



Goal:
Unmask the evils
around us!

Scripture Verses:
Ephesians 6:10-18
John 10:10
Romans 16:17-20

Choose Your Opening

Option 1: Masks

(For this activity, you'll need paper, markers, a bag, and a simple mask resembling a human face)

Pass out paper and markers to everyone in the group. Give kids five minutes to draw the scariest masks they can. When they're done, have each person hold his or her mask up in front of his or her face, and have the rest of the group rate it on the "scary scale" from one (wouldn't hurt a flea) to ten (really scary). **Ask:**

*What makes some masks look more evil?

*Are the features out of proportion?

Have each person make another mask with another piece of paper. This time the masks should be very friendly. Rate the masks in the same way. **Ask:**

*Which mask looks the most harmless? Why?

Finish by taking a mask out of a bag. The mask should be a straight-forward human face, without scars or extra eyes! Put the mask in front of your face, and

Ask:

*Is my face scary or friendly? (It should be neither!)

*Could a mask like this hide someone terrible behind it? Why or why not?

Say: Today we're going to look at evil and ways to identify it in our lives.

Option 2: Everyday News

(For this activity, you'll need newspapers/magazine, poster board, glue, and scissors)

Give each child a piece of poster board, scissors, glue, and a magazine. Tell them to cut out articles or pictures about evil people or events. Let kids determine the definition of evil as they do this. Have the kids glue the articles and pics to the poster board. When they have finished, have them explain the pictures and articles they chose and tell why they chose as they did. Then **Ask:**

*Were the examples easy to choose?

*How would you define evil?

Have each one write the definitions on the poster board and then tape the boards on the wall near the word "evil". Then **Say:** Today we're going to look at evil and how we can identify it in our lives.

THE BIBLE EXPERIENCE

Evil Comes in All Sizes

(For this activity, you'll need a copy of the "Evil Comes in All Sizes" rap and a Bible)

Have two kids read aloud the "Evil Comes in All Sizes" rap below. Have them wear "rapper" accessories...sideways ball cap, gold chains, sagging pants, and have them change their voices accordingly.

Reader 1: A long time ago and far away, a man of God had this to say,

Reader 2: "Put on God's armor—his sword and shield—so you can stand against what the devil wields."

Reader 1: Yo friends, brothers, sisters, all. Watch out for those who want to make you fall. Stay away—don't do near. You'll be OK 'cause it's God you fear.

Reader 2: For we don't fight against flesh and blood but against darkness, blackness, and evil in the 'hood.

Reader 1: For these dudes aren't serving our God; they're serving themselves, deceiving everyone.

Reader 2: So put on God's armor—you won't be sorry. You'll stand against evil without a worry.

Reader 1: If you do what God says, I'll be full of joy. Be smart about good and dumb about bad.

Reader 2: Stand firm, stand, firm. And wear his armor.

Reader 1: And the God of peace will crush the evil one flat. (stomps feet)

Ask:

- * How were the two readers' passages different?
- * Is some evil bigger and easier to recognize?
- * What are some examples of that kind of evil?
- * Have you ever experienced a "bigger evil"? Explain

Say: Think about a time someone hurt you by talking behind your back or disappointing you.

- * Could this be thought of as evil? Why or why not?

Say: The Apostle Paul experienced this type of evil. Someone read aloud Romans 16:17-20, then Ask:

- * What does it mean to be "wise about what is good"? "Innocent about what is evil"?

Evil Comes in All Sizes

Reader 1: A long time ago and far away, a man of God had this to say,

Reader 2: "Put on God's armor—his sword and shield—so you can stand against what the devil wields."

Reader 1: Yo friends, brothers, sisters, all. Watch out for those who want to make you fall. Stay away—don't do near. You'll be OK 'cause it's God you fear.

Reader 2: For we don't fight against flesh and blood but against darkness, blackness, and evil in the 'hood.

Reader 1: For these dudes aren't serving our God; they're serving themselves, deceiving everyone.

Reader 2: So put on God's armor—you won't be sorry. You'll stand against evil without a worry.

Reader 1: If you do what God says, I'll be full of joy. Be smart about good and dumb about bad.

Reader 2: Stand firm, stand, firm. And wear his armor.

Reader 1: And the God of peace will crush the evil one flat.
(stomps feet)



The Evil in Ourselves

(For this activity, you'll need an envelope and a pencil for each child)

Give kids envelopes and pencils, and have them address the envelopes to themselves. **Say:** You should expect to receive a letter from me in the coming week containing a Bible verse and a couple of questions for you to answer. Be ready to discuss the Scripture and answer the questions truthfully.

Choose Scriptures from the following list: Psalm 37:8; Proverbs 26:23; 29:6; Isaiah 5:20; Matthew 7:11; 12:35-37; 15:16-19; Romans 2:8-11; 1 Corinthians 14:20; 1 Timothy 6:10; and 3 John 11. The questions should be:

- *What are the five most common "evils" you see in yourself?
- *How can Jesus help you remove those evils?

Mail the letters in time for them to arrive before next Wednesday.

Choose Your Closing

Option 1: From Evil to Life

(For this activity, you'll need a Bible)

Ask for a volunteer. Tell kids to rearrange the letters in the word "evil" (using the poster-board signs) so they spell something more positive. (They may spell "vile" before they spell "live", so be ready to laugh with them) When they've spelled "live", read aloud John 10:10. Then Ask:

- *What does it mean to have "life in all its fullness"?
- *How can Jesus help you have an abundant life?
- *Is it possible to truly live without Jesus?

Option 2: Thank You, God

(For this activity, you'll need a Bible)

Read aloud John 10:10, Say: Stand next to one of the letters in the word "evil". Choose a letter that begins another word having to do with life; for example, someone might choose E for everlasting life with Jesus or L for the love of Jesus gives us in our lives.

After kids have moved, have them say their words and tell what the words have to do with life.

Close in a time of "popcorn" prayer—you'll start a sentence and then kids will finish it with one-word answers. Say: God, help us as we struggle with the following evils in our lives...Then Say: Thank you, God, that you can help us overcome evil in ourselves because you are...