



KNIGHT'S TRAINING GUIDE

THIS GUIDE WILL HELP YOU:

- ✓ Prepare and plan fun object lessons to help children discover the Bible
- ✓ Connect the Bible story to God's armor
- ✓ Feel confident by providing you with a script and all the tools you need to lead

The Apprentice Experience

While training is difficult, there is something incredibly rewarding and special about the experience. That atmosphere of encouragement and challenge and ingenuity is what you will be creating every day. You will be an experienced knight sharing their knowledge of God's word with the Knights in Training at the castle. This session is all about discovering more about God while fueling a devotion to his Word and the armor of God.

The more children experience faith through their everyday life, the more they will experience God's love. And there's no way to experience the Bible better than through object lessons with great points on how to change their lives for God and how to live out their faith!

Just think. What if a Knight had a sword and never used it? You want to be an example and set a challenge that Knights of God use their sword, the Bible, and their other armor, in every moment to live for God.

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EACH LESSON WILL INCLUDE:

- ✓ Materials and preparation
- ✓ A quick review of lesson essentials
- ✓ An introduction
- ✓ Step-by-step instructions for leading the knight's "Training Activities"
- ✓ A script for communicating the Bible truth connected with the activity

Day 1 – The Sword of the Spirit: The Bible Fights Evil

Today, you'll be delving into the exciting story where Jesus uses Bible verses to fight off Satan's temptations. You'll want to gently set some expectations for what behavior is expected of the children and what they should expect as well! Follow the script and activities listed to help them apply the Bible Truth to their daily lives.

Everyone needs some help! If you feel like you would love a co-leader, tell your director. There might be a youth in your church that wants to learn from experience how to communicate God to young people. They can learn and help you!

What you will need to do today...

- ✓ Prepare Room; decorating or just making sure "The Knight's Code"
- ✓ Hide an object in the room; then write down where to find it.
- ✓ Copy and Cut swords on Appendix 2; one paper for each Circle

What you will need today...

- ✓ Journals – one for each child
- ✓ Bible Story Printouts (Appendix 1)
- ✓ Directions for "Finding the Hidden Object"; write these directions
- ✓ Copy and Cut swords on Appendix 2; one paper for each Circle

THINGS TO KNOW:

- ✓ Knights Circles are small groups that have their own leaders that will facilitate discussion about the Bible Truth each day.
- ✓ The Knights Code is a Code for a knight of God that summarizes the entire week of VBS in one easy code of conduct; it will be hanging in your room.
- ✓ Journals - While Journals play a huge part in your station, you do not need to prepare them. They should be prepared beforehand and you will simply hand out the next pages to add to their journal daily. The Circle leaders help kids tie them into their journal each day. You can ask the director for more info on journals, but you will have them to hand out on the first day!

Script:

So what do you think happens if we have a Bible but never use it? (*children answer*) Exactly! It would be like a knight not practicing with his sword! WE need to practice and use the Bible if we want to know the best choices we can make! We are going to do another training activity now, and it will require all of our attention and a lot of your fresh ideas! Before we do, let's read our Bible Story! (*Give Bible Story Pages, or Bibles to 4 students*)

Now let's all listen to see what we can learn from the Bible about how Jesus fought temptation: What did Jesus use to fight temptation? (*Children answer*)

Training Activity 2



- ✓ Hand out the sword sheets of paper to each group.
- ✓ Instruct everyone to use the sword scriptures to defeat each negative situation or unfortunate occurrence on the sheets on paper.
- ✓ Give an example: If one of these situations said that I was jealous of someone's myPhone, I would want the scripture "Do not Covet" to defeat that piece of paper, and place the sword over the starburst.
- ✓ Keep an eye on each Knight's Circle progress so you know when you to bring the attention back to you.

Script:

I want each of you to think of a situation where you didn't know what to do. What if you have had the Bible to help you make a decision? Jesus found his help to fight temptation right here. (*pull out Bible*) If we look right here, we'll find the answers that will defeat our problems, our doubts, and our fears...and will give us the right way to go! Let's write some of these thoughts in our journal! (*hand out journals; direct children to talk in Knight's*)

Day 2- Righteousness Protects our Hearts

Today, you will be discovering how to go back to doing the right thing when you are so very far away. The story of the prodigal son reveals the very nature of Grace. It means that no matter how far away from God we are, we should always take the steps to do what is right and He will always take us back. Children will learn that the safest place for their heart is by Jesus and away from the chains of sin.

What you will need to do today...

- ✓ Prepare Room by having the "Prodigal Son" nametags printed off
- ✓ Have the Prodigal Son story in the Bible open to read (Luke 15:11-22)
- ✓ Have Paper chain pieces and a stapler standing by
- ✓ Have markers to write on the paper chain pieces

What you will need today...

- ✓ Journals – one for each child
- ✓ Nametags (Appendix 3)
- ✓ Paper Chain pieces (50 per session)
- ✓ Markers
- ✓ Optional: Make a paper chain for each session with sins written on each strip of paper

THINGS TO KNOW:

- ✓ Journaling Time: At the end of each session, your Knight's Circles will arrive and you will have their attention for the majority of the session. However, in the end, all the attention should be within their circles and with their leaders guiding them through writing their thoughts down in their journals.
- ✓ Youth: You may find that you are working with youth who are Knight's Circle leaders. Treat them with the same respect as you would an adult leader. However, if you feel they need some extra, do not discipline them. They are not acting rebelliously; they just need some wisdom to get through the situation. Advise them, encourage them, and mentor them!

Script.

Hello, Apprentices! Welcome back to Knight Training, or welcome for the first time! And I can't believe you are apprentices already! You are all learning how to be a knight of God very quickly and are super devoted! Not, our armor as Knights of God is very important because that is what protects us from the evil of this world so that we can do good. Let's review all of our armor in the Knight's Code: (*RECITE Knights Code now*) Today, we are focusing on just righteousness! Righteousness is choosing to do the right thing! That might be easy sometimes, but I can tell you when it's hardest! Who can think of when doing the right thing might be really hard? (*allow some children to answer*) It's hard to do the right thing when we are really far away from God. When we've done so many things that are bad, it sometimes doesn't seem like we can go back! That's the way it was for the main character in our Bible story today. Jesus told the story about the son of a rich man to show us what happens when we run away from righteousness, what happens when we decide to do what's right, and how big God's grace is! Let's act it out together!

Training Activity 1

- ✓ Give each child a name tag; several children will be pigs.
- ✓ Instruct the children to act out the story as well as they can while you read it from the Bible; they should just act out with gestures and movement as you read as opposed to the saying lines from the story.
- ✓ Have the children all cheer when the son goes back to the father
- ✓ Tell the children that at the end of the story, the older brother was angry because he thought it was unfair that the son who had done so much bad could ever come back and be good.



Script:

Does sin ever protect our heart? Look where the prodigal son ended up! Far away from his father, the son didn't even think he could come back home. But he did. He made one right choice, and he began to come back to God who could erase the sin. I want you to take some markers and some of these small pieces of paper. Write down some of the things that we do wrong, especially the things that make you feel trapped.

Training Activity 2



- ✓ Hand out the markers and the little pieces of paper
- ✓ After children have written down some sins, they can throw them in the air. Explain that sometimes we think sin looks like a party, but then it ends up chaining us down into despair and guilt.
- ✓ Take all of the pieces of paper and quickly staple them together into a paper chain. (*Optional: you can have some chains pre-made and just add more of the ones that children created. This may save you time.*)
- ✓ Choose a volunteer and cover them with the chain.
- ✓ Tell the children that Jesus forgives our sin if we come back to him. Go to the opposite side of the room, and tell the child to run to you. Then break the chains; Say that Jesus forgives us and always takes us back.

Script:

I want each of you to think about that. Look how much sin we can get ourselves wrapped up in when we go away from God. We don't protect ourselves or our heart. But as soon as we do the right thing and come back to Jesus, he forgives us.

Now join together in your Knight's Circles and talk about this Bible story and how it affect our decisions to remain close to God!