

# **CALVARY CHAPEL OAKDALE**



**2022-2023**

**THE ARMOR OF GOD**

**JANUARY, 2023**

**This Month's THEME:**

# **TAKE UP THE SHIELD OF FAITH**

**WEEKLY THEMES THIS MONTH:**

**Week 1:** We need the shield of faith.

**Week 2:** What Faith is Not.

**Week 3:** Foundation of Faith.

**Week 4:** Faithful Defense.

**Week 5:** Evidential Faith.

**(5<sup>th</sup> Weekly devotion for months with 5 Wednesdays)**

## MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**Hebrews 11:1-2** - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a *good* testimony.



Full verse for:  
**Armor Bearers & Knights**

**Hebrews 11:1** - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen



Short verse for:  
**Page & Squires**

## Lesson #1 - We need the shield of faith.

Text: Ephesians 6:16 - "above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one."

Read: Ephesians 6:10-20.

### Devotional:

Sally and her mom were driving home one day from Sally's dental appointment. And her mom asked, "So how do you feel Sally?" And Sally told her mom, "Oh, I feel fine. I like the way my teeth feel after they clean them, but I must tell you, I always get a little scared when I go to the dentist". "Oh, why is that", asked mom. And Sally said, "Well, because I don't like it when the dentist wears a mask and a shield over his face. And whenever he takes a picture of my teeth, he puts like that heavy blanket on me".

"Oh, I can see that Sally", said mom. But really, there is no reason to be scared. Because you see Sally, the reason he wears the mask, and the **shield** is to keep you and himself safe and protected from each other's germs. And the heavy blanket the dentist puts on top of you is called an x-ray vest, or an x-ray lead apron. And the reason for the vest, is to **shield** your body from the radiation that comes from the x-ray machine. So, those shields keep you from getting sick so you can stay healthy. And so, just like the way the dentist wears a shield to protect you from getting sick, Jesus is the **shield** that protects you from your sins."

When you put your faith in Jesus, He became your shield from sin and death.

### Thoughts from the Lesson:

Jesus desires to save all people. But they cannot be saved unless they put on the shield of faith to protect us from all our sins.

### Questions for Application:

- Have we put our faith in Jesus?
- Do we know Jesus can shield us from the cost of our sin?
- Do we regularly put on the shield of faith so the enemy can't convince us God doesn't love and forgive us?

## Lesson #2 - What Faith is Not.

Text: James 2:19 - You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble!

Read: James 2:18-26.

### Devotional:

Bobby was really bored on a rainy and windy Saturday afternoon. And as he looked around for something to do, he saw his old junk box which he referred to as his 'Treasure Chest'.

The treasure chest contained assorted soda bottle caps, a bunch of rocks of different sizes and colors. It also had a hot wheel car that had only 3 wheels, a golf ball, a key ring with 3 old keys his dad gave him, and an old coin his grandpa gave him when he visited England. Finally, he saw his bag with a rabbit's foot key chain and 4-leaf clover.

Bobby took the chest out to his mom and asked, "Hey mom! my friend, Jimmy, told me I can rub the 4-leaf clover or the rabbit's foot and anything I wish for will come true?"

Well, his mom giggled quietly and said, "Bobby, unfortunately that is not true. Your friend was not right about that. You see you can put your **"Faith"** in an object like a clover or a rabbit's foot. But that clover and rabbit's foot can't do anything for you. That is what is called wishful thinking. BUT I can tell you about something even greater than that. If anyone puts their faith in Jesus, they will be saved from their sins and will get to go to heaven. And as we live with Jesus in our lives, we can pray to Him and as we pray to Him, He does answer our prayers when they are what He wants for us.

### Thoughts from the Lesson:

We can wish for many things in life. But God is alive. So, when we put our faith in Him and pray to Him. And He hears us and can answer our prayers.

### Questions for Application:

- Do we trust in things that can't do anything for us?
- Do we pray to God believing He wants what's best for us?
- Do we believe and know God can do ANYTHING?

## Lesson #3 - Foundation of Faith.

**Text:** 1 Corinthians 3:5-6, 10-11 - Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase.; According to the grace of God, which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

**Read:** 1 Corinthians 3:5-17.

### **Devotional:**

One day, after a long, fun, and eventful afternoon at the local ice rink, the Smith family made their way over to the Hot Chocolate Shack to rest, enjoy some yummy hot chocolate and talk about their day at the rink. Mr. Smith asked, "So, boys, did you have fun ice skating?" Frankie told his dad, "We sure did dad. Thank you! but I just wish I didn't fall so much. It hurts when I sit."

And his dad said, "Yeah, I'm sorry about that Frankie. But that is what happens whenever we try to move on surfaces that are rocky or filled with holes. Or, in your case today, on surfaces that are slippery. You see Frankie, if we want to keep our feet from slipping or stumbling, we need to avoid the paths in life that are slippery or winding or filled with potholes. And the only person who knows which roads we need to avoid is Jesus. He always knows which roads or paths are good and healthy for us. So, just like when we put our **Faith** in Jesus, we also need to ask Him which paths we're considering are straight and solid so we can walk with confidence."

### **Thoughts from the Lesson:**

We need to realize there are many paths to travel in life, but not all are safe and firm and secure. Only the Lord knows that.

### **Questions for Application:**

- Do we seek the Lord for all the paths we consider in life?
- Do we believe God knows what's best for us all the time?
- Have we decided once and for all to follow Jesus in all things?

## Lesson #4 - A Faithful Defense.

Text: Psalm 28:7 - The Lord *is* my strength **and my shield**; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore, my heart greatly rejoices, And with my song I will praise Him.

Read: Psalm 28:1-9.

### Devotional:

It was a cold and icy morning and the Johnson family decided to take a walk over to the park after breakfast. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson thought it would be a nice treat for their sons Tommy and Johnny to see something they've never seen before, a frozen pond.

As the family approached the frozen pond, both Tommy and Johnny were stopped in their tracks with awe and amazement. "Wow!" said Tommy, "Cool!" said Johnny. "So, what happened to the pond?" asked Tommy. "Well, it got so cold during the night the water on top froze just like when we put water in the icetrays and place them in the freezer." Mr. Johnson said, "It is completely covered with ice. And it looks like the big glass table in our house, but it's on the ground." Said Tommy.

Then Johnny asked, "Can we walk on it?" But mom quickly responded, "Oh no way!" Tommy protested, "But why not mom? It looks fun, besides it's frozen." But mom told them, "Boys that ice looks like a shield to keep you from falling through into the icy water. It is weak in spots where you can fall through, and you may not be able to get out. So, I cannot let you walk on it for your own safety."

Then their dad told them, "Boys, when we put our **faith** in Jesus, that is a **shield** that will never break. So, we can be sure God will never let the enemy's weapons break through our **faith**." And the boys realized the ice was not safe to trust, so they could not walk on it safely.

### Thoughts from the Lesson:

God wants us to know our faith is like a shield that will never break or give in on us. We will stay safe if our **Faith** is in the Lord.

### Questions for Application:

- Do we wonder if God can keep us safe?
- Do we believe God will never leave us nor forsake us?
- Do we trust the shield of faith because our faith is in God?

## Lesson #5 - Evidential Faith.

Text: Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Read: Hebrews 11:1-12.

### Devotional:

One day, two brothers. James and John were out on an adventure with their backpacks filled with gloves & small shovels & magnifying glasses, and of course snacks. And they were determined they were going to search and find the missing treasure chest they were told was buried by the large oak tree on their family farm a long time ago.

They approached the oak tree where they thought the treasure was buried and noticed large holes in the ground dug by their dog. James shouted, "Look! There's a hole! Did someone get here first?"

But John looked closely and said, "No! They're just holes where Max buries his bones. But Max dug so many that we can't see any **evidence** of the treasure." So, they began to dig further and further from the tree. And as the day wore on, they found themselves looking around at many holes with no traces of **evidence** of a buried treasure.

Finally, James said, "Now what do we do?" And John said, "I'm all out of ideas myself. Let's get dad and ask if he can help."

Their dad went with them and looked around and saw their frustration. They even told him how disappointed they were they could not find even the smallest **evidence** of the supposed treasure."

That was when their dad said, "This reminds me Hebrews 11:1 that says, "Now **faith** is the **substance** of things hoped for, the **evidence** of things not seen."

### Thoughts from the Lesson:

James & John's dad wanted them to know we can put our faith in God for salvation even though we may never see him with human eyes. But our faith has substance and evidence because it is on God's promises.

### Questions for Application:

- Do we think we need to see God to believe in Him?
- Do we have any doubt God will keep His word?
- Do we know we will see God one day face to face?

## What are the age groups for WFC?



Pages  
(3-4 years old)



Squires  
(K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)



Armor Bearers  
(3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade)



Knights  
(Jr. & Sr. High)

Note: All age groups determined by child's age on 9/1 ea. yr.

## What awards can our children earn?

Three special pins can be earned each year and are awarded to the children as follows:

1. Sword Pin: For memorizing 6 verses during the WFC calendar year.
2. Helmet of Salvation Pin: For bringing 3 different friends to an evening during the calendar year.
3. Armor Pin: For attending 2/3 of the evenings or more.

## Is there a cost for the club?

No! The club is free. The t-shirts are \$20 each.