call a “living being.” God formed Adam from the dust and breathed into him the breath of life — and Adam became a living soul or, in other words, a living person. It’s like a simple math equation that works both ways:

Dust + Breath = Soul

Let’s say you decide to build a little wooden box. You have wood and a can of nails. When you hammer the nails to fit the wood together, you have a box. After a while, you decide to take your box apart … so you pull out the nails, put them back in the can, and then stack the wood back on the pile.

Where did the box go? The box didn’t go anywhere. It stopped being a box when you took it apart. Now think of the box as the soul and the wood as the body and the nails as the spirit of life given by God.

When a person dies, the body returns to the ground (the wood from the box is put on the wood pile) and the spirit returns to God (the nails go back in the can) and the soul ceases to exist (the box is no more).
Can a dead person’s “soul” or “spirit” come back and talk to the living? Can they see what is happening on this earth?

**Answer:** “So man lies down and does not rise. Till the heavens are no more, They will not awake Nor be roused from their sleep.” “His sons come to honor, and he does not know it; They are brought low, and he does not perceive it” (Job 14:12, 21).

It is very important to remember that the dead cannot talk to us. They will not live again until the resurrection. They don’t know whether good things or bad things are happening around them — and they can’t even tell if someone comes to visit their grave. Books and movies that say otherwise are telling one of Satan’s favorite lies.

**Don’t be fooled!**

What is death like?

**Answer:** Jesus had a good friend, Lazarus, who had been sick and then died. Jesus told His disciples that Lazarus was sleeping and that He was going to go wake him up (John 11:11). The disciples thought if he was sleeping, he would get well, but “then Jesus said to them plainly, ‘Lazarus is dead’” (John 11:14).

Here’s a chance to learn a little Bible and Spanish at the same time. When Lazarus came back from the dead, the people asked him, “What did you see while you were dead?” Lazarus answered them in Hebrew, but if he had answered them in Spanish, it would have been the word in our puzzle below. To decipher the word, color in all the squares with the letters from his name: **LAzARUS**.

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Q  W  O  Y  I  P  D  G  J  K  X  V  N  E  T  Y  I  O  P  D  F  G  H  K  X
D  U  S  F  G  H  A  J  L  A  Z  A  K  L  A  Z  X  C  U  S  L  A  V  L  B
K  A  V  X  A  C  U  B  U  Z  U  N  Z  M  Q  R  W  A  Z  Z  A  E  Z  T
Q  A  W  E  T  Y  L  I  A  O  P  Z  B  R  Q  W  S  M  A  W  E  U  T  Y  I
D  L  F  G  H  J  A  K  Z  X  C  A  V  U  S  L  B  N  L  M  Q  S  P  A  O
N  E  R  T  Y  I  O  P  D  F  G  H  J  K  X  C  V  B  N  M  Q  W  E  T  Y
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**Answer:** NADA! (which means NOTHING!)

During hibernation, the animal’s body temperature drops and its heart rate and breathing slow way down. These hibernating animals are very difficult to awaken. Some animals, like squirrels, hibernate through the winter, going into a very deep sleep.

Have you ever fallen asleep on a long road trip and awakened only at your final destination? Death is like falling __________ and then waking up at home when Jesus comes. When you go to sleep at night, you are unaware of what is happening around you.

What was Satan’s first lie on the earth, and how do we know it’s a lie?

**Answer:** God talked to Adam and Eve about the tree of knowledge of good and evil. He said, “You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.” And the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die” (Genesis 3:3, 4). “That serpent of old, [is] called the Devil and Satan” (Revelation 12:9). “The soul that sinneth, it shall die” (Ezekiel 18:20 KJV). “The King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality” (1 Timothy 6:15, 16).

Satan’s most popular lie is that we will never die. Despite the fact that the Bible says that “the soul that sinneth, it shall die,” millions of people (including many Christians) believe Satan instead of God!
Today, there are many popular books and movies that feature ghosts, magic, and the spirits of dead — people coming back to communicate with the living. The Bible refers to this as sorcery.

God does not like sorcery! In His Word, He says, “By your sorcery all the nations were deceived” (Revelation 18:23). “Sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone” (Revelation 21:8).

If you ever meet someone who says that they can communicate with the dead, be careful! What they are involved in is sorcery and the Bible strongly condemns it. There was even sorcery way back in early Bible times.

King Saul had turned away from God. When facing a big battle, he wanted to know if he was going to win. He decided to ask a witch (a sorceress) to try to talk with the dead prophet Samuel. When the witch said that she saw the form of an old man coming up from the ground, Saul thought that it was the prophet Samuel.

Yet it could not have been Samuel, for the Bible says that the dead know nothing (Ecclesiastes 9:5). Saul was really talking to one of Satan’s evil angels pretending to be Samuel (1 Samuel 28).

RED ALERT! Satan and his angels are planning to take over the human race! Below, find their plan to replace all of God’s good things with his own devious counterfeits, but the counterfeits are backwards. Unjumble them and expose the enemy!

Instead of angels, we’ll send slived fo strips. We will impersonate Jesus Christ with stsrhc eslaf. We will send stehporp eslaf to replace God’s prophets. The prayer warriors will be overcome by srerecros. All the true worshipers will finally become rrotalodi!

Satan has the power to perform many kinds of miracles and wonders. His evil angels can even make themselves appear like people who died. Just because someone might be healing people, it does not necessarily mean that they are from God. Satan is a master at using deception to trick us. Satan hates you, and he hates Jesus.

God’s Word is the only safe guide for us to know what is real and what is false!

When it comes to disguise, the octopus is the ultimate impostor. Thanks to special cells in their skin, they have the ability to change color, shape, and even texture! In the blink of an eye, they can fade into the sea floor, appearing to be just another bumpy rock. The Pacific mimic octopus has an incredible ability to transform its shape, imitating everything from crabs and fish to sea snakes. It might hide in a clam, then wiggle the tip of one tentacle like a little worm to attract hungry fish — then whoosh! — the octopus will jet out and seize its unsuspecting victim.

Harry Potter, The Lord of the Rings, and Buffy the Vampire Slayer are registered trademarks of their respective companies.
When will the dead live again?

Answer: “But each one [is resurrected] in his own order: Christ the first fruits, afterward those who are Christ’s at His coming” (1 Corinthians 15:23). “Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to everyone according to his work (Revelation 22:12). “The Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout ... And the dead in Christ will rise first. ... And thus we shall always be with the Lord” (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17).

“The hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth — those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation” (John 5:28, 29).

“The rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished” (Revelation 20:5).

Are you glad that God has promised to resurrect from the dead those who love Him when Jesus comes again? ___________

LeAnn was 11 years old and her younger brother Billy was four. LeAnn loved her brother and enjoyed playing with him when she came home from school. One day Billy got sick, so their parents took him to the doctor who did some tests. Finally, the doctor said that Billy had something called leukemia. They started to give Billy a special kind of medicine that made his hair fall out. They did everything they could, but Billy kept getting worse. Then one terrible day, Billy died. It was the saddest day of LeAnn’s life.

That evening, LeAnn’s mother read her a story from the Bible about the second coming of Jesus. She told LeAnn that when Jesus comes Billy will be resurrected from the grave with a new healthy body — and their family will be united again. Even though LeAnn still misses her brother, she has hope that one day soon, she will see her brother again, and then they can play together forever! With Jesus!

The Bible tells us that death for a Christian is not the end. Jesus has promised to come again and to resurrect those who love Him. What a wonderful reunion day that will be!

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Adam, Elizabeth, Peter, and Sally are very excited for resurrection day! Each one has lost a loved one and wants to see them again. Their ages are 5, 6, 7, and 8. One lost a sister, one lost a brother, one lost a mother, and one a grandmother. Look at the clues below and determine each child’s name, age, and the loved one they will see again.

1. The six year old lost a brother.
2. Adam lost a sister and he is older than Peter.
3. Elizabeth is five years old, but she didn’t lose her mother.
4. Sally is older than Adam.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Loved One</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adam</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>sister</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>grandmother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>brother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sally</td>
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Read the Bible — and believe it!

Remember that the Bible says some want us to seek out “mediums and wizards who whisper and mutter,” but should not a people seek unto their God? Should they seek the dead on behalf of the living?” (Isaiah 8:19).

Seek understanding from God, not the dead.

Stay away from books, movies, games, and even friends who have anything to do with the occult — witchcraft, magic, sorcery, or talking with the spirits of the dead.

Did you enjoy this exciting lesson? We surely hope so! Now take a moment to do the questions on the SUMMARY SHEET.

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**Notes**

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**Summary Sheet**

Please read the Bible Guide before answering the questions. Fill in the circles of ALL that are correct in the multiple choice questions. Hint: The number of correct answers for each question is in red.

1. Where did man come from? (1)
   - a) he came from a monkey
   - b) God made him from dust
   - c) he floated in from another planet

2. When we die we:
   - a) soar off into space
   - b) turn back to dust
   - c) go to heaven or hell or purgatory
   - d) sleep peacefully in our graves
   - e) become an animal or insect
   - f) know nothing

3. The “spirit” that returns to God at death is:
   - h) our breath
   - i) our body

4. People who are dead do the following things:
   - a) watch those on this earth
   - b) sleep peacefully
   - c) plan what they will do in their next life
   - d) nothing at all
   - e) talk to their loved ones
   - f) give us wisdom
   - g) rest in the ground till Jesus comes

5. Any messages from a person who has died are:
   - a) special gifts to us
   - b) Satan’s evil angels trying to deceive us
   - c) from God
   - d) not true

6. What are some things we should do?
   - a) read Harry Potter books
   - b) warn our friends about sorcery
   - c) read the Bible and true, good books
   - d) watch movies with witchcraft or sorcery in them
   - e) be careful what goes in our eyes, ears, and mind
   - f) watch out for Satan’s “interesting” tricks and don’t be fooled
   - g) tell others the Bible says “the dead know nothing”

7. How are the righteous rewarded by God?
   - a) at His coming Jesus takes them to heaven to live with Him
   - b) their spirits fly away to heaven when they die
c) Jesus blows His trumpet and brings them back to life
d) they become a cow or a horse in their next life
e) Jesus makes them immortal so they will never die
f) Jesus gives them a perfect body
g) Jesus takes away all death and sorrow and gives joy and peace

**Your Comments:**

8. What new things have you discovered in this lesson?

_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________

7. Are you happy to learn the Bible truth about death, and spirits, and the resurrection?

_____________

8. Do you want to keep away from evil books, movies, and games and tell others the things you have learned?

_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________

6. What are some things we should do?

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