5.2
Fire Safety

"Let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our 'God is a consuming fire.'"
Hebrews 12:28-29

UNIT 5
SAFETY

CHAPTER 1 - Bicycle Safety

CHAPTER 2 - Fire Safety

CHAPTER 3 - Water Safety



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Objectives:

Recruit

1. Explain the importance of sleeping with the bedroom door closed.
2. Demonstrate crawling low in a smoke-filled room and explain why it is important.
3. Explain what is meant by an alternate escape route.
4. Draw a simple floor plan of your home or apartment, showing all of the ways out of the house and a safe meeting place outside where everyone meets once they have escaped.

Camper

1. Explain the two types of smoke/fire detectors.
2. Explain where smoke/fire detectors should be placed in the home.
3. Demonstrate the testing of a smoke/fire detector and explain how often the testing should be done.
4. Demonstrate the proper maintenance of a smoke/fire detector.

Frontiersman

1. Name the four classes of fires and give an example of each.
2. Explain how to properly identify a fire extinguisher.
3. Explain how to properly use a fire extinguisher on a fire.
4. Give four examples when it is better not to try to extinguish a fire.
5. Explain the difference between flammable and combustible liquid and give two examples of each.
6. State the safety precautions needed for flammable liquids.
7. Conduct a flammable liquids inventory of your home.

Applying God's Word to the Lesson

DEVOTION #1

Joshua 23:6 ***Be very strong; be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, without turning aside to the right or to the left.***

Bob had a friend named Dan. Dan was 14, weighed 170 pounds and stood 6 feet 2 inches tall. Dan seemed to be good at everything. He was a starting forward on the basketball team. He was the star quarterback of his junior varsity high school team. He was big, and he was strong.

He also did some rather foolish things. Because he was so big, strong and good at most of the things he tried, Dan began to feel invincible. He felt that he could do whatever he wanted to do, and that nothing could hurt him. He walked across busy streets without regard for the speeding cars. He just knew they would stop for him. He would tease others to follow him as he did a balancing act while walking on the bridge hand railing on the way to school - with a deep river 20 feet below! "I can dare Dan to do almost anything, and he'll accept," said Bob. "But I don't, because I'm afraid someday he'll get hurt. Instead, I try to warn him when he tries to do dangerous things."

If you were an insurance company, what kind of rating would you give to Dan? Would you make a person who thinks he's "invincible" like Dan pay higher rates? Do you ever feel as strong as Dan? Do you ever feel like you're "invincible", that nothing can hurt you? Joshua, who was the leader of the nation of Israel, could have felt that way. After Moses died, Joshua led the children of Israel across the Jordan River at Jericho. Under Joshua, the nation of Israel drove out many of the heathen nations in the land of Canaan. He was a strong and seemingly "invincible" leader.

Yet, God knew that Joshua was not invincible. In our Bible verse, God tells Joshua to be very strong, but that in itself is not enough. God also says, "be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law without turning aside to the right or to the left." God wanted Joshua to obey what he had written in the Bible. Without God's guidance, even Joshua would fall victim to Satan. Without God's Word, strong Joshua might become weak in faith and fall into sin.

Do we sometimes feel so strong that we can get along without God? What might lead a person to feel that he is "spiritually invincible"? If a person feels "spiritually invincible," what might he think he can do without any harm coming to him? What might a person who feels "spiritually invincible" give up doing? Because Bob was his friend, Bob tried to warn Dan when he saw Dan was headed for danger. What might we Christians say to a Christian friend who acts like he's "spiritually invincible"?

PRAYER: Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you for every day of health and strength. We pray that you would give us the wisdom never to think that we are invincible. Give us the common sense to take care of the bodies you have given us. We especially ask you for the wisdom to know that we are never spiritually invincible. Show us your law so that we know how often we have already fallen into sin and need a Savior. Move our hearts to a deep love for your Word, that we may never turn to the right or to the left away from it, but always hold it in our hearts as a priceless treasure. Above all, build up our faith in Jesus, in whom alone we have the forgiveness of all our sins. Amen.

HYMN: 427 v.1-3 (TLH) 416 v.1-3 (CW)

Applying God's Word to the Lesson

DEVOTION #2
TEXT: James 3
THEME: Unsafe Fires

Two things about fires demand our careful use of them: their ability to spread rapidly and their ability to bring great destruction.

Very appropriate, then, is the comparison which James makes in his third chapter of the human tongue to a fire. We should treat our tongues more carefully than we handle a fire. From them come lies, rumors, slander, curses, babbling, disrespectful remarks, swearing, and dirty stories and jokes. Not only do they bring terrible destruction, but like a fire they can spread harm rapidly. Think of the harm that comes with just a few angry words! What great sins grow out of sinful words!

There are many examples in the Bible of how seemingly little sins of the tongue led to horrible sins of action (e.g., Judas, Ananias and Sapphira, Absalom, Herod, Potiphar's wife). The tongue is more dangerous than an unwatched fire, unless it is directed by a heart of love. When our love for Jesus governs what we say, then our tongue will warmly and knowledgeably speak for the glory of God and the good of our fellow man.

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, forgive us for the many times our tongues have spread sinful fires. Make our hearts clean again for the sake of Jesus, our Savior, and give us the power to keep our tongues clean. Amen.

HYMN: 360 v.1-3,7 (TLH) 340 v.1-3,6 (CW)

DEVOTION #3
TEXT: Zechariah 13:9
THEME: Refined by Fire

OUTLINE

1. As Pioneers, we learn that fire is a very useful tool for cooking and providing heat and light. Fire is also used by refiner's to remove impurities from metals.
2. By Jesus' suffering and death, God made us precious metals in his sight. Now God refines our hearts and drives out all impurities by allowing trials and difficulties to come into our lives.
3. Now, refined by fire, we depend on God to sustain us and we desire to live according to his will, free from the impurities of sin.

Additional References:

- Jeremiah 23:29
- Matthew 3:11-12
- Luke 3:16
- Luke 12:49
- Isaiah 48:10
- Jeremiah 9:7
- Malachi 3:2-3
- 1 Corinthians 3:12-15
- 2 Corinthians 7:1
- 1 Thessalonians 5:19
- 2 Timothy 1:6
- Titus 2:13-14
- 1 Peter 1:22
- 1 John 1:7
- 1 John 3:3
- Jude 22-23

1 Introducing the Lesson

This lesson is one that many children will hear about from a young age in school, so the boys may have a tendency to let their attention wander and tune out your instruction. As a leader, it is your responsibility to impress on the Pioneers once again the power and danger that fire holds. To do this, you will have to be creative and keep things moving to keep the boys interested.

If you have access to a smoke/fog machine, you might turn off the lights and turn on the smoke/fog machine to impress on the boys how disabling a smoke-filled room is.

You might also hold your training session at the fire department, where you can tour a fire truck, the station and their training facilities. You could also have the fire department bring a truck and other equipment to your meeting site.

While kids may give up the dream of being a firefighter by the time they are in Pioneers, most recognize that fighting fires involves adventure and danger, and this keeps them interested.

You can also display photos or news clippings of houses damaged or destroyed by fires to impress on the boys the power of fire.

CHAPTER 2 - *FIRE SAFETY*

In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps. Proverbs 16:9

Fire is a gift from God. It can be a very useful tool when used properly. It can warm our houses, provide us with light so that we can see, and help to prepare the food that we eat. Fire can also be a very destructive force. It can cause the loss of our houses and it can injure us or worse, it can take life. Fire is neither good or bad. How we use it is what determines its usefulness to us. In this chapter we are going to learn how to protect ourselves from fire, what to do in case a fire gets started accidentally in our homes or any place else we may happen to be when it starts. We will also learn how to use a fire extinguisher safely in the event a small fire starts and we are able to get it our quickly or control it until the Fire Department arrives. You will want to check with your local Fire Department for more information on what is discussed in this handbook.

HOME ESCAPE PLANS

Having a home escape plan is very important when it comes to fire safety. We can be the most careful person in the world and yet accidents can still happen. I have met many Christians who are strong in their faith tell me that they never worry about things that might happen to them. They put all their trust in the Lord

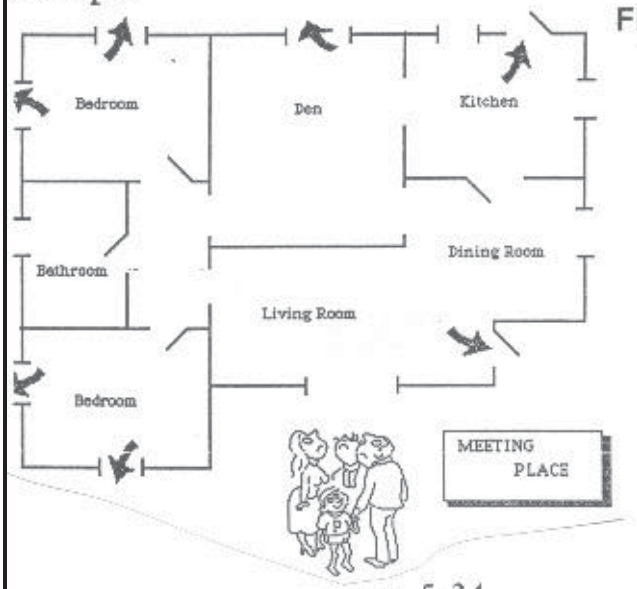
Possible Materials for Teaching and Demonstrating this Lesson

- Floor plan of your church, school or meeting site
- Different types of smoke detectors
- Different types of fire extinguishers
- Smoke/Fog Machine
- Pictures or news clippings of houses damaged or destroyed by fires

and no matter what may happen they will just wait on Him. Well, that is one attitude that we have but at the same time we must do what we can to prepare ahead in the event of an emergency. As the Proverb states, let's make our plan and then place it in the hands of the Lord.

The first thing that needs to be done is for you to draw a simple floor plan of your home or apartment. It should show all the ways to get outside. You should also draw in where all of the windows are located because they can be used to make an escape to the outside. (see Figure 5-17) Once you have your drawing you will want to call a family meeting and discuss the plan with them, making sure that everyone in your family knows where all the exits are located. You will want to try to pick a meeting place outside where everyone will go when they have made their escape.

Figure 5-14



2 Teaching the Lesson

In contrast to many of the chapters in *A Boy's Handbook*, you do not want to use real situations to practice *Fire Safety*. However, practicing fire drills and using and testing smoke detectors and fire extinguishers are an important part of teaching this lesson. Try to make learning this unit fun with guest speakers and other creative activities.

"Expert" Presenters

This is certainly a lesson where "experts" will make a positive contribution to the interest and understanding of the boys. Although the necessary skills and information are basic and known by nearly every adult, both boys and adults can learn from and enjoy the input of "experts."

- A firefighter or group of firefighters can present a wide variety of interesting presentations.
  - ◊ Most fire departments will have a smoke machine they use for training purposes, and they may be willing to use it at your location for a demonstration.
  - ◊ They can bring in one or more fire engines and show their features.
  - ◊ Some will have infrared cameras for finding people in dark and/or smoke-filled rooms and might be willing to demonstrate its use.
  - ◊ They will also have a variety of smoke detectors and fire extinguishers to show and demonstrate.
- A person who inspects, repairs or recharges fire extinguishers can address this portion of the chapter.
- A fire inspector can talk about keeping homes safe and planning for safe routes of escape.

Field Trips

There are sites that you can visit with your Pioneers to give them more information about *Fire Safety*.

- If firefighters cannot visit you, you might be able to visit the fire department. Besides the things listed above, you might also receive a tour of the fire station and any training facilities, such as a smoke house, that they have.

- You can see the variety of fire extinguishers and smoke detectors that are available by visiting a hardware or home improvement store.

Other Resources

There are other resources available to help you learn more about fire safety before you present this lesson. These might give you new ideas or tools to use for your presentation.

- Local fire or police departments or schools may have a fire safety education program that they routinely use with students.
- The Lutheran Pioneer Library has videos about fire safety that you can borrow.
- The internet may contain information about fire extinguisher and smoke detector technology as well as general fire safety education materials for you to use.

Projects & Activities

Getting the boys involved in various projects and activities will keep them interested in the subject matter and make it more memorable for them. The Pioneers should look at and touch different objects and practice fire safety procedures. Learning about fire safety and different fire prevention and extinguishing tools should be fun for the Pioneers, but do not let the entire unit become a game, since the most important aspects of responding to a fire are recognizing its dangers and calm decision-making. Here are some ideas for teaching *Fire Safety*.

The next step is to make sure that everyone knows how to open their bedroom window and unhook the screen. They should practice this with their eyes closed because in a smoke filled room you may not be able to see. It is also a good idea to get in the habit of sleeping with the bedroom door closed. A closed door has saved many lives and it will give extra time to make your escape to the outside from your window. If you are worried about sleeping with the bedroom door closed, you can try leaving a night light on to make you feel safer. If you are awakened in the middle of the night by the sound of your smoke detector going off, you should treat it as a real fire until you find out that it is a false alarm. Get out of bed, put your slippers on and go to your bedroom door and feel it with your hand. If the door feels warm or hot to you do not open the door. Instead, go to your window and leave the house. Wait for the rest of your family at the meeting place or go to your next door neighbor and call the Fire Department by dialing 911 or the emergency number for your area. You can look it up in the phone book if you aren't sure of the number. Sometimes you may find that your bedroom has filled with smoke. If this is the case, you should get down on your hands and knees and crawl low under the smoke. The air will be better down near the floor. Get out of the house as quickly as possible.

There are some other common problems that you may have to consider in making your plan. In some areas, people will have security bars on their windows. If

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- Take apart an old smoke detector to show how it works and examine other types of smoke detectors and how to test them.
- Demonstrate reading the label of a fire extinguisher and using it properly. Assemble a list of potential fire sources and determine the appropriate fire extinguisher (or decide not to make an attempt) for each source.
- Design a fire escape plan for your church, school, or meeting site. Then compare it to the established fire

you have bars on your windows, they should have a quick-release latch if they are on bedroom windows. These are called "Fire Escape Bars" and you should know how to work the latch so that you can open the bar and crawl out of your window in case of an emergency. Sometimes you may have to break a window to get out. The best way to do this is to quickly empty out a dresser drawer and use it to break the window. Hold on to the drawer or chair, aim at the top of the glass and turn your face away from the window. Punch out the glass starting at the top and work towards the bottom. Try to knock all of the glass out of the window. When you have finished with that, place a blanket or a bedspread on the bottom of the window sill so that you will not get cut when you climb out.

A two-story house can present special problems when planning an escape route. If you decide that you have to jump from your bedroom you must be careful or you can get hurt. The proper way to exit the window is feet first on your stomach. Hang straight down from the window and just let go. This way your feet will only be about six or seven feet from the ground. Of course there is a better way to escape than jumping. There are several fire escape ladders available that can be used safely. If you or your parents purchase one of these ladders, it is important to practice using it before you ever have a real emergency. If your window exits on to the roof of the first story then it is a good idea to keep a ladder on the roof so that you can get to the ground safely.

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escape plan and note any differences.

- Practice a fire escape from a "bedroom" (which you have set up with a cot, a real or fake window and the door to the room).
- Make emergency response cards to post near all phones in a house, listing local emergency phone numbers (9-1-1 if applicable). It can also include parents' work numbers and/or numbers of other friends or family members to contact in case of other household problems or "emergencies." Stress that 9-1-1 (or the appropriate equivalent) should be the only number called in case of a fire or other serious emergency.
- Other activities can be done with special materials by guest speakers.

AV Materials for This Chapter
Available from Lutheran Pioneers

AV 410 *PLAN TO GET OUT ALIVE* - 15 Minutes - Ages 6-13

AV 423 *DON'S FIRE SURVIVAL* - 12 Minutes - Ages 6-9

3 Practicing and Testing the Material

This chapter is primarily one of information, and there is very little to test. Some of the information can be tested by using the activities in the lesson.

You can also test some concepts by asking the boys to demonstrate proper fire escapes for your meeting place or your prototype bedroom. They can demonstrate using a fire extinguisher (without actually discharging the unit) and testing a smoke detector.

An oral test is appropriate for the boys to describe how to deal with different types of fires (class A, B, C or D).

Home fire escape plans are an important part of this lesson, and each Pioneer should be required to complete one.

The last step to home planning is the most important and that is practice. You may have the best plan in the world but if you don't practice it will not do anything for you. Fire drills are the best way to practice. You should hold a home fire drill at least every two months until you are sure everyone can escape safely. Oh, by the way, have fun while you are practicing.

SMOKE DETECTORS

Smoke detectors are a very good early warning device for the home. Everyone should have them in their homes or apartment. They have been known to provide as much as three to five minutes in advanced warning when a fire has started to burn in the home. (see Figure 5-18)

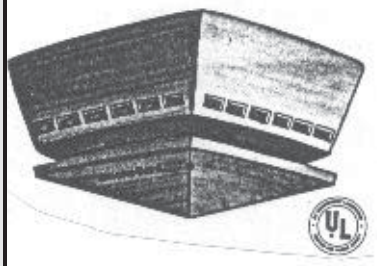


Figure 5-15

Smoke detectors come in two types, battery operated and what is called hard wire. Hard wire means that they are wired into the electrical circuits of the house. The advantage to these type is that they may be wired so that if one sounds an alarm, they all will start to give warning. These type however, can cost a lot more than the battery operated detectors. The battery operated smoke detectors are the most common found in most households. They are easy to install and they continue to work even if you lose the electricity to your home.