

PRAYER WARRIORS

MEMORY VERSE

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” - Colossians 4:2 (NIV)

GROUP ACTIVITY:

Give each kid one word of the memory verse. They have to remember their word and then they all have to stand up and line up in order, so that when they say their word from left to right they will have said the memory verse.

PRAYER WARRIORS

OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

When we talk about boldness, we think of courage. We think about people who are not afraid to speak their minds. Bold people are brave, and they don't run and hide when someone dares to challenge them.

It takes boldness to speak up for Jesus, especially when we are around people who do not believe. Some of those people can be pretty bold in their unbelief. We need to pray for boldness so that we will not stay silent.

When you are bold for Christ, you may lose friends. You may get some criticism from kids and even adults. Don't let them discourage you. Ask God to make you bold so that they may hear the truth about Jesus. You never know who will be ready to hear it!

PRAYER WARRIORS

Kinder/1st Grade GAME

LAUNDRY BASKET BALL

ITEMS NEEDED:

Balls and a basket

INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose one player for this game and give him the basket. The player has 60 seconds to catch 10 balls tossed by an adult leader in the basket. After catching a ball, the player will dump the ball out and continue catching. If he can catch 10 balls before time expires, he wins.

VARIATION:

Cut the number of balls to 6 for younger kids.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

It takes boldness to face a challenge alone. Ask God to make you bold so you can stand up for your faith.

PRAYER WARRIORS

Kinder / 1st grade LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

God can make us bold.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn to pray for boldness in speaking out for Jesus.

KEY PASSAGE:

Acts 4:23–31, The Room is Shaken

INTRO

It takes a lot of courage to stand up for what's right.

People who stand up for Jesus need to be bold. It takes boldness to stand for Jesus in countries where being a Christian or even owning a Bible is illegal, but it takes boldness to stand up for Jesus here in America, too. Our country continues to move away from God. People want to make up their own rules instead of following God's laws. Only a bold person can stand up to that kind of attitude and say, "This isn't right. There's a better way."

Following God requires us to be bold, but bold doesn't come easy. The easy thing to do when we face opposition is to stay silent. But we don't want to be silent, we want to be bold for Jesus.

Kinder/1st Grade LESSON

There's one way to have boldness: we need to pray for it. We need to pray for the courage to stand up for Jesus. We need to pray for the wisdom to know when to take a stand. We need to pray for the strength to stand when no one will stand with us.

Today's story is about Peter and John, two of Jesus' disciples. Peter had once denied even knowing Jesus, afraid that if he was found out, he would be put to death. The Peter in today's story is a very different person from the one we see in the Easter story.

READ ACTS 4:23-31

MAIN POINT

Peter and John had just come from the Sanhedrin, the Jewish High Council. These were the same men who put Jesus to death, the same men Peter lied to when Jesus was on trial.

Peter was no longer afraid of what the Council might do to him. Peter knew without a doubt that Jesus was the Christ who had died for the sins of the whole world. Peter was willing to face trials, persecution, and even death for the sake of Jesus.

When Peter and John returned to the other believers, they prayed that God would make them all bold. God responded by shaking the room and filling each person with the Holy Spirit. God heard their prayer, and he made them bold.

DRIVE IT HOME

If you haven't come across someone who doesn't believe in Jesus, you will. Some day, each of you will encounter people who do not believe the way we do. Some will simply tell you they don't believe. Others may argue with you. What will you do when your faith is challenged?

It's going to take a bold heart to stand up for Jesus. That's why you need to pray for boldness. God wants you to ask for strength, for courage, for fearlessness. God will fill you with his Spirit and give you the courage to speak out, even when no one else will stand with you.

Before Jesus returned to Heaven, he gave a command to all who believe in him. He told us to go and preach the gospel to everyone. Will you be that bold? Will you take the good news of Jesus to your school, to the playground, to your basketball practice?

Sometimes it's hard to stand for Jesus, especially when someone else wants to tear our faith down. But sometimes, the person who is most hostile toward your faith is the one ready to accept Jesus. They just need a reason. They need to see that your faith is real!

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER

Dear God,

Make us bold and brave so that we can make a stand for you.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

PRAYER WARRIORS

DISCUSSION (K-1st)

ICEBREAKER

Have you ever had to stand up for something?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Colossians 4:2

Give each kid one word of the memory verse. They have to remember their word and then they all have to stand up and line up in order, so that when they say their word from left to right they will have said the memory verse.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

Play musical chairs with the kids. Who will be the bold one to claim the last chair?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Acts 4:23-31

- Who allowed Peter and John to go back to their fellow believers?
The council of Jewish leaders/chief priests and elders
- What did the believers say when they heard Peter's and John's story? They praised and prayed to God
- For what did the believers pray? That God would help his servants to continue to speak in boldness
- What happened after they finished praying? The place where they were shook and they were filled with the Holy Spirit
- How can we find the boldness to stand up for Jesus? PRAY

SIMPLE PRAYER

Dear God,

Do not let us be frightened into staying silent. Give us boldness and courage so that we can pass on the good news of Jesus.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

PRAYER WARRIORS

CRAFT ACTIVITY

Each child will get a paper megaphone template. Have them color it, then help them assemble it.

MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With Your Kids

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: PRAY BOLDLY



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Even after Peter and John were put into jail and their lives were threatened, due to sharing about Jesus, they prayed boldly that God would use them to spread his good news to the world. Acts 4:23-31, The Room is Shaken



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

What kind of bold things do you see at home or at the store? Look for the word bold, and answer for yourselves what "bold" means when you see it. Then ask the kids what it means to be bold for Jesus.



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- What story did Peter and John tell their fellow disciples?
- What happened after the believers prayed for boldness?
- Why do we need to pray that God will make us bold?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." - Colossians 4:2 (NIV)



PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

Pray for your kids to have a strong faith, and pray for them to be bold believers. The world needs more bold believers to speak the truth in love.