

Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade Bootcamp

Day 1

Memory Verse: 1 Corinthians 16:13

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong.

Lesson Preparation:

Prepare your helium balloons and “SIN” cards.

Introduction:

Welcome to the Army, recruits! It’s war out there, and my job is to make you understand that each and every one of you has been taken prisoner by the enemy. To show you what I mean, I’ll be using my Field Manual, which is the Holy Bible. So PAY ATTENTION!

Psalm 100:5

For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Action:

Take the “GOD” balloon out of its bag and let it float to the ceiling.

Revelation 4:8b

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.

Explain:

God is a good, just, and holy God, and He is high above everything else in the universe. But God is also creative; so one day, God decided to create the universe.

1 Timothy 4:4-5

For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

Question (1 point): Did God create anything that wasn’t good?

ANSWER: No!

Genesis 1:26

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

Question (1 point): Whose image was man made in?

ANSWER: Man was made in God’s image.

Action:

Take out one “US” balloon and let it float toward the ceiling.

Question (1 point):

When God first made Adam, he was good. Why was Adam good?

ANSWER: He was made in God’s image and hadn’t sinned yet.

Explain:

God meant for people to be good so He could love them and keep them close to Himself. See how close “GOD” and “US” were supposed to be?

Action:

Select three volunteers and bring them to the front. Tie one of the remaining “US” balloons to each child’s shoe.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. See how close God WANTED us to be to Him? Wouldn’t it be cool to be able to be close to God like that?

Explain:

Since everything God created is good, you may be wondering why there’s so much evil in the world. It all started when the enemy ATTACKED Adam and Eve. You see, God gave Adam a very important command to follow:

Genesis 2:16-17

And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.”

Explain:

But then, a clever serpent (our enemy) came along and fired the first shot in our war by playing a trick on Eve.

Genesis 3:4-5

“You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Question (1 point): What did the serpent say that was DIFFERENT than what God had told Adam?

ANSWER: The serpent said they would not die if they ate from the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Explain:

Adam and Eve did what the SERPENT wanted INSTEAD of what GOD wanted. And that RUINED EVERYTHING!

Action:

Slowly pull the first “US” balloon down as you explain:

Explain:

The minute Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they SINNED, and that’s EVIL. That changed the very NATURE of who Adam and Eve were. Instead of having the image of God, they became evil at heart. That means that in their hearts, they wanted to do evil more than they wanted to do good.

Action:

Tie one “SIN” card to the first “US” balloon to weigh it down.

Explain:

So now, Adam and Eve couldn’t be close to God anymore, because SIN took them prisoner and weighed them down!

Proverbs 5:22

The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him; the cords of his sin hold him fast.

Question (1 point): “Ensnare” means “trap.” What has this balloon ensnared so it can’t be close to God?

ANSWER: Sin!

Explain:

Just like Proverbs 5:22 says, our sin ensnares us and trap us so that we can't be near God. You see, every one of us comes from Adam and Eve. So, if Adam and Eve were sinners, that means that all of US are too! Plus, we all add our OWN sins to the problem!

Jeremiah 17:9

The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?

Question (1 point): How does this verse describe our hearts?

ANSWER: Our hearts want to do evil more than good.

Action:

Go to each volunteer who has a balloon tied to their shoes and ask them if they've ever sinned. When they say "yes," point out that the cords of sin are holding THEM prisoner too. Pull down their balloon and tie a SIN card to it to weigh it down. Do this with each volunteer.

John 8:34

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. "

Question (1 point): What does that verse say we're slaves to?

ANSWER: We are slaves to sin.

Question (1 point): How does that affect our relationship to God?

ANSWER: It keeps us away from Him.

Action:

Have each of the volunteers try to throw their balloons, which are weighed down by "SIN," up to the ceiling.

Explain:

Now you see, when we are prisoners to sin, we can't be near God, no matter how hard we try. Just like these balloons keep getting pulled down by sin, our sin keeps pulling US away from God.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. Did you know that each and every one of you was made a prisoner and a slave to sin because of what happened to Adam and Eve?

Q. That serpent who tricked Adam and Eve made all of us PRISONERS! Are you guys HAPPY about that?

Q. Is that something that a friend would do, or an ENEMY?

Q. In a war, do we do what our enemy wants, or do we FIGHT him?

1 Peter 5:8

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Explain:

The devil tricked Adam and Eve, and he wants to destroy each and every one of you! By ourselves, we can't beat him, but Jesus CAN, and if we fight with Him, we can WIN THIS WAR!

John 8:34-36

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Explain:

Jesus can set us free from sin so that we can be close to God as we were meant to be. That's because Jesus fought a mighty battle with the enemy and won! You see, sin makes us all die. But Jesus NEVER sinned. Jesus came to earth and died in our place so that He could get rid of all our sin for us. Then, He came back to life! That means that WE can come back to life too if we let Jesus take away our sin. If we ask Jesus to save us and free us from sin, we will be free indeed!

Action:

Cut the string from the "SIN" card from the first balloon to allow it to float back into the air.

Comment about how close we can be to God when Jesus gets rid of our sin. Then, select another volunteer and bring him/her to the front. Give the volunteer a pair of scissors.

Explain:

Let's pretend that our volunteer has been freed from sin by Jesus. These scissors are kind of like Jesus, because THEY can set these balloons free. But, God wants those of us who are free to tell everyone else about Him so THEY can be free too. That's how we fight the war!

Action

Have your new volunteer take the scissors to the three "balloon" volunteers and ask them if they would like Jesus to free them from sin. When they say "yes," have the "scissors" child cut the "SIN" cards away from the balloons. This should be done with each "balloon" volunteer. (You may need to help).

Salvation Prayer:

Explain to the children that they can ask Jesus to free them from their slavery to sin right now. Explain that the children can pray to receive Christ and then lead the children who want to in a prayer of salvation. For those who pray to receive Christ, we suggest giving them a copy of the discipleship materials from the BOOT Camp CD-ROM.

Explain:

Once we ask Jesus into our hearts, our sins are forgiven and we will be able to go to heaven someday. Until we go to heaven, though, we will STILL sin sometimes, because we still have our sinful nature until we die. So be careful not to get trapped by sin, and when you do, admit it to Jesus right away so that He can take it away!

Conclusion:

We're at war! The enemy wants to destroy us, but if you asked Jesus into your heart, either today or sometime in the past, you are a SOLDIER for Christ. We will learn during our BOOT Camp how to fight in this war, but the main objective is to live for Jesus and obey Him! If you do that, you'll already be fighting for Jesus. So get ready to fight, soldiers!

Take Home Sheets:

Give each child a Take Home Sheet (see copy of the sheet on the next page). You may prefer to wait and hand out the sheets as the children leave bootcamp for the day. But at least tell the children about the sheets and that you want them to take them home and work on them with their parents.

SOLDIERS!

Do AT LEAST THREE of the things on this sheet and CHECK THEM OFF in the checkboxes (☐) by the numbers.
 Ask your Mom or Dad to remind you and help you to do this stuff, and then have them Sign their name at the bottom to show that you did it (and write YOUR NAME there too!)
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That way, they can learn the same stuff YOU learned!

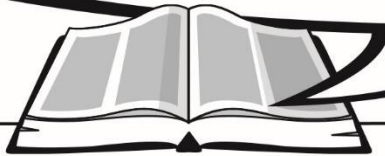


2.

**MEMORIZE
this verse**

1 Corinthians 16:13

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong.



3.

**ANSWER
these
questions**

Who is your biggest enemy? (1 Peter 5:8) What is he like? (John 8:44)

What does our enemy want us to be slaves to? (John 8:34) What does it cause? (Rom. 6:23)

Who can set us free, and how can we ask Him to do that? (Romans 10:9)

4.

APPLICATION Challenge:

Make a list of some of the bad things in the world. All of those things happen because of SIN! (Gen. 3:16-19; Rom. 6:23, 8:20-21) Write "ALL BECAUSE OF SIN" on the top of your list and hang it in your room. Every day, ask God to help you fight against sin in your life.



PARENTS!

Please sign your name below to verify that your child made an effort to learn and grow Spiritually. This sheet is to be returned to BOOT Camp for credit the next time your child attends.

Today, My Child did AT LEAST THREE of the

Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade Bootcamp Day 2

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 3:18

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

Lesson Preparation:

Acquire and prepare all the items listed on the Day 2 Lesson Materials and Preparation page.

Introduction:

Today, we're going to learn about our Almighty God, who is the Commander-in-Chief of our whole Army! Each one of you should learn as much as you can about our God, and to give you a taste of how awesome a Commander He is, just listen to this!

Revelation 4:8b

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come."

Question (1 point): What does "holy" mean?

ANSWER: Holy can mean any of these things: pure, good, righteous, clean, worthy, honorable, and more.

Explain:

God is the most holy person in the universe. On top of all that HE LOVES each and every one of us so much that He sent His ONLY SON, Jesus Christ, to come and free us all from the enemy's trap! And if you don't believe that, listen to this!

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

Question (1 point): Why did Jesus die for sins?

ANSWER: To bring us to God.

Explain:

That should tell you how much God loves YOU. God was actually willing to send His ONLY SON, whom He LOVES, to earth, where He lived for a while, taught people, healed the sick, and then DIED to free you from your sin! He suffered and gave up everything He had to save YOU! Then, He came back to life and ascended up into heaven, where He lives FOREVER!

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. Why should we want to follow God as our Commander?

Explain:

Well, we're going to teach you why we should follow God and fight on His side! In the Lord's Army, all good soldiers take Jesus with them everywhere they go. If you've asked Jesus into your heart, God's Holy Spirit is ALWAYS with you!

Action:

Draw the kids' attention to the backpack you've prepared.

Explain:

Having Jesus WITH us is like having a well-supplied pack with you when you go into battle. All the things in this pack remind us of something about Jesus, and we're going to unpack it now so you can see what an awesome God He is!

Teacher's Note:

For the next part of the lesson you will be selecting volunteers to come up and randomly take items out of the backpack:

1. Select a volunteer to come to the front and remove one item at random from the pack.
2. Show the kids the item (you can pass it around if you like) and find that item in the list below on this lesson.
3. Once you find the item on the list, explain how the item reminds us of Jesus, read the Scriptures associated with the item, and ask the questions that accompany the item.
4. When you reach the next star in the lesson, stop. Select another volunteer and repeat steps 1-4 until the pack is empty.

When the pack is empty, finish the lesson on page 2.

Battery: God is All-Powerful

This battery has enough energy to power the soldier's flashlight, but God is ALL-POWERFUL. That means He can do ANYTHING!

Luke 1:37

For nothing is impossible with God."

Question (1 point): Is anything too hard or too difficult for God?

ANSWER: No!

Bible: Jesus is the Word

Some soldiers carry Bibles with them. The Bible tells us that Jesus actually IS the Word.

John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Question (1 point): Does that mean that your Bibles are JESUS?

ANSWER: No, but the Word inside is FROM Jesus!

Binoculars: All-Seeing, All-Knowing

Binoculars can help a soldier to see things that are far away, but God sees EVERYTHING. Not only that, He KNOWS everything!

Hebrews 4:13

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Question (1 point): Based on that verse, do you think there's ever a time when God doesn't know what's coming or what to do?

ANSWER: No! God knows EVERYTHING!

Bread: The Bread of Life

Soldiers need food to eat to keep them alive. Jesus is the Bread of Life, and HE keeps us going, just like food does.

John 6:35

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."

Question (1 point): How can Jesus keep us going like food does?

ANSWER: He encourages us; He shows us what to do; He helps us; He saves us from our sin.

Calendar: God is Eternal

Some soldiers might carry calendars to know what day it is, but God is above time and dates. God is ETERNAL, which means He has no beginning and no end. He has always been and will always be.

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Question (1 point): What does it mean when we say that Jesus is ETERNAL?

ANSWER: He always has been and always will be.

Canteen: Living Water

The canteen holds water for soldiers to drink to keep them alive. Jesus is our LIVING WATER.

John 7:38

[Jesus said,] "Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him."

Question (1 point): How is Jesus like water?

ANSWER: When we're thirsty, He satisfies us; He keeps us alive.

First Aid Kit: Healer of Souls

A first aid kit helps us to heal our wounds, but Jesus heals our SOULS by taking away our sin!

1 Peter 2:24

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

Question (1 point): According to this verse, how does Jesus heal us?

ANSWER: He bore our sins in His body on the tree (He died on the cross).

Flashlight: The Light of the World

Soldiers need light to see where they're going. Jesus is the Light of the World, and He lights the way to godliness.

John 8:12

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Question (1 point): Darkness is the absence of light. So, without Jesus, are you in darkness, or light?

ANSWER: Without Jesus, we're in darkness.

Map: Ever-Present; God is Everywhere

A map can help a soldier to find his way, but no matter where he goes, God is there, because God is EVERYWHERE!

Jeremiah 23:24

Can anyone hide in secret places so that I cannot see him?" declares the LORD. "Do not I fill heaven and earth?" declares the LORD.

Question (1 point): If God is everywhere, will He ever lose you?

ANSWER: No!

A Watch: God is a Trinity

This one is tricky. This watch helps a soldier to keep time. Time is ONE thing, but it includes the past, the present, and the future. There are three parts to time, but time is only one thing. God is the same way. God is ONE GOD, but He exists in three Persons. I'll show you what I mean:

Matthew 28:19

Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Explain:

That verse mentions the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Those are the three Persons of the Trinity, and the Bible tells us elsewhere that every one of them is GOD. But now, listen to this verse:

Isaiah 44:6

This is what the LORD says— Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God.

Question (1 point): According to that verse, are there any gods besides the Lord?

ANSWER: No!

Explain:

So, as tough as it is for us to understand, God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit are ALL God, but there is only ONE God. That's the way God exists; One God in three Persons.

Once the Pack is Empty, Finish the Lesson Below:

Explain:

The things in this pack are things that a soldier might need with him or her out on the battlefield, and each one of these things reminds us of God. But God is of much more help to us than this pack is. This pack needs to be carried, but God isn't like that. That's because instead of us carrying God with us, He's the one who carries US!

Conclusion:

God is our Commander-in-Chief. God is a good, just, holy and wonderful God. We need Him with us wherever we go, because this whole world is a battlefield. So learn all you can about God, because He's the one who will win this war!

Take Home Sheets:

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1.

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That way, they can learn the same stuff YOU learned!



2.

MEMORIZE this verse

1 Peter 3:18

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.



3.

ANSWER these questions

How can Jesus save you from sin? (1 Peter 3:18) Why did He do it? (John 3:16)

Can we get to God or heaven without Jesus? (John 14:6) Can anyone else save us? (Acts 4:12)

Is Jesus dead? (Mark 16:6) Where is He? (Romans 8:34)

4.

APPLICATION Challenge:

With your parents' permission, go online and go to www.truthquest.net and click on "All About Jesus." Read the gospel story and make sure you understand it.

If you can't go online, ask your VBS teacher for a gospel tract to take home the next day.



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Today, My Child did AT LEAST THREE of the

Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade Bootcamp Day 3

Memory Verse: James 4:7

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Lesson Preparation:

Prepare the paper boy, along with your binder clip, paper clips, and magnet as directed by the Day 3 Lesson Preparation page.

Introduction:

Attention, troops! Today we are learning about our enemy! The reason we're learning this is because every good soldier needs to be able to recognize the enemy so that you can escape his attacks..

1 Peter 5:8

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Question (1 point): Who is the enemy who wants to destroy us?

ANSWER: The devil, or Satan.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. Why do you think Satan wants to destroy us?

A. Because God made us and hurting us also hurts God.

John 8:44b

He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Question (1 point):

In this verse, what did Jesus say Satan was?

ANSWER: He is a murderer and the father of lies.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. What does it mean that Satan is a murderer and liar?

2 Cor. 11:14

And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.

Question (1 point): What does Satan PRETEND to be?

ANSWER: An angel of light.

Explain:

Remember, troops, Satan is not a red, horned lizard with a beard who carries a pitchfork. The devil is known for making himself and his deadly schemes look appealing and attractive!

Satan's First Attack:

1. Show the kids some of the paper clips and magnets and have them imagine that all of those things represent SIN.
2. Show the children the cutout boy that came with this lesson and have them imagine that this is Adam and Eve.
3. Explain that when God first made Adam and Eve, they were made in His image. They didn't have any sin in them, and they didn't have any attraction to sin.
4. Demonstrate that the paper cutout boy isn't attracted to the magnet or paper clips and that they don't stick to him.

5. Explain that in Genesis 2:17, God commanded Adam not to eat fruit from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, because if they did, they would surely die.
6. Now, hold the binder clip nearby the paper cutout boy. Explain that shortly after Adam and Eve were created, Satan came to Eve as a serpent and pretended to be her friend.

Genesis 3:4-5

“You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Explain:

Soldiers, that was Satan’s first attack! Satan told Eve that she **WOULDN’T** die if she ate from the tree and that eating the fruit would make her like God. Take note of these tactics:

Question (1 point): Did Satan pretend to be a friend, or an enemy?

ANSWER: He pretended to be a friend.

Question (1 point): How did Satan make the fruit from the forbidden tree sound good?

ANSWER: He said that Eve wouldn’t die and that she would become like God, knowing good and evil.

Question (1 point): What was **TRUE** about what Satan said?

ANSWER: Adam and Eve **DID** learn about evil.

Adam and Eve are Trapped:

1. Explain that Eve listened to Satan, and she believed him. She believed that the fruit wouldn’t hurt her and that it would make her like God. Explain that both **SHE AND ADAM** fell for Satan’s lies and disobeyed God.
2. Hold the binder clip up next to the paper cutout boy, and like a trap, close the binder clip on the cutout boy as shown in the Object Lesson Diagram.
3. Explain that when Adam and Eve fell for Satan’s lies and disobeyed God, they were caught in a deadly trap that they could never escape from--the trap of **SIN!**

Romans 6:23a

For the wages of sin is death.

Explain:

Sin is a deadly toxic poison in our lives which eventually kills us and separates us from God who gives us life.

The Sinful Nature:

1. Explain that, now that Adam and Eve were prisoners of sin, they became attracted to sin.
2. Hold the magnet up near the paper cutout boy (which now has a metal binder clip on him) and show the children how the magnet sticks to the boy.
3. Explain that everywhere a prisoner of sin goes, they are **ATTRACTED** to more and more sins, because their hearts have become sinful.
4. Move the paper boy with the magnet stuck to him over the metal paper clips you’ve spread out and show the children how the paper clips are attracted to the paper boy.
5. Explain that Satan’s attack on Adam and Eve made us **ALL** prisoners to sin. Since we all come from Adam and Eve, who became sinners, **WE** are all sinners too.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Explain:

Our sinful hearts are Satan's greatest weapon! Satan doesn't usually attack us directly, and he can't MAKE us do anything. Satan can only do what God ALLOWS him to do. But Satan DOES use YOUR OWN SINFUL HEART as a weapon against you.

James 1:13-14

When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.

Question (1 point): According to these verses, who's fault is it when we're tempted to do evil? Satan's, or our OWN evil desire?

ANSWER: Our own evil desire.

The Enemy's Greatest Weapon:

1. Take some of the paper clips off of the paper cutout boy, leaving the magnet and binder clip stuck to him.
2. Explain to the kids that because of Satan's attack and Adam and Eve's choice to sin, we are all stuck in the trap of sin like this paper cutout boy. We are ATTRACTED to sin.
3. Wave the paper boy with the magnet over the paper clips again and show the kids how the paper clips are attracted.
4. Explain that our sinful hearts are attracted to more deadly sin. The more sin we have, the more we are attracted to it.

James 1:15

Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

Question (1 point): According to this verse, what does sin bring in our lives?

ANSWER: Death.

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Explain:

Because of our sinful hearts, we're attracted to more deadly sin which keeps us away from God, just like the enemy wants! Jesus is our only defense against Satan's weapon of sin!

The Defense Against Sin:

1. Explain that if we ask Jesus into our hearts to be our Lord and Savior, He can take away our sin!
2. As the kids watch, remove all of the paper clips and magnets from the cutout boy (but leave the binder clip on).
3. Explain that Jesus takes the sin away so that we can have fellowship with Him, but since we still have sinful hearts, we'll still be drawn to sin.
4. Wave the paper boy with the binder clip and magnet over the paper clips until they stick to him.
5. Explain that when we give our lives to Jesus, whenever we sin, all we have to do is to tell Jesus that we have sin in our lives and ask Him to take it away, and He will!
6. Remove all of the paper clips and magnets again.
7. Explain that one day in heaven, Jesus will even get rid of our sinful nature so we won't be attracted to sin anymore.
8. Remove the binder clip and wave the paper boy over the paper clips, pointing out that he isn't attracted to them.

Explain:

Jesus is our best defense against sin. When Jesus saves us, He sends us the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts. He also protects us from sin, if we do what He tells us.

Romans 8:6

The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace.

Question (1 point): Who or what SHOULD be controlling our minds?

ANSWER: The Holy Spirit.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. How are our minds controlled by sin?’

A. By failing to focus our thoughts on Jesus.

2 Cor. 10:5

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Question (1 point): According to that verse, how can we make sure that our minds are controlled by the Holy Spirit?

ANSWER: By taking every thought captive and making it obedient to Christ.

Explain:

Another important defense God has given us is PRAYER. We are supposed to PRAY that we won’t be tempted to do evil.

Matthew 26:41

“Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.”

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. Why is it so important to pray and be alert when it comes to sin?

A. If we’re not prayerful and alert, we can fall into temptation.

Conclusion:

Satan is a powerful and clever enemy, and he has poisoned all of us with sinful hearts. Now, when we sin, it’s our OWN FAULT. But Jesus can take that sin away if we ask Him to save us. If we listen to the Holy Spirit and pray that we won’t be tempted, we can watch out for the enemy’s schemes and avoid the traps of sin.

Take Home Sheets:

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SOLDIERS!

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1.

GIVE your Mom or Dad the FAMILY STUDY Sheet we sent home with you today.

That way, they can learn the same stuff YOU learned!



2.

**MEMORIZE
this verse**

James 4:7

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.



3.

**ANSWER
these
questions**

What will happen if we resist the devil? (James 4:7) What else does that verse say to do?

What is Satan according to John 8:44b? Is evil always easy to recognize? (2 Corinthians 11:14)

What tempts us to do evil? (James 1:13-14) What eventually happens because of our sin?

4.

APPLICATION Challenge:

Pray every day that you will not be tempted by evil. Also, be on the lookout for times when someone or something tempts you. When that happens, recite James 4:7 and get away from whatever is tempting you!



PARENTS!

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Today, My Child did AT LEAST THREE of the

Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade Bootcamp Day 4

Memory Verse: Ephesians 6:11

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Lesson Preparation:

Prepare the lesson materials as directed on the "Day 4 Lesson Materials and Preparation" page. Also, select a volunteer from the class and bring him/her to the front.

Ephesians 6:11

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Explain:

Armor is something that people wear to protect themselves. Just like soldiers and firefighters wear certain things to protect themselves, we are supposed to wear the armor of God. It's not something you can see or touch, but it CAN protect us from Satan and sin. Let's see what that armor is about...

1. Belt of Truth

Ephesians 6:14

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place...

Action:

Put a belt on your volunteer.

Question (1 point): What are we supposed to wear buckled around our waist?

ANSWER: The belt of truth.

Question (1 point): How can a belt help us to wear the rest of our clothes?

ANSWER: It helps keep our pants from falling down.

Question (1 point): If you didn't know what the Truth was, would you know the difference between right and wrong?

ANSWER: No.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. How can not knowing God's Truth be dangerous to us?

A. We can be easily fooled and have wrong ideas.

Explain:

Just like a belt holds the rest of our clothes (or armor) in place, the Truth holds everything we do in place. Without God's Truth, everything in our lives would fall apart!

Action:

Draw the children's attention to Cup #1 as you put a quarter into it. Explain that this cup has just put on a piece of armor.

2. Breastplate of Righteousness

Ephesians 6:14

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place...

Action:

Put a vest on your volunteer.

Proverbs 4:23

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

Question (1 point): What is the breastplate of righteousness supposed to guard?

ANSWER: It's supposed to guard our hearts.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. Why is it so important to keep our hearts pure from evil?

A. Our hearts are where our true selves are. If our hearts allow evil inside, we become more evil ourselves.

Explain:

A breastplate is like a big metal shirt that someone wears to protect their heart and other vital organs. If we try to live in righteousness and do what is right, it will guard our hearts against evil, just like a breastplate! Action:

Draw the children's attention to Cup #1 as you put another quarter into it. Explain that this cup has just put on another piece of armor.

3. Feet Fitted with Readiness

Ephesians 6:14-15

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

Action:

Put the shoes or boots on your volunteer.

Question (1 point): What part of God's armor are we talking about now?

ANSWER: Feet fitted with readiness

1 Peter 3:15b

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope you have...

Question (1 point): What does that verse tell us to be prepared to do?

ANSWER: Give an answer about our faith in God.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. How can it be harmful if we're not always ready to do what God wants us to do?

A. We can miss out on opportunities to do good things for God's Kingdom, or we can get caught in temptation.

Explain:

Just like a soldier needs a good pair of boots so he can run, we all need to have our feet fitted with readiness so that we'll be able to act quickly when God wants us to do something.

Action:

Put another quarter in cup #1.

4. Shield of Faith

Ephesians 6:16

In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

Action:

Open up the umbrella and have your volunteer hold it in front of him/her like a shield.

Question (1 point): What part of God's armor are we talking about now?

ANSWER: The shield of faith.

Explain:

A shield is something you hold in your hand to protect your whole body. You can move a shield to wherever you need the most protection.

Question (1 point): What is the shield of faith supposed to protect us from?

ANSWER: The flaming arrows of the evil one.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. What kinds of "flaming arrows" might the evil one shoot at us?

A. Temptations and spiritual attacks which could harm us.

Explain:

God calls His shield the "shield of faith." Faith is putting your trust in God. When we trust God, we are protecting ourselves from Satan's attacks. When we remain faithful to God, our shield of faith will help to protect us from spiritual attacks.

Action:

Put another quarter in cup #1.

5. Helmet of Salvation

Ephesians 6:17

Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Action:

Put the hat or helmet on your volunteer.

Question (1 point): Why is a helmet important for soldiers to wear?

ANSWER: A helmet protects their heads.

Question (1 point): Why is salvation in Jesus so important for us to have?

ANSWER: Without salvation in Christ, we don't have the Holy Spirit in our hearts, and we haven't been washed of our sin. That means if we die, we will be separated from God in hell.

Explain:

Salvation is like a helmet that protects us from the ultimate death, which is separation from God (hell).

Action:

Put another quarter in cup #1.

6. The Sword of the Spirit

Ephesians 6:17

Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Question (1 point): What is the Sword of the Spirit?

ANSWER: It's God's Word, the Bible.

Action:

Put a Bible in your volunteer's hand.

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Question (1 point): Why do you think the Bible is called a sword?

ANSWER: It's our weapon against Satan. It helps us to stand up to him. It helps us to do the right thing.

Question (1 point): Is a sword used for defending ourselves, attacking, or both?

ANSWER: Both defending and attacking.

Explain:

Every piece of the armor of the Lord that we've learned about is useful for defending ourselves against temptations and attacks. But, there is only ONE piece of this armor that can ALSO be used for attack, and that's the sword of the Spirit.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. How can we use God's Word to attack evil?

A. The Truth of God's Word can shatter lies and open the eyes of people who are living in darkness.

Explain:

The Bible is our weapon against evil. But to use it right, we have to know what it says. That means we need to read and study it every day.

Action:

Now, point to the two paper cups and put the last quarter in cup #1. Explain to them that only one cup has the armor of God. Then blow at both cups. The empty cup (cup #2) should fall to the ground. Tell the kids that without the armor of God, we are like this cup that fell over when it was attacked. The cup with the armor was able to stand firm, just like we can stand firm when we have on the Armor of God.

Conclusion:

God has provided us with wonderful armor to protect ourselves and stand our ground in the war. So always wear the full armor of God and stand firm!

Take Home Sheets:

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2.

MEMORIZE
this verse

Ephesians 6:11

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.



3.

ANSWER
these
questions

What is armor meant to do? What would happen to a soldier who didn't wear armor?

Why should we put on the Armor of God? (Eph. 6:11) Can we withstand the devil without it?

How can each piece of armor help us? (Eph. 6:11-17) Would God give us armor if we didn't need it?

4.

APPLICATION Challenge:

Think about the Armor of God from Ephesians 6:11-17 when you get dressed in the morning. Think about how important each piece of armor is. For example, as you put on your belt, think about how important the Belt of Truth is when it comes to doing the right thing. Do this with each piece of armor.



PARENTS!

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Today, My Child did AT LEAST THREE of the

Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade Bootcamp Day 5

Memory Verse: Revelation 22:12

“Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done.”

Lesson Preparation:

Prepare the beans, bowls, Bible and trash can as directed on the Day Five Lesson Preparation Page.

Introduction:

Attention, soldiers! We’ve learned a lot about the great war we’re all in, but today, we’re going to learn about the END of the war!

1 Cor. 15:55-56

“Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

Question (1 point): What is the sting of death?

ANSWER: Sin.

Question (1 point): So, if Jesus defeated sin, does death have any sting?

ANSWER: No!

Explain:

Because of Jesus’ death for our sins and His resurrection, sin and death have been defeated for all those who believe in Jesus.

1 Cor. 15:57

Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Question (1 point): Who does our victory come through?

ANSWER: Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Question (1 point): Who’s going to win the war?

ANSWER: God / Jesus.

1 Peter 5:8

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Question (1 point): What does that verse tell us to be?

ANSWER: Self-controlled and alert.

Question (1 point): Even though Jesus is going to defeat our enemy, can our enemy still hurt people?

ANSWER: Yes.

Question (1 point): How can the enemy hurt people until Jesus returns?

ANSWER: He can lead them into sin and try to prevent them from asking Jesus into their hearts.

Explain:

The enemy can still kill countless of people, so we must be watchful and careful. We must work hard to tell people how Jesus can save them before Christ returns and deals Satan the decisive blow in the war. When Jesus returns, it will be too late for Satan and for anyone who doesn't know Jesus to be saved.

Luke 12:40

You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

Question (1 point): When will Jesus come back?

ANSWER: We don't know. He could come at any time.

Luke 12:38

It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the second or third watch of the night.

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. How will you feel if, when Jesus returns, He catches you NOT doing His work to tell people about Him?

Explain:

When Jesus returns, He will come as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He will defeat Satan and all those who follow him for ever and ever. But, we don't know WHEN Jesus is coming, so we should all work hard to share God's Word with as many people as we can until then! We're going to play a little game to show why this is so important.

The "Be Ready" Game:

1. Draw the children's attention to the three bowls full of pinto beans around the room. Explain that we're pretending these bowls are Satan and his army. We're also pretending that the beans inside the bowls are people who don't know Jesus.
2. Show the kids the open Bible on the table at the front. Explain that all those "people" need to hear the Word of God.
3. Tell the children that they should all stand up and go to one of the bowls. Each child should take ONE bean from a bowl and bring it over and set it on the open Bible. The children should all do this as many times as they can before you say, "TIME'S UP!" Once the rules are explained, start the game.
4. After a minute or so, while there are still beans in the bowls, suddenly yell "TIME'S UP!"
5. At this point, have the children STOP what they're doing and sit back down in their seats. Collect the bowls with the remaining beans and bring them to the front as you explain the following:

Explain:

We're pretending that Jesus has just come back, and that as of right now, it's too late for anyone who doesn't know Jesus to be saved.

Casualties of War:

1. Now, show the kids the beans they put on the Bible and explain that these are all the people they told about Jesus.
2. Next, take a handful of the beans from the Bible and show them to the kids.
3. Explain that these beans in your hand represent people who heard about Jesus, but didn't listen. They were NOT saved.
4. Put those beans back into one of the bowls.

Explain:

God has commanded us to tell people about Jesus, but we CANNOT save them. Only Jesus can save them, and only if the people LISTEN. Our job is to TELL people about Jesus so HE can save them if they want Him to.

The Lamb's Book of Life...

1. Now, draw the kids' attention to the beans on the Bible. Explain that we're pretending this is the Lamb's Book of Life. All those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life when Jesus returns will be saved.
2. Move the Bible with the beans aside and draw the kids' attention to the bowls full of beans.
3. Explain that none of the "people" in these bowls have their names in the Lamb's Book of Life. Explain that some of them heard about Jesus and didn't listen, and others just didn't want Jesus. These people all had chances to choose Jesus, but they refused to love God. Now, it is too late for them to be saved.

Revelation 20:15

If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Question (1 point): Whose names aren't written in the book of life?

ANSWER: People who chose never to believe in Jesus.

Question (1 point): What happens to those whose names are not written in the Book of Life when Jesus returns?

ANSWER: They will be thrown into the lake of fire.

The Death Toll...

1. Pick up the trash can and tell the children that we're pretending this is the lake of fire.
2. Explain that the lake of fire is hell, and those who end up there will be separated from God forever in great pain.
3. Show the kids the bowls full of beans and have them note how many "people" are going to suffer in the lake of fire.
4. Then, dump all the beans from each bowl into the trash can.

Explain:

God doesn't want this many people to end up in hell. This is why we must all work as hard as we can to tell people about Jesus before He comes back. We have to help as many people as possible escape the lake of fire by telling them about Jesus so that they can choose to have their names written in the book of life.

Satan's Defeat:

1. Now, take the three bowls which contained the beans and explain to the kids that we're pretending these bowls are the devil and his evil helpers. Explain that when Jesus returns, they too will eventually be thrown into the lake of fire, where they DO NOT want to go.

Revelation 20:10

And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Action:

Throw the three bowls into the trash can and explain that at that time, Satan will be defeated forever, and he will never hurt anyone again. Then, set the trash can out of sight.

Victory!

1. Explain that now, all the sin that ever existed has been destroyed. Jesus took away the sin of all those who have ever given their lives to Him. There is no longer an enemy who can bring sin into the world. Sin is no more!
2. Hold up the Bible with the beans in it as you explain that everyone who has given their lives to Jesus will now get the rewards that come from loving God.

Revelation 21:3-4

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

Discussion Question (no points):

Q. Where would you rather see your family and neighbors be for eternity; with God in heaven, where there is no pain or sadness, or in hell, away from God and in great pain?

Say: Then, follow God's orders! And here they are!

Matthew 28:18-20

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Question (1 point): Who has all authority on heaven and earth been given to?

ANSWER: Jesus.

Question (1 point): What is He commanding us to do?

ANSWER: Go and make disciples (followers) of Jesus from all nations.

Question (1 point): As we follow Jesus' orders, how long will He be with us?

ANSWER: Always, to the very end of the age.

Conclusion:

We're all at war with evil, but Jesus has overcome evil. He won freedom for all who believe in Him. When He returns, He will defeat the enemy for all time. If you remain faithful to God, you will share in the victory. But until then, go out there take as many people away from Satan as you can by telling them about Jesus! You have your orders, soldiers! Forward, MARCH!

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MEMORIZE
this verse

Revelation 22:12

"Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done."



3.

ANSWER
these
questions

When will Jesus come back? (Luke 12:40) Who will win the war? (Rev. 17:14)

Can Satan still hurt people until Jesus returns? (1 Peter 5:8) Do we want that?

What will happen to believers in Jesus when He comes back? (Revelation 21:3-4)

What will happen to Satan and unbelievers? (Revelation 20:10 and 15)

How can we help people to avoid this terrible fate? (Mark 16:15)

4.

APPLICATION Challenge:

One day, people who don't believe in Jesus will have a terrible time! That's why it's so important to tell as many people about Jesus as you can, because we don't want ANYBODY to end up in the lake of fire! So pray for AND tell as many people as you can!



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