Date: 11/5/2016

Title: Stay Busy

Theme: Find something useful to do or else the devil will find you a job working for him.

Object: A round bottle with narrow neck and a marble to fit inside. (A sharp rather than a gradual transition to the mouth is best.)

Text: Prov 16:27 (TLB) Idle hands are the devil’s workshop; idle lips are his mouthpiece.

The reason that so many kids get in trouble nowadays is that they don’t have anything useful to do.

“Idle hands.” Do you know what idle hands are? They are hands that don’t have anything to do.

“Idle hands are the devil’s workshop.” That means if you don’t have something useful to do, the devil will soon find you a job working for him.

Have you ever said, “I’m bored. I have nothing to do?” When you have nothing to do you have “idle hands.”

Or maybe you have said, “I don’t feel like doing anything useful today, I think I’ll just watch TV all day.”

The devil is only too happy to get you to watch a program that will put his ideas into your brain instead of God’s ideas.

The next time you feel bored with nothing useful to do, ask your parents or grandparents for a job.

Maybe you could help with the vacuuming or the dusting or sweeping the kitchen floor or washing dishes or raking leaves or hoeing weeds in the garden or watering the flowers.

There are lots of jobs that you could do around the house.

Or you could learn to play an instrument or practice singing Christian songs, or do an exercise routing or read a book or do your homework or play with your sister or brother, or go to the playground, or play sports, or practice gymnastics…

[When I was a kid, I can never remember being bored. Baseball, piano, trumpet, scouts, building forts in the woods, jobs…]

Well, I brought with me today something that will help us see the importance of staying busy.

It’s a bottle and a marble.

We want the marble to stay in the bottle where he is safe from temptation, but every time I turn the bottle over, the marble falls out.

And that makes the devil happy, because every time the marble falls out of the bottle, Satan can tempt the marble to disobey God and fall into sin.

Now one of the reasons that the marble falls out of the bottle is because it’s idle, it’s bored, it’s just sitting around, it has nothing to do, it’s not moving.

We need to get this marble busy doing something useful. [Rotate bottle with marble inside]

Now when I turn the bottle upside down, the marble stays inside where he is protected from the temptations of the devil.

I hope you’ll remember to do something useful with your hands and your mind so you can keep from falling into sin.

But what happens if you do fall out of the bottle and fall into sin.

The Bible has good news for you.

The Bible says that if anyone sins, we have Jesus to plead our case before the Father in heaven.

Since Jesus died for our sins, God can forgive us.

We need to trust in Jesus as our Savior, tell Him we’re sorry for our sins, and ask Him to forgive us.

And if we love Jesus and trust Him, He will forgive us! What a wonderful Savior!

Do you love Jesus? I do too!

Let’s ask Him to be our friend again today.