DEVOTIONAL OUTLINE (Grades 6-8)

Activity tie-in: Fire Safety

Object- Matches

Bible Verse- James 3:5 "Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark."

Lesson- What happens when sparks start a fire physically and spiritually?

Introduction Ideas

- Talk about a time when you lit a match and it started a fire- did flames engulf the wood immediately or slowly catch fire?
- Ask students if they have ever lit something with a match
- Ask students if they have ever explained something to their friends that they are so enthused
- Set up an activity where students can take watch how easily debris burn in a contained area

Lesson Suggestions

- Move from the introduction to the concept of fire safety- dropping a match physically can cause chaos as to what it engulfs, and spiritually seeing one's faith grow like a fire as it is engulfing wood
- Object lesson: use a match and demonstrate lighting a candle allowing students to take turns lighting their own personal candle as well
- Quote and apply the Bible verse: James 3:5 "Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark."

Closing Prayer

Dear Lord, help us to start the fire of growing in your Word in both our lives and the lives of others. Guide is to engulf others in your Word so that they can know the eternal promise of heaven where there is no need to contain the fire. In your name we pray, Amen.