

Welcome and Play Time 10 Min

Before we teach our kids about the right way to fight, we need to remember what we're fighting for! In chapter 2 of 2 Timothy Paul starts out by reminding us that we have a very important message to deliver. We need to be dedicated like a soldier, play fair like an athlete and work hard like a farmer to deliver God's great message. He reminded Timothy and us why we must take such care in our delivery: for our King (God) and our country (the Church). Last week we looked at those in the church that are not taking care of God's message. We talked about how the Bible is the source of ultimate truth. As we approach this week's lesson we need to keep the big picture in mind. The fights that happen in this chapter are because of people in the church who are leading people away from the truth...not just fighting over toys.

Use this time as people are arriving for the kids to get comfortable with each other and settled in so that Mom and Dad can enjoy small group.

Bible Lesson Activities 20 Min

**Activity 1 - Which One Doesn't Belong** Before we learn how to fight, we need to learn how to spot those that are opposing God and threatening the Church with their poor logic and lack of training. Using the sheet attached (or objects on hand), have kids help you spot which item in the picture doesn't belong. Talk about what makes it different and why it is not like the others.

**Activity 2 - Friend or Foe** Have kids sit in a circle and explain that if you are careful with God's message you are a "Friend" (a person who is on the same side as God). If you are not correctly handling God's special message then you are a "Foe" (a person who is against God). Play the game "duck duck goose" with the words "friend" and "foe".

**Activity 3 - Them's Fighting Words** Once we recognize a "Foe" we need to make sure we know what to do! One thing we don't do is argue or get mad. Jesus shows us how to answer people who are saying things that aren't in the Bible. Use attached sheet to play a group matching game. Cut pieces apart and give each child one. Have them search the room for the person who has their matching symbol. When everyone is paired up read the "FOE SAYS" card with the statement that opposes scripture, and then have the second child read the "FRIEND SAYS" card with a verse that lovingly defends the faith.

Bible Reading Time & Scripture Memory 10 Min

Have a small snack for the kids like pretzels or cheerios to help encourage quiet mouths and listening ears. Pray and thank God for giving us His Words so that we may know the right thing to do and encourage others with it. Read the Word straight through and then give yourself time to discuss after you've read the whole passage.

**Read 2 Timothy 2:20-26 (NASB) Read from a Bible if you have one available**

20 Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor. 21 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work. 22 Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

23 But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels. 24 The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, 25 with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, 26 and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

**Discuss with the children what the verses mean.** The first part of the passage we read was about being prepared to be used by God for good works. One thing that would make us hard to be used by God would be to go around fighting ugly. **What are we to stay away from?** Foolish (notably stupid) and ignorant (without instruction) ideas about the Bible. **Why is this?** Because they cause fights. **How should we act towards people who are Foe's of God, but are in the Church?** Be kind to all, teach them what is right, and be patient (don't let your feelings get easily hurt). Paul reminds Timothy that it is his job to tell these people God's truth with love, but that Timothy does not have the ability to make these people change. Repentance is a gift from God that is turning away from sin and turning towards God. If these people who are saying wrong ideas about the Bible don't turn away, then they are being used to fight against God by the devil. We need to pray, share truth, and wait on God's power to change them.

If we are going to be able to be kind and teach those that are wrong, we need to know what is right! Let's hide some more of God's word in our hearts so that we can be ready to be used by God for good works! Does anyone know the verse from last week? (2 Timothy 2:22 Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.)

Lets learn another one! (use hand motions to help memorize and remember the verse)

**And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. 2 Timothy 2:24**

## Coloring Sheet 10 Min

Have older children help the younger children with their coloring sheet. Talk about the Bible reading as you color. Help reinforce the Bible verse and what it means as they color.

## Closing/Clean Up 5 Min

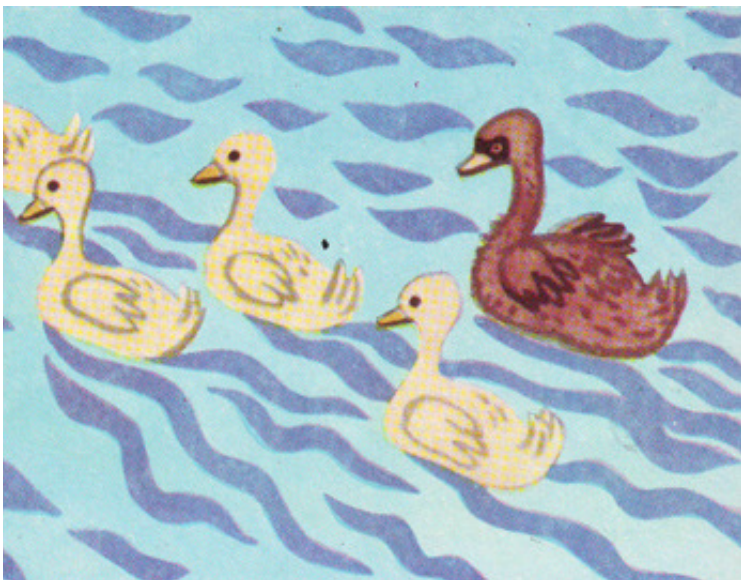
Clean up and make sure everyone has shoes on, coloring sheets in hand and everything is put back in the room. Remember that the truth that you are sharing with them today is planting seeds and watering, but it is always God who causes the growth. (1 Co. 3:6)

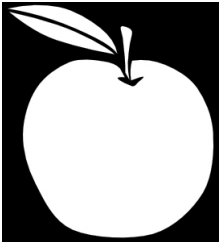
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2 Timothy 2:24



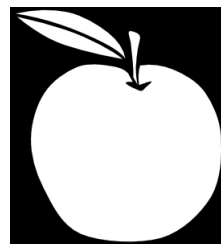
Which one is not like the others?





**FOE SAYS:**

Jesus was just a smart man who did good things, but not God.



**FRIEND SAYS:**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.  
John 1:1-2



**FOE SAYS:**

Millions of years ago some things crashed together to make the earth. It was a happy accident!



**FRIEND SAYS:**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.  
Genesis 1:1



**FOE SAYS:**

It is too hard to understand the Bible.



**FRIEND SAYS:**

The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.  
Psalm 119:130



**FOE SAYS:**

I need to do what is good for me. I don't have to listen to what my parents say.



**FRIEND SAYS:**

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.  
Ephesians 6:1



**FOE SAYS:**

I go to church enough. I don't need to go every week.



**FRIEND SAYS:**

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.  
Hebrews 10:25