

The Belt of Truth

Summer Key Passage: "Put on the full armor of God... so that you can stand firm." Ephesians 6:13
(paraphrased)

Today's Story Point: God's true Word helps us do what's right.

Today's Bible Passage: "Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist."
Ephesians 6:14a (NIV)

BEFORE THE SERVICE:

- Be sure music is playing as kids arrive.
 - Set out today's Coloring Page and some crayons at the tables.
 - Review the activities to make sure you're prepared for the day.
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LEADER PREP:

What is truth? Our society says that truth is relative, and there is no absolute truth. This viewpoint makes it hard for children (and adults) to know what to believe and what to hold on to.

We need to assure children that there is a reliable source of truth - the Bible. Because God's Word is true, we can depend on it to guide us. And just as a belt holds up an important part of our wardrobe, the belt of truth holds us up spiritually, keeping our armor in place, and it holds our faith together. With this belt wrapped snugly about us, we can make good choices and remain strong in our faith.

Use this lesson to let children know there is truth, and that depending on God's Word can lead them into making wise choices.

WELCOME:

- Greet kids at the door, take their temperature, and then add their names to the Check-in Sheet.
- Have a few bins of toys out for kids to play as they enter the room
- Feel free to play music on the TV as kids are playing if you'd like.

Color your Belt of Truth

Invite children to start coloring the elements they will attach to their belt.

SAY • Today we will make a belt and learn how the belt of truth holds us up spiritually, keeping our armor in place.

LARGE GROUP TIME

WORSHIP TIME:

Choose 2-3 songs to play on the TV. Invite the kids to stand and sing, and if you know the motions you can do them with the kids. When worship is done, have them sit back down on their circle dot.

TELL THE STORY:

Tell the children to sit cross-legged and listen quietly as you read today's story.

Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle. Say the Bible is God's words. Open your Bible and tell the story.

SAY • Today's story is from the book of Daniel, it is the true story of three brave men who loved God so much, they were willing to stand up for God's truth. Their names were Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego

Daniel 3

The king of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar, had a gigantic statue built of himself and ordered everyone to bow down to the statue to worship it. Nebuchadnezzar wanted everyone to worship him like he was a god.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego just stood there because they knew the truth of God's Word that told them only to worship God. So they refused to bow down and worship the false god. They knew that God had the power to save them and they were going to obey God and not worship anyone else.

The king was very angry and ordered the three men were tied up and thrown into the fire. The king looked into the fire expecting to see Sadrach, Meshach and Abednego dead, but instead he saw them walking around the furnace with a fourth man with them! The king called the man out of the furnace and saw that their clothes were not burnt and they did not even smell like smoke! King Nebuchadnezzar began to praise the true God!

REPEAT THE KEY PASSAGE:

If you would like, create simple hand motions for words of the summer key passage. Invite the children to repeat the motions as you say the key passage.

PRAYER:

SAY • Let's close our eyes to pray. Why do we pray?
(*Answer: To open our hearts to God and talk to Him!*)

Remind the children that we can talk to God anytime and anywhere because He cares for us. Invite them to take turns talking to God. Ask the children to close their eyes, fold their hands and bow their heads and then lead your group in prayer.



ACTIVITIES

Choose one or more of the following activities to do with the class for the rest of the service.

The Belt of Truth PREP NEEDED	Tight Together NO PREP
<p>Have children finish coloring the elements of their belt. Help them glue or tape the elements onto the long strip of paper (the belt itself). The word TRUTH should go in the front and the five pointed elements below it (see example provided to know where to put everything). Punch holes at the two ends of the strip and pass ribbon or twine through the holes to tie around the child's waist.</p> <p>SAY • Today we have learned that God true Word is what helps us to know what is right. When we face problems or lies, we can remember what God's Word says and put on our belt of truth. This will help us to stand strong and not be distracted by lies.</p>	<p>Have children gather in a tight circle. Give one child an end of a rope, then walk around the outside of the circle, wrapping the rope around the entire group. Encourage the children to move closer together as you wind the rope around, including yourself with the group. When you reach its end, give your end of the rope to a child to hold.</p> <p>SAY • Let's pretend that this rope is a belt. Today we will learn about a belt that is mentioned in the Bible. Just like this belt around us, the belt we'll learn about holds things tight together and keeps an important kind of "clothing" from falling off. I hope you learn today that God's true Word helps us do what's right.</p>

DISMISSAL

- As parents begin to arrive, open the door and have one leader stand just inside the classroom door with the attendance sheet.
- Take the parent's security sticker and call for their child to be brought to the door.
- Check to make sure the security codes match and remove the sticker from the child's back.
- Carefully hand the child to their parent, along with their diaper bags if they brought one, and thank them for coming to Loop Kids today!

Note: If a parent lost their security sticker, send them to the check-in desk for approval. Never allow a child to go to a parent unless they have the security stickers.

LOOP KIDS LEADER CLEANING GUIDELINES

Immediately after each service, please do the following:

- Please spray and wipe down the following areas.
 - Door knobs (both sides), Light switches, Hand Sanitizer Dispenser, Remote Controls,
 - Tables and Chairs (spray and let air dry)
 - Large Stationary items like Play Structures, Train Tables, Baby Swings or Changing Tables (spray and let air dry)
 - Any other surfaces touched during the service.
- Please put all toys that were used in your service in the same bin that you got them from (9am service toys back in 9am service bins, etc). If you noticed a child with a toy in their mouth during the service, please place it in the dirty bin for extra cleaning.