



3rd – 5th

November 2-3, 2013

Kingdom Come Journey Week 4: FIGHT

LESSON TITLE

Ephesians 6:10-17

We can fight for God's Kingdom!

WHERE TO FIND IT

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (15 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (15 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

Last week, kids made Obey Experiment Cards. As kids enter the room, talk to them about how it went. Share how *your* obedience challenge went too! If kids weren't here last week, talk to them about what we did and ask them how they could obey Jesus at home or school this week.

check-in/out

Kids are getting another Experiment Card! Encourage them to share their challenge with their families or a friend for accountability.

large group heads up

Today, we're learning about how God has an enemy who will do anything to get us to stop following Jesus. Fortunately, God has given us everything we need to stand up to him.



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

MAKE-YOUR-OWN-ARMOR

- Split kids into groups
- Give each group a brand new roll of **aluminum foil**
- Choose one “warrior”
- The rest of the group should create “armor” for the “warrior.” Their goal is to make the armor as protective as possible. (*Focus on the protective nature of armor as opposed to building weapons!*)
- Dress the “warrior” up and tell him/her to be prepared to show the armor at the beginning of large group.

This is also a time for you to connect with kids*: While kids do the activity, ask them their names, talk to them about their week, or even remind them of the expectations you have for Large Group behavior: (1) Be kind, (2) Listen when somebody speaks, (3) Follow the leader's instructions.

*Here are some sample connect questions:

1. What was the best part of your week?
2. What was the worst part of your week?
3. Who brought you to Kids' Club today?
4. What's your favorite...Activity? Movie? Superhero?



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) recognize that there is a battle between God’s Kingdom and the kingdom of the world, (2) practice fighting the battle through obedience (specifically, repentance).

Why? Obedience is our most powerful weapon, and it’s made possible by putting on our armor. Part of obedience is repentance—or turning away from our disobedience. We’re focusing on this aspect of obedience in order to stay aligned with the adult Journey content.

Tip: Kids may be interested in the armor, but really the armor is designed to keep us strong so that we can obey. Focus on fighting by obeying.

small group

REACT / DIG DEEPER

1. What was the most surprising thing (or your favorite thing) you heard in large group?
2. Do you ever feel like you’re in a war, fighting between saying “yes” and “no” to God (obeying or disobeying)? Explain. (If kids are struggling to answer, ask them if they ever feel like disobeying God. You may have to ask follow up questions to help them compare it to being in a war.)
3. How do you think God’s armor protects us from the devil’s attacks?

FIGHT TOGETHER

4. When Jesus showed us how to pray, he included a part about how to turn away from the kingdom of the world and fight for God’s Kingdom. (Hold up **the verse card**.) He told us to say: **Forgive us for doing wrong, as we forgive others. Keep us from being tempted and protect us from evil.** (Yes, we skipped a verse. We’ll fill it in next week! Repeat a few times with the kids to help them remember.)
 - a. If this verse is about fighting for God’s Kingdom, HOW should we fight? (ask forgiveness—repent—and ask for God’s protection—armor!)
 - b. We’re going to start today by thinking about some things we want to ask forgiveness for (times we’ve disobeyed). When we ask for forgiveness, we REPENT and then obey, which means we turn away from the kingdom of the world and toward the Kingdom of God—which is walking in obedience:
 - i. Give each kid a **marker** and a **paper with a body template**
 - ii. Tell each kid to finish these sentences on the body:
 1. (a) I’ve been worried about _____
 2. (b) I’ve been angry at _____
 3. (c) I’ve disobeyed Jesus by _____

- iii. Have kids take a minute and ask God to forgive them by saying, “Dad (like in Matthew 6:9!), please forgive me!”
- iv. Then remind them Jesus’ rescue covered their sins. When we repent, God sees us as *righteous*! Jesus died and shed his blood to take the punishment. **Glue red tissue paper** over everything that’s been written.
- v. Stand back and look: It’s like us! Jesus’ blood covers our sin!

***Pray together, thanking God for his forgiveness and asking God to cover each of you in his protective armor this week so you can keep fighting for God’s Kingdom!**

FIGHT CARDS

Time for this week’s experiment! Remind kids, we don’t just turn toward God, we keep walking by obeying!

- Ask kids which sentence was the easiest to fill in [in other words, which one do they struggle with most: (a) worry, (b) anger, or (c) general disobedience].
- Give kids the **corresponding fight card**
 - Each card has a verse
 - Philippians 4:6
 - James 1:19
 - John 14:15
 - How will kids obey what God says this week?
 - Help kids come up with one tangible way to fight for God’s Kingdom (e.g. if they struggle with obeying their parents, ask them to come up with one way they can be obedient this week. If they worry a lot, they can try thanking God instead.)
- If you have time, share! (Then kids will get different ideas of how to obey.)
- Remind kids that when they obey, they are warriors in God’s Kingdom!

Extra time? Let kids make something out of the excess aluminum foil (in the large group bin) as a reminder to fight against the devil and say “yes” to God this week.

special notes

Today is all about understanding the spiritual battle we are in. A fair portion of today's lesson is a game, but it isn't just for the sake of having fun: it will help kids recognize the nature of spiritual warfare.

presenter tips

Have a plan for implementing the game ahead of time. Decide which leaders will be on which side—and talk to them about how to best help you monitor kids.

***Also, the game could take extra time, so make sure to start promptly today (and a couple minutes early if you think your group needs it)!**

script

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you today. We've been talking about God's Kingdom and how Jesus brought the Kingdom of God to us when he came to earth to rescue us. It's a perfect kingdom, based completely on LOVE.

(Show picture of sun breaking through.) Now there are two kingdoms all around us: the kingdom of the world and the Kingdom of God. And when we accept God's love, we get to be part of HIS Kingdom—and we get to be filled with his love and obey him by showing his love to others.

WE ARE AT WAR

(Act confused.) But if we're talking about a perfect kingdom...and a good king who we love and obey...why do you think we made *armor* during Connect Time today? What do we usually use armor and weapons for? (Let kids say: to fight.) Yeah, to fight. Let's see the armor you guys made. Can I have the "warriors" come up here? Tell us about the armor your group made. (Let kids share.)

Wow, you guys definitely look ready for battle! Go ahead and take off the armor now. (Collect the armor in the large group bin and let kids sit.)

We made armor today, because we ARE in a war. **(Point to the picture.)** Remember, God brought his Kingdom to us through Jesus, but we have to be a part of God's Kingdom *in the middle of a broken world*. It's like there are two kingdoms all mixed together, the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of this world.

Worse, the ruler of this broken world is God's enemy, the devil. He wants to do everything he can to get us to disobey God by doing things like hurting each other, hating ourselves, worrying instead of trusting God, disobeying people in charge of us, and all sorts of other things. Basically, he tries to get us to move *away* from God's Kingdom and toward *his* kingdom (point



script continued

to stormy part of the picture; shudder).

But you know what? The devil doesn't fight with swords or things we see in wars today. To understand how he fights us, we're going to play a little game.

UNDERSTANDING THIS WAR (ORGANIZED MASS CHAOS GAME)

This game is called Organized Mass Chaos and we ALL get to play. First of all, let's split into two teams (*Move one half of the room to one side; move the other half to the other side. Make sure there are an equal number of adult volunteers on each side. Create an aisle of space in the middle. Walk down the aisle, scattering **challenge/task cards** as you explain. Also, make sure to place several sheets of **plain paper** in the middle for the paper airplane challenge card*): I'm dropping cards with different instructions on them. In a minute, I'm going to count to three. Everybody should run to pick up a card and do *whatever* that card says. The one rule is: You can't say "no!" You might have to find somebody to help you because some of them require another person. And if you can't complete your own card, don't worry! Help a teammate complete his/hers—either way, it's a point for your team!

Once you've completed the task on the card, head to an adult leader on your team who is holding THIS bucket (hold up the **two buckets**—let kids watch you hand them to one leader on each side). Put the completed card in the bucket. Then pick up a new one. The team with the most cards at the end of three minutes, wins! Adults, please walk around and make sure kids are *really* completing their tasks. Any questions? (Make sure everybody understands.)

OK, I'm going to start the 3-minute countdown on the count of three. Ready? 1....2....3! (**click to begin the countdown video**; help monitor kids)

(When the timer ends, continue:) OK, time's up! Everybody sit down. (Let kids sit.) Volunteers with buckets, can you count the cards for us? (Continue, as they count): We'll get the totals in a minute. But for now, raise your hand if you had to do something you didn't want to do (Let kids respond). Why did you do it? (Let a couple kids share.) Yeah, you wanted to win the game, didn't you? You knew you had to obey what's on the card to win, even if you didn't feel like it!

Alright, do we have the totals? (Let volunteers share the totals.) Looks like _____ won! Great job!

HOW THE GAME APPLIES TO US

Well, this is KIND of like what happens when we're obeying the King. All we have to do is follow what he says. Sometimes, we love it and it's fun! But sometimes we have to do something we don't like...or something embarrassing.... Well, guess what? *Jesus understands*. People made fun of him. And he didn't *want* to *die* on the Cross. But no matter what, Jesus obeyed.

And remember how we are at war? God's enemy, the devil, WANTS to get us to say "no" to Jesus and disobey. The devil has a whole army who will do anything to get us to disobey God.

OUR PROTECTION: GOD'S ARMOR

Fortunately, God has a plan to keep us strong. See, just like the devil has an army, GOD has



script continued

an army too—his whole Kingdom! That means us and every other follower of Christ...in the world! And he gives people in his kingdom special armor to wear that helps them stand up to the devil and always be ready to say “yes” to God and obey him.

Now, this armor is something that you can't really put on your body, like the clothes you're wearing today. You have to put it on in your mind. And we're going to watch a video to learn some more about it and see exactly what it is. As you watch and hear about each piece of armor...in your head, ask God to cover you with that piece. You can even point to that place on your body or whisper, “yes”!

Video: God's Story / The Armor of God (about 4 minutes)

(React and summarize:) Wow, isn't that amazing!? We get to be part of God's army! And God wants us to be completely ready to fight the devil's attacks. When we are part of God's Kingdom, God covers us in truth, righteousness, faith, God's word, and salvation, which is being rescued! We can tell others about Jesus and make God's Kingdom bigger!

HOW WE FIGHT

Remembering we are God's warriors helps us fight against the kingdom of this world by obeying God. The most powerful thing we can do to fight the devil is do the opposite of what the devil wants...and OBEY God by saying yes to him no matter what, just like you did in today's game!

We've talked about things we can do to follow Jesus. Today, we're going to talk about the first thing we can do when we mess up. It's called REPENTING. By repenting, we can right away start obeying God again. In small groups, we're going to practice being freedom fighters by repenting—which is turning *away* from the devil and *toward* God. When we turn toward God and put on his armor, we really are warriors!

WORSHIP

Now let's thank God for his battle plan by singing about how he's always with us and will give us strength!

Song: Brave-A-Ree (hand motions)

Song: You Come In A Hurry (hand motions)

PRAY

Ask somebody to come and thank God for giving us armor to fight the devil!



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PREP needs



connect time supplies

1 roll of aluminum foil per small group

small group supplies

Per kid: 1 half sheet of paper with body outline
Marker
red tissue paper
Fight Challenge cards

3 glue sticks

Per group: 1 verse card printed on cardstock (can re-use at services)

large group supplies

2 buckets
5 pieces of plain paper
*approx. 50 challenge cards (Template provided; only 16 versions; kids will repeat. Also, cards may get pretty bent during the “chaos”—please provide a fresh 50 per service)

**Partner churches, this is not our original content; therefore we cannot provide it. However, we pulled the 16 challenges from this website:*
http://centrikid.com/about-us/omc/#omc_editions.

a/v needs

1. *Image: sun breaking through
2. Video: 3 min countdown video (last three minutes of this:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wvz3CxPf4eU>)
3. Video: God's Story / Armor
4. Song: Brave-A-Ree (with hand motions)

5. Song: You Come In A Hurry (hand motions)

**Partner churches, this is not our original content; therefore we cannot provide it. Please use songs and/or images that you already own.*

connect questions

Tell me about the way God protects his family.
How can we be warriors in God's Kingdom?

parent page

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