

young children

blinded by sin

Best Use

As a Family Night activity with children ages three through twelve

Spiritual Value

Explains that we all have a “disease” called sin.

Advance Preparation

Have the following supplies ready for Family Night.

- “Obstacle course” items such as toys, stuffed animals, shoes, balloons, plastic cups or blocks
- A bell or whistle
- A blindfold
- A Bible

Instructions

1. Create a walking-path obstacle course somewhere in the house or yard using toys, shoes, pillows, balloons or anything you wish for the kids to maneuver around.
2. Add several obstacles that will break apart and make noise when hit – such as a tower of plastic cups, dominos, etc.
3. Have a contest to see who can walk through the obstacle course the fastest without touching any of the items on the path.
4. Ring the bell or blow the whistle before shouting the word “Sin!” if someone touches an object.
5. Next, take turns trying the same course while blindfolded. Again, ring the bell or blow the whistle before shouting “Sin!” If the child knocks over the stacked obstacles, ring or blow and then shout “Really bad sin!” to emphasize that some of our sins cause more mess than others.
6. Let the kids have fun watching dad or mom really make a mess of things as they try the obstacle course.
7. Read Romans 3:23, Romans 5:12 and 5:19 aloud together describing the “disease” of sin that causes everyone to behave in sinful ways. Explain that the disease of sin (represented by the blindfold) makes it impossible for us to avoid sinful acts (represented by touching the items).
8. Pray together, thanking God that Jesus died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins.
9. Memorize together: “For all have sinned!”

Fat Cat Bedtime Blessing

1. As you tuck your child into bed, explain that you want to play a game where you create word pairs that rhyme – like “fat cat” or “funny bunny.”
2. To play, one person thinks of a word or pair and gives clues to the other so they can guess what it is. For example, the clue for “funny bunny” might be “laughable rabbit.” For “fat cat” you might say “chubby kitty.”
3. Here are a few ideas to help you get started:
 - Rude Dude
 - Old Cold
 - Tan Man
 - Dragon Wagon
 - Snake Cake
 - Ant’s Pants
4. Now share this rhyme about your child: [CHILD’S NAME] is an “enjoyable boy” or a “jewel daughter.”
5. Let the child attempt to guess. Then tell him or her to listen for it in the following bedtime prayer that you pray while laying one hand on the child:

Dear Father in heaven – Thank you for all the fun You give us. And thank you for a [“fun son” or “pearl girl”] like [CHILD’S NAME] to share it with! Amen.