

The Helmet of Salvation

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

Today's Story Point: We can trust God to protect our thoughts.

Today's Bible Passage: "Take the helmet of salvation..." Ephesians 6:17a (NIV)

BEFORE THE SERVICE:

- Be sure the 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:

In today's culture, those who espouse ideologies contrary to God's Word strive to capture children's minds with a wide variety of persuasive techniques. Jesus is different. He places a high priority on our freedom. Jesus never coerces anyone to believe. We come to trust him by experiencing the love and freedom he offers. As we submit to his loving leadership, we find freedom from sin and all that Satan and the world would use to enslave our minds.

Our job is not to load kids down with a lot of man-made rules about what they should and shouldn't think. Instead, use this lesson to help children experience Jesus' love and develop a trusting relationship with Him. Then help kids begin to evaluate if their thought light is leading them closer to God or farther from him. Lead them to recognize God's love and wisdom in providing protective armor for our minds - the helmet of salvation.

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.

Coloring Page: David and Goliath

NO PREP

Have children color the David and Goliath page. (The "Helmet of Salvation" coloring page is also provided for older kids and/or as additional coloring page.)

SAY • Today we will learn about a boy who trusted God and did not allow any negative thoughts to enter his mind. **He trusted God to protect his thoughts!**

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.

The Right Armor: David & Goliath

1 Samuel 17

Once there was a boy named David and his job was to watch the sheep. While David cared for the sheep, sometimes a lion or a bear would scare the flock and steal a sheep, but David would chase the wild animal away and rescue the sheep. God always protected David, and David learned to trust God's protection.

One day David had to deliver supplies to his brothers, who were fighting in king Saul's army. The Israelites were at war with the Philistines. The Philistines had a champion warrior named Goliath, who was nine feet tall. The Philistines made fun of the Israelites and God, and no one was brave enough to fight Goliath. But then David stood up and said: "I will fight Goliath!"

At first, King Saul didn't want David to fight Goliath. David was so young, and the king thought he could never fight such a mighty warrior. But David knew God had protected him from lions and bears, and he knew God would protect him from Goliath, too. So king Saul agreed to let him fight. King Saul gave David his personal armor to wear for the fight, but the armor was SO big and too heavy. So David took off the bulky armor and decided to fight Goliath without it, just like he fought the lions and bears. David knew God would protect him against Goliath.

David only took his wooden staff, a sling and 5 stones to the battle line that day. And when the time came, he swung the sling around and threw one stone at Goliath, which hit Goliath right in the middle of the forehead. Goliath fell to the ground and the Israelites won the battle! It was God who protected the Israelites that day and who won the battle for David!

David didn't need the king's armor because he trusted God to protect him. God's protection was better for David than the king's finest armor. God's armor is best for us too. When we have a relationship with Jesus, God gives us the helmet of salvation. **We know we can trust God to protect our thoughts.**

REPEAT THE MEMORY 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.

Create your own Helmet of Salvation NO PREP	Goliath Bulls Eye Target EASY PREP
<p>Have each child decorate the “helmet of salvation” provided. Supply items such as stickers, jems, color dots, glitter glue, etc. to decorate the helmet with. Kids can recreate pictures of the story or write words that remind them of God’s power protecting them.</p> <p>SAY • Just like God’s protection for David was better than the king’s finest armor, God’s armor is best for us too. When we have a relationship with Jesus, God gives us the helmet of salvation. We know we can trust God to protect our thoughts.</p>	<p>Instruct the children to take turns playing this game to try and land items on the target. You can use the following items to toss on the target: small/aquarium sized stones, gray clay dried out to resemble stones, small bean bags, crumpled pieces of gray construction paper.</p> <p>SAY • In today’s story, we will learn that God loved David and protected him from lions and bears, but also from a champion warrior! But that’s not all God protected him from, He also protected his thoughts.</p> <p>Today we will learn that God has given followers of Christ a way to protect their minds from thoughts that lead us away from Him. He has given us the Helmet of Salvation.</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.