

No Fear!

Summer Key Passage:

"Therefore put on the full armor of God,
so that when the day of evil comes,
you may be able to stand your ground,
and after you have done everything, to stand."
Ephesians 6:13 (NIV)

Today's Story Point:

God is most powerful.

Today's Bible Passage:

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power."
Ephesians 6:10

LEADER PREP:

The first step in exploring the spiritual armor God provides to believers is to acknowledge that we face spiritual enemies. Satan and the spiritual forces that fight against God are real and powerful. When we face our own inadequacy for battle, we understand our need for a Champion who will fight for us and protect us. We recognize our dependence on the armor God provides.

*Talking about Satan's threats and our vulnerability can make both children and adults feel anxious. But instead of minimizing the enemy - **maximize God!** Vividly portray His awesome power. Help kids experience God's protective love that surrounds them. As kids trust God and learn to wear the armor He provides, they will discover that no enemy is too great for God. Celebrate with kids that the battle has already been won by Jesus!*

WELCOME

Coloring Page:	Activity: How scared are you?
<p>Invite kids to color today's coloring page. Point out to them that the boy and the girl are both wearing an armor. Ask kids if they can identify any type of armor that the boy and girl are wearing.</p> <p>SAY • Today we will learn about how God is most powerful and protects us by giving us a spiritual armor so that we do not have to be afraid.</p>	<p>Before class, make two signs. One should say "Not scared at all" with a happy face on it and the other should say "Very Scared" with a sad face. Post signs on opposite sides of the room and have kids move from one sign to the other as you read the following scenarios: How scared would you feel...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● On the first day at a new school● If a strange dog approaches you and starts growling at you● If you were separated from your parents in a crowded place● If there was a thunderstorm while you are at home with your parents● If there was a thunderstorm while you were in a boat on a lake? <p>SAY • Not everyone is scared by the same things, but God is never afraid because He is in control; nothing can harm him. God loves us and promises to protect us. Since God is most powerful, we don't have to be afraid. Today we are going to learn how God helps us so we don't have to be afraid.</p>

LARGE GROUP TIME

WORSHIP:

Choose 3 to 4 songs to sing today. Encourage leaders to participate by doing the hand motions!

SUMMER KEY PASSAGE:

Show the summer key passage and read it aloud with the kids. Let them know they have the entire summer to learn this verse, and that if it doesn't make sense now, to keep coming back to learn what the armor of God is all about!

BIBLE STORY:

Wild Wind, Wet Waves

SAY • Today's wild and wet Bible story comes from Mark 4:35-41. Open your Bible and show children where this story is found. Let's act out this story together and imagine what it might have been like to be on the boat with Jesus.

Ask for volunteers to play the part of Jesus and the two disciples. Have these children sit in an imaginary boat. Choose another child to turn lights on and off to imitate lightning. Hand out bath towels and water bottles to the remaining



SUMMER MEMORY VERSE

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EPHESIANS 6:13 (NIV)



children sitting down. As you distribute bottles, check that the lids are on securely. Tell children to listen and act out their parts as you retell the story.

SAY • When I mention the wild wind, everyone with bath towels should flap them toward the imaginary boat carrying Jesus and the disciples. When I mention the wet waves, everyone with water bottles should shake them to make sloshing sounds.

Practice both parts with the children. Have children reenact the story as you read. Pause after each mention of specific actions so children have time to participate.

SAY • At the end of the day, Jesus and his disciples got into a boat to cross to the other side of the lake. Jesus lay down in one end of the boat and went right to sleep. When they were in the middle of the lake, a terrible thunderstorm came up. There was no time to get to shore. The wild wind blew the boat! The wet waves roared! Lightning flashed all around them! The disciples felt the water coming into the boat around their ankles. They thought the boat was about to sink and they would drown. They went to Jesus and woke him up. They shouted over the noise of the storm, “Jesus, don’t you care if we drown?”

Jesus woke up and looked around at the wild wind, the wet waves and the crashing lightning. He stood up. He calmly said. “Quiet, waves.” Then he said, “Hush, wind.” The lightning stopped. Suddenly everything became completely still.

Let’s imitate how quiet the lake was. *Wait for children to settle.* Let’s get quieter still. *Pause, then whisper:* Let’s listen to that silence for ten seconds. *Wait, then continue in a whisper.* The disciples looked at the quiet lake. They looked at Jesus. They looked at each other and said, “Jesus stopped a storm! He’s someone special!”

The disciples were right. Jesus *is* someone special. Jesus is God. **Since God is most powerful, we don’t have to be afraid.**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Gather kids together and lay props aside. Have kids form pairs to discuss the following questions. After kids share with each other, ask for volunteers to share their answers with the group.

- What would you have thought if you were in the boat with Jesus when the lake became quiet?
- How do you think the disciples felt when they realized that Jesus was so powerful?
- How do you feel knowing that God is most powerful?
- How do you need God’s power in your life?

SAY • Jesus showed his power and protected his friends by calming the storm. God is still able to protect us today. One way God protects us from spiritual enemies is by giving us spiritual armor. We’re going to be learning about the armor of God in the coming weeks. We’ll discover that whatever problems or enemies we face, God is most powerful.

REVIEW ACTIVITY & PRAYER

Calming the Sea	Departure Prayer
<p>Distribute a Calming the Sea “souvenir handout” to each child and invite them to color the picture. Show them how to fold the left edge of the page toward the center on the dotted line, hiding Jesus. With the page closed, have kids finish the left half of the boat and decorate the left flap to look like the boat is in the middle of a storm. Have the kids draw themselves in the right-hand side of the boat.</p>	<p>Divide children into smaller groups to close the time in prayer.</p> <p>SAY • Today we learned how powerful God is. No matter what happens, he is able to protect us. Turn to a friend and tell about a stormy time in your life. Give kids time to share.</p>

Then have kids open the page, revealing Jesus in the boat. On the left side of the boat, kids can add details showing the quiet lake. Show them how by opening the page, they can see that Jesus is on the boat with them.

SAY • Jesus calmed the storm and did other miracles so that his disciples would know that God is most powerful. Nothing is bigger or stronger than he is. Since we belong to him, we don't have to be afraid. Even if God doesn't make our difficulties disappear, he promises to be with us through them. As we trust in him, he will give us the strength we need.

Encourage them to take this "souvenir" home with them and keep them as we travel through this summer learning about the Armor of God.

As we pray, we'll talk to God about stormy times and quiet times. He wants to hear from us in both the stormy times of life as well as the quiet times in life. Let's pray.

Dear God, during the storm the disciples were frightened. They thought the boat may sink. They called to Jesus for help. Jesus calmed the storm and kept them safe. Sometimes we are scared too. When we're afraid, our fears shake us up. Help us remember that You are most powerful. Help us trust you to protect us, calm us and bring us peace. Amen.

CHECKOUT PROCEDURE:

- As parents begin to arrive, open the door and have one leader stand just outside the classroom door with the attendance sheet.
- Take the parent's security sticker and call loudly for the child to come.
- While you wait for the child to come, tell the parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the service and distribute the preschool big picture cards for families.
- Before you let the child leave the classroom, look to see that the parent and child security codes match and remove the sticker from the child's shirt as they leave.

Note: If a parent lost their security sticker, send them to the Service Lead to receive a temporary sticker; never allow a child to go to a parent unless they have the security sticker.

LOOP KIDS LEADER CLEANING GUIDELINES

Immediately after each service, clean the classrooms according to the posted cleaning guidelines.