

First Family Foundations

Building a foundation of Faith for Families.

Unit 4 — The Devil

Lesson 1 — Is the Devil Real?

Introduction — He'd rather we didn't think so. A burglar in your house can do more mischief if you don't know he's there.

But the entire Bible attests to the reality of a spiritual being, a rebellious angel named Satan, who is leading the evil battle against God. Jesus tangled with him early in His years of ministry. And Paul, a leader of the church after Jesus' resurrection, said that Satan's followers are many. "We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 6:12).

What has this to do with being a parent? It means reckoning with the fact that there exists a very real and horrible monster in this world, more terrible than the fictional Sauron in Lord of the Rings, who wants to destroy your child.

Without scaring your sons or daughters, you need to alert them that they must watch out for the wrong ideas and temptations that the evil powers will always be trying to place in their heads.

Here's the Activity:

Read and discuss this devotional with your family.

Long ago there lived a young prince who faced some big troubles. He was concerned because many of his father's people spent too much time being afraid of the evil Black Marauder. The prince's father was a good king — the best the land had ever seen. People were well provided for and protected. But some time ago, the Black Marauder had entered the land and terrorized the people. The prince decided to do something about this problem. He knew the Black Marauder would never storm the castle because the king was too strong. So the prince put on peasant clothes, slipped through the castle gates and went out into the countryside. He became a regular person.

The prince felt what it was like to be hungry. He was nearly run over by a horse cart when he didn't look before crossing the road. He slept under a tree because he didn't have enough money to stay at the inn. And whenever he talked with the people, he saw how afraid they were of the Black Marauder and how powerless they felt against him.

I guess it's up to me to stop the Black Marauder, the prince thought. And with my Father's power, I can do it.

Check out Hebrews 2:14-15.

These verses talk about Jesus. Because we are made of flesh and blood, Jesus came to live as a human, too. He died so He could defeat the one who holds the power of death — the Devil. Even though the Devil is real, we don't need to be afraid because Jesus conquered him.

I believe . . . I don't need to be afraid of death.

You've probably figured out that the young prince in the story is like Jesus. And just like the prince leaving the castle to discover what it was like to live as a normal person, Jesus descended from heaven and lived as a human. Plus He came with a purpose. Jesus became a man to overcome the Devil and rise from the dead. God's Son showed His awesome power by defeating the power that death had over humans. Because of this fact, you have no need to fear death.

Pray.

Tell God that through His power you're not going to be afraid of the Devil or death.