Activity tie-in: Making a Fire

Object - Match and an upright surface to see its shadow

Bible Verse - 1 John 1:5 "This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all."

Lesson: God is perfect and without sin, but sent Jesus to take away our darkness.

Introduction Ideas

- Talk about different Bible stories where God used fire (e.g. Moses and the burning Bush, Elijah and the chariots of fire, etc.)
- Discuss why fire is important to hikers and campers, especially at night.
- Show the kids proper ways on how to make an efficient fire

Lesson Suggestions

- Light the match and hold it up next to the upright surface. You will see that it casts a shadow on your hand and on the stick but the flame has no shadow.
- Explain how God is light. He is perfect in every way and never makes mistakes. Yet we as sinners have darkness in us and that is why we do naughty things like hit our siblings, talk back to our parents, too lazy to do our chores (this list can go on and on.)
- Talk about how when we sin we walk in the darkness, but when we follow what God commands we walk in the light.
- On top of that, talk about how when we are walking in the light the Holy Spirit is working through us. We are not doing these things on our own, but God is accomplishing these good things through us.
- Yet we cannot always walk in the light because our sinful nature gets the best of us. But God sent Jesus to pay for those sins and therefore one day we too can go to Heaven.
- And out of thankfulness to Jesus for what He did for us we serve Him here on earth.

Questions for the Group

- Why can it be hard to walk in the light?
    - "Satan tempts us and a lot of times sinning seems more fun than doing what God commands."
- Why do you think God describes Himself as light?

- "When things are lit up there is no uncertainty, you can trust what you see in the light, just like how you can trust God."
- "Light can lead you in the right direction just like God leads our lives."
- Let the kids give their input on this question. You may get some really creative answers!

Closing Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, it can be so difficult for us to follow your holy and perfect light. We go to the darkness, to sin, and we know that that does not make you happy. We are sorry for disobeying your commands. But Lord, thank you for showing love and sending Jesus who took away all our sins. Now help us to live lives of light and not of darkness. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.