

How to Win Against Sin

Ephesians 6:11, 12

Teacher Preparation:

- Gather the following supplies:
 - A picture of a Roman centurion
 - Plastic cups. You will need six cups
 - You will also need a small ball, bean bag, or crumpled paper for
 - Bible
 - Coloring tools, scissors and glue sticks



Theme:

Satan hates God and wants us to hate God too. He tries to get us to turn against God by getting us to sin. God loves us and gives us the tools (the armor of God) we need to fight against Satan and WIN AGAINST SIN.

Memory Verse:

Ephesians 6:11 (ESV) “Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.”

Game:

Set up pyramids out of plastic cups. (Three on the bottom, use 6 cups in all.) Explain to the kids that they have to use a ball or beanbag (or crumpled paper) to knock over the pyramid. Let them each have a couple of turns, so everyone has a chance to knock over the pyramid. Let them stand from whatever distance works for them. Discuss. Say that it was pretty easy to knock it over. Now have one volunteer to stand in front of each pyramid. (Or cover the pyramid with a box.) Let children try to knock down the pyramid. Once everyone has tried and failed, explain that we are

like that little pyramid. Satan is always trying to knock us down, but God is our Protector, and we will not let us get knocked down by sin.

Lesson:

Ask who has seen the Incredibles. (Or any other movies with a clear hero and villain, like Kung Fu Panda.) Who was the good guy? Who was the bad guy? Discuss the movie for a few minutes with the kids. Define that a good guy is the hero and the bad guy is the enemy. Do we have an enemy in real life? In real life, our enemy is Satan. If our enemy is Satan, who is our hero? Our hero is God, Jesus. Satan hates God and is always fighting him and trying to ruin things, just like the bad guys in movies. God and Satan are at war. Do you know what they are fighting for? They are fighting for us! Satan hates God and wants us to hate God too. Satan tries to get us to turn away from God by tempting us to sin. But God doesn't want that! He loves us and wants us to be with him. If we love God and want to be with him too, then we are in a fight, too. We are in a fight against sin, because sin takes us away from God. Does it sound scary to be in a war? But we don't have to worry, because God is on our side. God is fighting for us. The Bible says that God is our Protector and that he won't let any harm come to us (Psalm 121). All we have to do is trust that God is in control. God is our hero in our war against sin, and when we turn to Jesus and ask for forgiveness from the things that we have done wrong, then we can begin to win against sin. Say this with me: With Jesus, I can win against sin! Since God is our Protector, he has given us something very special to protect us. The Bible tells us to put on the armor of God. Have any of you seen pictures of a Roman soldier? (Show picture of a Roman centurion in armor.) Why do they wear all that armor? It keeps them from getting hurt when they are attacked by their enemy. The armor of God will protect us when we are tempted to sin. Over the next few weeks, we will all work together to memorize a verse from the Bible. Read Ephesians 6:11.

Song:

Now, we are going to learn a song to help us remember all six pieces of the armor of God. This song is to the tune of “head, shoulders, knees and toes.” Have the kids stand with you. Demonstrate the song once, then have them join you in singing and motions. Pretend to put on each piece of armor as you sing it. Hold the sword up high. When you sing “this is the armor of our Lord,” march in place. Belt, breastplate, shoes and shield, Helmet and sword, Belt, breastplate, shoes and shield, Helmet and sword, This is the armor of our Lord, Belt, breastplate, shoes and shield, Helmet and sword. We will sing this song at the beginning of class every week to help us remember all the pieces of armor. Next week, we will start to learn what each piece of armor means.

