



Students & Children

Deception on Display Halloween

Best Use

As an activity on Halloween evening

Value

Uses a holiday that emphasizes lies to reinforce truth

Advance Preparation

Make sure you have the following on hand:

- A few fun prizes to give after trick-or-treat activities
- A Bible

Game Plan

C.S. Lewis said "There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them. They themselves are equally pleased by both errors." Both extremes will be on display Halloween night as many overemphasize demonic images while others treat them as a game. Help your family reinforce the Christian view of the devil. While preparing for an invasion of "trick or treat" guests or activities spend five minutes setting up the following contest between family members, which will work whether you are giving out candy at home or making the rounds at a festival or in your neighborhood:

READ & DISCUSS: Read John 8:44 and point out that the devil is a liar—meaning he seeks to fool us into believing what is not true. Explain that like some Halloween costumes try to trick us into fearing a harmless person, Satan's schemes try to fool us into believing lies that can ruin our lives. Read James 4:7 and point out that by submitting to God (and His truth) we can resist the Devil (and his lies.)

COMPETE: Turn the trick or treat activity into a game by offering prizes for winners in two categories.

1. **Category 1:** Be the first person to spot and point out costumes that reflect beauty, health, joy, fun, or life. Keep track of how many each person spots.
2. **Category 2:** Be the first person to spot and point at costumes that seem scary, ugly, evil, deathly or bizarre. Keep track of how many each person spots.

REINFORCE: At the end of the evening hand out prizes then re-read the passages above. Pray together before going to bed, thanking God for being good, beautiful, and life-giving.

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