**Lion Tamers!**

**Series on I Peter #13**

I Peter 5:8-14

Peter has been encouraging and instructing believers who were going through an extended time of persecution and trial! Now he gives a word of caution, reminding them that they’re involved in a war against a powerful foe, but they are not alone. They must be vigilant and focused, so they are not ambushed or destroyed by the evil one!

1. **Our Response to Evil:** (vv. 8-9a)
2. **Respect** -
3. **Recognize** –
4. **Resist** -

* Run
* Rebuke
* Remove

1. **Our Provision for Victory:** (v. 9b)
   1. **Stand Firm** (I Cor. 16:13) **-**
   2. **Be Armored -** (Eph. 6:13) -
   3. **Be Mindful -** (I Cor. 10:13) -
2. **Our Promise in Trusting:** (vv. 10-11)
   1. **Restore You!** -
   2. **Strengthen You!** -
   3. **Make You Firm and Steadfast!** -

Peter warns, we are in a battle against a powerful foe (5:8), but that lion has been defanged! He may roar, but we can resist him by placing our trust in the One who protects and perfects us!

**Going Deeper:**

1. When you hear the term “spiritual warfare,” what comes to your mind? Have you ever been especially conscious of the enemy’s attacks?
2. Does it surprise you that Christ was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted? What does this say about the testing and temptations we go through?
3. Our response to God’s Word and life’s difficulties can determine our ability to be victorious. Can you see how important our responses to both truth and to trials/temptations are to our spiritual welfare?
4. Paul describes the “armor of God” in Ephesians 6. What does it mean to put on this armor? Why is this so crucial for our protection and spiritual survival?
5. Peter mentions we are not alone as we go through the struggles and attacks of the evil one. Does the realization of our brothers and sisters all around the world also fighting the fight help you?
6. **Personal:** Do you see yourself as a warrior invol- ved in a spiritual battle? Are you always “alert” to Satan’s tactics or do you sometimes get ambushed?

**Questions for Our Kids:**

1. What is your favorite animal? Have you ever heard a lion roar? Do you think the lion is awesome or is he scary?
2. When you feel like disobeying Mom or Dad, do you know that this thought is coming from someone the Bible calls “Satan”? How can we beat Satan when he tempts us to do a wrong thing?
3. The Bible talks about putting on the “armor” of God to keep us safe from Satan. Can you look up the scripture (Ephesians 6:10-18) that talks about this armor and talk with your parents about what this means and why it is so important?