



Date: _____

Series: Pass the Promise
Fall Year 1, Lesson 23

God Will Fight for You

Primary Scripture: Exodus 14:14

Key Verse: Exodus 14:14, "The LORD is fighting for you! So be still!"

How does this address a need in our kids' lives?

Kids constantly fight spiritual battles in their lives. Satan works to convince us that it won't hurt if he has control over *just one small area* in our life. But as they will find out today, *just one area* can pollute their entire life. God's Word tells us that God has won the victory for us through the death of his Son, Jesus. All we need to do is be calm and let God fight the battle. What victory we have in Jesus!

How does Jesus fill this need?

Jesus for us: Jesus won the victory for us over Satan when he died on the cross. The victory is ours because the battle is the Lord's.

Jesus in us: In the middle of a spiritual attack, God would ask us to remain calm and let him fight for us. We no longer need to be frightened when attacked, because he will save us.

Jesus through us: People struggling with temptation can be pointed back to the cross, and victory is won there. We will be able to rejoice in the victory of Jesus. We can shout the battle cry, "I belong to Jesus. Satan, take a hike!"

Stamp of Excellence:

Remind the kids what excellent worship looks like. We are in God's presence to honor him. Put on your best manners. This might include wearing your name tag, participating eagerly at all times, listening when the presenter is talking, raising your hand to speak, not distracting others, playing the learning game with cooperation, singing enthusiastically, and praying reverently. Offer rewards or positive reinforcement to those who worship with excellence.



Worship

Invocation:

Let kids bring forward the worship symbols such as the cross, candles, Bible, and offering plate. Invite God's presence and call by name Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Attention Grabber:

Capture the children's attention and help them focus on the worship theme for the day.

Supplies:

- clear jar of water
- red food coloring
- ¼ cup bleach

Have you ever wondered why your parents won't let you see some of the movies that other kids see? Do you sometimes think they are just being mean?

Look at this jar full of water. We are going to pretend this represents your mind and heart. As I put three drops of food coloring into the jar, watch what happens. The whole jar of water turns red.

This is like watching *just one* bad movie or watching a movie with *just a few* bad words. It seems like such a *little* thing. You probably think, "The movie only has a couple of bad words. It won't hurt." But Satan likes to get into our hearts and minds and convince us a few bad words won't hurt us.

Just like a couple of drops of food coloring can change this clean water, a few bad words can start coloring our entire life. But I have good news: Jesus comes to us and cleanses us.

Pour in a ¼ cup of bleach. The water will become clear.

Even better, Jesus has defeated Satan. If you belong to Jesus, you can tell Satan to take a hike because he has no power to pollute or wreck your life anymore. Say with me, “I belong to Jesus. Satan, take a hike.”

Today when we worship and come to God, we need to claim the victory that he has already won for us through Christ Jesus—victory over the devil. Let’s hail Jesus as our victorious King over all these areas that tempt us.

Songs of Worship:

Choose two or three songs. Briefly introduce songs so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God!

The Power of the Cross:

Jesus has given his life for us that we might have forgiveness and power to live for him.

Supplies:

- *video, The Not-So-Great Escape from the McGee and Me Series (Focus on the Family, 1999)*

Introduce this 25-minute video by having the children watch for the effect of “garbage” being put into the mind of Nicholas and McGee. After the video is over, ask the children the following.

Think about a time when you allowed Satan to convince you that just a little sin wouldn’t hurt you. Maybe you lied, but you convinced yourself it was just a little one. Maybe you said a bad word, but it was just one. Maybe you got mad at your mom or dad and yelled at them. Satan wants to get a tiny little hole in your life and then pollute your entire heart and mind.

Let’s kneel and close our eyes. Think about the things in your life that you have let Satan get a tiny hold of. Ask God to forgive you for those areas because, even though it started out very small, it got bigger and bigger. God can forgive those things through Jesus, and protect us because the battle has already been fought and won.

You are so precious to God. He will never let you go. Trust him.

The children can now get back up. Reassure them of Jesus’ forgiveness and protection.

**Do you believe in Jesus? Do you believe that he is the Son of God?
Do you believe that he died and rose again for you?**

Song of Response:

Choose a song to help the children turn to Jesus. Or, you may want to help them celebrate what God has done by singing a song of praise.

Offering:

Teach the importance of giving and talk about the mission activities they are supporting.



The Word

Learning Game:

Some churches dismiss children from the adult service at this time to join Kids Church. The learning game provides a fun kinesthetic activity to help kids connect with each other. The learning point will help reinforce the theme of the day.

Supplies:

- *beach ball*

Before beginning the activity, tell children they have to think of at least two ways they are tempted by Satan.

Split the group in half. (For ease they can just stay where they are in the room.) Have all the children stand up.

Explain that whoever catches the beach ball must call out a way they are tempted. The rest of his team must say loudly, "I belong to Jesus. Satan, take a hike." The ball is then tossed to the other team. The child who catches it calls out his temptation and his team says, "I belong to Jesus. Satan, take a hike."

If a child can't think of a temptation in five seconds, he needs to sit. If anyone doesn't call out the phrase ("I belong to Jesus. Satan, take a hike"), he needs to sit. After a set amount of time, the team with the most children standing wins the game.

Bible Presentation:

Help children pay attention by giving them a word or concept to listen for as you read. Consider letting a child read who could do so with excellence.

Supplies:

- *video, Prince of Egypt (Dreamworks, 1998), cued to the scene where the people are crossing the Red Sea (optional)*

Did you know there is a spiritual battle going on? Do you know you have angels assigned to you to protect you at all times?

We are going to listen to a story about a boy, Jeff, and what he learned about spiritual warfare. Before we start, let's review the Bible event inside this story.

Briefly retell the Bible event from Exodus 13:17-14:31 about Moses leading God's people out of Egypt and crossing the Red Sea. Or show a clip from the video, *The Prince of Egypt*, where the people are crossing the Red Sea.

Application 1:

Do you remember when Moses was leading the people out of Egypt? They came to the Red Sea and got very scared. Does anyone remember why? (*There was water in front of them and the army behind them.*)

Would you have been scared? Do you know what God said? He said, "The LORD is fighting for you. So be still!" Can you say that with me? Let's listen to this story and learn what Jeff did about spiritual warfare.

Application 2:

Supplies:

- short story, "Spiritual Warfare," from the book *Tell Me the Story* written by Max Lucado, illustrated by Timothy Botts (Good News Publishers/Crossway, 1992)

Read the story and then ask the following questions.

Why was Jeff so scared? (*The Bryan boys were picking on him.*)

Jeff's father, John, turned to God's word to get advice. He showed Jeff the Bible Event of Moses and the Red Sea. Do you think Moses was scared? Would you be scared?

What did God tell Moses? (*"The LORD is fighting for you! So be still!" Exodus 14:14.*)

Would that help you if you were scared or the devil was tempting you? What does that mean for you?

Whom does God send to help protect you? (*He sends his angels. Psalm 91:11 says, "He will put his angels in charge of you to protect you in all your ways."*)

You can remember to remain calm because the Lord will fight for you in your spiritual battles, too.



Witness and Tell:

Give children opportunities to share how God is working in their lives. It is best to use a microphone to ask children interview questions around the theme for the day.

Talk about a time when you felt scared or were in danger. How did God help you?

Prayer:

Let the kids pray out loud. If you are using a microphone, invite children to form a prayer line and speak their thanksgivings or requests. If you have portable microphones, you can roam the audience. Kids can also go to prayer stations set up for specific types of prayer.

Blessing:

Speak a blessing prayer over the children. Personalize this to your setting. Use a special scripture verse or blessing around the theme of the day.

Song of Sending:

Choose one song. Briefly introduce song so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God.

Supplies:

Attention Grabber:

- clear jar of water
- red food coloring
- ¼ cup bleach

The Power of the Cross:

- video, *McGee and Me: The Not-So-Great Escape* (Focus on the Family, 1999) from the Recharged #1 video—order from <http://www.family.org/resources/itempg.cfm?itemid=4674>

Learning Game:

- beach ball

Bible Presentation:

Application 1:

- video, *Prince of Egypt* (Dreamworks, 1998), cued to the scene where the people are crossing the Red Sea (optional)—order from http://www.amazon.com/gp/search/ref=pd_sl_aw_tops-1_blended_7296289_2/002-7436213-2441636?search-alias=aps&keywords=prince%20of%20egypt%20dvd

Application 2:

- short story, “Spiritual Warfare” from the book *Tell Me the Story* written by Max Lucado, illustrated by Timothy Botts (Good News Publishers/Crossway, 1992)—order from http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0891076794/sr=8-1/qid=1155040760/ref=sr_1_1/002-7436213-2441636?ie=UTF8

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