

Ephesians 6: 1-3

Topic: a) Why obey?

a) There was a factory with a lot of people working in it. One day the boss came in and told one of the workers to take the garbage out and throw it in the dumpster. The worker became very angry... “Why do I have to do that?!” he yelled. “Give me one good reason why I should have to take the garbage out to the dumpster!”

- Why should he?
- Who is the boss of the whole universe?
- We obey because He is our creator.
- He is God. We are not.

a) Some kids went to an apple orchard to pick apples. One tree had low branches and the apples were easy to pick. The other tree had high branches and the apples were harder to get to. The farmer who grew the orchard came out and told the kids to pick the apples off the tree with the high branches. He told them that those apples were sweeter and didn't have any worms in them.

- Should they obey him? Why? (Because he grew the trees so he knows best. Also because he wants the kids to have the best apples)
- Why obey our parents? (Because God created all things and He knows best and He wants you to have the best life)
- Which tree was easier to pick from?
- Which tree was better?

a) There were two houses side by side on a street. The kids in one of the houses got together and said, “It's fun to wreck things!” They ran from room to room smashing windows and breaking the furniture. That family had to live in a broken home and there was sadness. The kids in the other house all got together and said, “Let's build something!” These kids built all kinds of fun things. They built a ping pong table, a club house to play in and an entire playground. This was a happy house.

- Disobedient children tear a home down and bring in sadness.
- Obedient children build their homes and bring in happiness.

a) There was a monkey who was searching for bananas. He looked everywhere. He looked on the ground. He looked in the water. He even dug a hole hoping to find some bananas. One day the lion saw the monkey looking everywhere for bananas. The lion

wanted the monkey to be happy so he sent a messenger (a parrot) with a message for the monkey. The message said, “If you want to find bananas you should climb a banana tree.” The monkey obeyed and climbed one of the trees. At the top of the tree the monkey found bunches of delicious bananas. He was very happy.

- Who was the monkey really obeying? The messenger or the lion?
- When you obey your parents you are really obeying God.

Topic: b) How can I obey?

b) Shannon’s grandfather is very nice. Whenever she went to his house he would spend a lot of time with her and take her places. Sometimes when she spent the night and had a bad dream he would sit in a chair by her bed and read to her until she fell asleep. Shannon’s grandfather took good care of her. She knew that he loved her. One day Shannon and her friends were building a fort in the back yard. Shannon’s grandfather came out and asked Shannon if she would run to the post office to mail a letter for him. Shannon stopped building the fort, took the letter and headed for the post office. One of her friends didn’t like this. She said to Shannon, “We’re out here playing, building a fort and having a good time. Your grandfather asks you to do something and now we have to stop playing so you can do it. Why are you doing this?”

- Why is Shannon obeying her grandfather?
- To obey God you have to want to.
- There is only one reason to want to...Jesus said, “If you love me you will obey my commandments.”

b) Remember those kids who were picking apples and the farmer told them to pick the ones on the high branches because they were better? The kids wanted to obey him. They knew that the farmer knew best and that he wanted them to have the best apples. The problem was that the best apples on the high branches were out of reach. The kids were trying but they couldn’t get to them. The farmer saw this, came out and lifted the kids up so they could do what he said and pick the apples on the high branches.

- If we know God and want to obey Him...He will lift us up so we can do it.

Ephesians 6: 4

Topic: a) Is God unreasonable?

a) There was a father who one day ordered his son to go into the back yard and dig a hole. “Why?” asked the son. “Because I said so!” answered the father, and he whacked the son upside the head. Later the father came out and said, “What is this hole doing in my back yard? Fill it in!” The father came out later and said, “I thought I told you to dig

a hole!” The boy started digging again. Later the father came out and said, “What is this hole doing in my yard?! Fill it in!” So the boy started filling the hole in with dirt. When he was done his father came out and said, “I am telling you for the last time...Dig a hole!!!”

- Is God like this father?
- When God tells us to do something there is always a good reason. It is always because He loves us.

Ephesians 6:5

Topic: a) Do a good job.

a) Sam has a boat. He wants to go sailing but his boat has a hole in it. Sams dad shows him how to patch the boat. There was some special hole filler that you fill the hole with. Then you put this stuff that looks like black paint over the special hole filler. Sam was in a hurry. He quickly threw some of the special hole filler into the hole not doing a very good job because there were still some spaces that weren't filled. Then because he was in a hurry he didn't put any of the stuff that looks like black paint over the hole. He put the boat in the water, paddled out a little way and immediately his boat filled up with water and sank.

- If you are going to do a job...Do it right.
- Don't sink.

a) Maggie was told by her mother that before she did anything she would have to go up and clean her room which was a total mess. Maggie didn't want to. Her friends were waiting outside for her to go to the park and play. Maggie ran upstairs and threw some dirty clothes into a basket but because she was in a hurry to get outside she didn't pick up anything else. Her mom came up and saw that Maggie had only picked up some of the stuff in her room. She told Maggie to clean the whole room or she wouldn't be able to go with her friends. Maggie picked up some more stuff. Her mom came up to inspect. She saw that once again Maggie had only picked up some of the stuff in her room. This went on all morning. By the time Maggie had done the job the right way the morning was over and her friends had left without her.

- What should Maggie have done?
- If you have a job...Do it right. Everyone will feel better.

a) Mrs. Stingle had two flower gardens, one in the front of her house and one in the back. She hired two boys from the neighborhood to pull all the weeds in her gardens. One boy took the front garden, the other took the back. The boy in the back garden pulled up every weed there was. Then he picked up the pile of weeds and threw them in the garbage. He even watered the garden for Mrs. Stingle. The boy in the front pulled some

of the weeds, not all of them. He left the ones he pulled out in a sloppy pile on the lawn, laid down under a tree and went to sleep. Mrs. Stingle came out to see how the boys were doing. She went to the back garden and saw how great it looked. She said to the boy, "You young man have done an excellent job!" She then went to the front garden; found it a mess and the boy sleeping under a tree. "You" she said to the boy, "Are the worst worker I have ever seen!"

- One of these boys is a Christian.
- Which one should it be?

Ephesians 6: 6-7

Topic: a) Obey God everywhere and in everything.

a) There was a boy who liked to play the harmonica. He played it everywhere he went. He played it sitting at breakfast. He played it on the school bus. He played it when he was on the playground. He played it when he went over to his friend's house. He even played it in church. He even played it underwater when he went swimming. No matter what was happening he played his harmonica. He played it when he was happy. He played it when he was sad. He played it when he was scared. He played on rainy days and sunny days. Everywhere and in every way he played his harmonica.

- Don't always play the harmonica (unless you want to)
- But always obey God always and everywhere.

Topic: b) Don't be a phony

b) There was a man named Smiley. He would walk down the street with a real grumpy mean face. Whenever he saw someone he would smile and they would say, "Hi Smiley!" As soon as they walked by he would go back to his grumpy face. Then when someone else would walk by he would do a pretend smile again. Then he would go back to his usual grumpy face.

- Should he really be called Smiley? Why not? (He was just acting like it)
- Lord help us to really be a Christian and not pretend to be one.

Ephesians 6: 8

Topic: a) Everything good you do brings good.

a) There was a boy who spent all his time hitting his hand with a hammer. One day he wondered, "Why does my hand hurt?"

- Why does it? (Because of what he was doing)

a) There was a boy who spent all his time throwing a bowling ball up in the air directly over his head. One day he wondered, “Why does my head hurt?”

- Why does it? (Because of what he was doing)

a) There was a boy who walked outside and dug for worms. He put a bunch of worms on a plate, went inside and ate them for supper. Afterwards he wondered, “Why does my stomach hurt?”

- Why does it? (Because of what he did)

a) There was a girl who always did really rotten things. She made her parents sad, her teachers sad and her friends sad. In fact after a while she didn’t have any friends. One day she wondered, “Why is my life so rotten?”

- Why is it? (Because of what she has been doing)

a) There was a girl who loved to obey God. Wherever she was and in whatever she did...she did good things. One day someone walked up to her and asked her, “Why are you so happy?”

- Why was she? (Because of what she did)

Ephesians 6: 9

Topic: a) How to be a boss.

a) Some kids were planting a garden. Mindy and Rachel were in charge. Mindy yelled at the kids if they did something wrong. If they asked a question she would yell at them. One time she got so mad that she told some of the kids to go home. She told them that they couldn’t work in the garden any more. She even called them “stupid!” Rachel spoke kindly to the kids. If one of the kids didn’t know how to plant something, Rachel would show them. The kids learned how to plant a garden by watching how Rachel worked. If they had any questions she would answer them kindly.

- Who is the better boss?
- The Bible tells us how we should treat people.

Ephesians 6: 10

Topic: a) Be strong in His might.

a) There were some kids who had a hard job to do. There was a field full of big heavy rocks. The kids had to pick up all the rocks and move them out of the field. The kids tried and tried but the rocks were so heavy they couldn’t even budge one of them. There was a girl who had a giant robot. There was a little door in the back of the robot so you could get inside of it, sit in a little chair and control the robot. The girl got inside the robot and started picking up rocks. She picked them up easily and was able to throw them far away.

- Which one of the kids was able to clear away the rocks?
- Was it her strength?
- We don't have the strength to obey God. Ask Jesus for the strength to do good and live.

Ephesians 6: 11

Topic: a) Put on armor

a) There was a mean dragon who was bothering the people. The king sent four of his knights to the dragons cave to chase the dragon away. When the first knight entered the cave the dragon roared loudly. The knight got so scared that he turned and ran away. The second knight went into the cave. The dragon opened its mouth and breathed out fire. All that was left of that knight was a pile of ashes. The third knight entered the cave. The dragon lifted his mighty tail, brought it down and squashed the knight flat. The fourth knight entered the cave. This knight wore special armor. He wasn't afraid of the dragon because he had his armor on and it was fireproof and smash proof. The dragon couldn't do anything to the knight. When the knight raised his sword, the dragon ran out of his cave and flew away.

- Satan can do nothing to us. He can't fool us or destroy us because of the protection God has given us.

Ephesians 6: 12

Topic: a) There is a reason things are bad.

a) There was a tree whose roots went deep into the ground. There was an evil wind who hated the tree. One day the evil wind blew by the tree and whispered that the tree didn't need its roots to go deep into the ground. The wind said that the tree should pull its roots out of the ground...that way it could move around if it wanted to. The tree listened to the evil wind and pulled up its roots. Then the evil wind blew as hard as it could and knocked the tree over. Someone walked by and asked, "Why did that tree fall?"

- Why did it? (Because the tree believed the winds lie and the wind wanted to destroy the tree)
- Why is there sadness in the world? (Because Satan has fooled people and he wants to destroy)

Ephesians 6: 13

Topic: a) Stand.

a) There was another tree. The evil wind hated this tree too. This tree wouldn't listen to the evil wind. Whenever the wind blew hard, the tree would dig its strong roots deep into the ground and hold tight. The wind blew and blew but it couldn't knock this tree over. Not only did the tree stand but it grew tall and filled with fruit.

- Will your life be like the tree that got blown over or like the other tree?
- Take what God has for you and stand forever.

Ephesians 6: 14

Topic: a) Truth

a) If soldiers back then didn't wear a belt to gird themselves they would fall over in battle

- If we don't know and have a love for the truth...we wont stand. We will believe the lie.

Topic: b) What is truth?

b) John 18: 37-38...."What is truth?" The truth was standing right in front of Pilate.

- John 14: 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

b) There was a tall building. Some people were standing far away looking at the building. One person said, "That building is made out of rocks." Another person looking at the building from far away said, "That building is made out of wood." The man who built the building was standing there also. He said, "That building is made out of bricks."

- Which ones word is true? How do you know?
- Who made the whole universe?
- Whose word is truth?

Topic: c) How do we get truth?

c) There was a dad who had four kids. To the one he said, "I want you to be filled with boloney." So the kid started eating boloney. To another he said, "I want you to be filled up with hamburger." So the kid started eating hamburgers. To another he said, "I want you to be filled up with air." So the kid started breathing real hard. To another he said,

“I want you to be filled up with water.” So the kid started drinking water. To another he said, “I want you to be filled up with truth.” The kid said, “How do I do that?”

- How does he?

Topic: d) Righteousness

d) If you were in battle and someone shot an arrow into your chest. What would happen?

- Back then soldiers wore a breastplate which was armor protecting their heart.
- Bible says to put on the breastplate of righteousness.
- Righteousness is how good a person is.

d) There were two buttons on a wall. Over one was a sign that said, “Doing bad.” Over the other button was a sign that said, “Doing good.” A boy walked in. He thought the “Doing bad” button would be more fun so he pushed it. Immediately a trap door opened and he fell into a room full of alligators. Another boy walked in. He thought it would be more fun to push the “Doing good” button. He pushed the button. Immediately a giant spring flew out from beneath him. The spring threw him up in the air. A door in the ceiling opened up. The boy went sailing through it and flew into the sky. While he was up in the air he discovered something amazing. He found out that he really could fly!

- Lord help us to do what is good.

d) There was a group of kids who had a club. It was called “The candy club.” The only thing the members of this club ate was candy. You could tell that they belonged to the club because none of them had any teeth. There was a girl who ate a lot of candy. She wanted to join the club but they wouldn’t let her. “You can’t join our club if you have any teeth!” they said. “But I only have one tooth!” she cried. This wasn’t good enough. They wouldn’t let her join the candy club.

- In order to get into heaven you cant even have one sin.
- How will we ever get in?
- Jesus gives us His goodness.

Ephesians 6: 15

Topic: a) Be ready to march!

a) If a soldier doesn’t have his boots on...Will he be ready for the battle?

a) There was a boy who lived in the land of falling rocks. The falling rocks had smashed all the houses and buildings. All day and all night you could hear the rocks smashing as they hit the ground.

- Where is he going to live? (In a cave)
- What is he going to do? (Hide)
- Why is he going to hide in the cave? (Because he can see the rocks falling)

a) There was a girl who lived in the land of the bugs with big teeth. These bugs lived on the ground and covered the ground as far as you could see. They were mean and they bit.

- Where is she going to live? (In a tree)
- What is she going to do? (Stay off the ground)
- Why? (Because she can see the bugs)

a) There are a bunch of kids who know the love of God and how He saved them and will one day bring them to heaven.

- Where are they going to live? (In His love)
- What are they going to do? (Obey Him)
- Why? (Because they see how good He is)
- Be ready to do what God calls you to do.

Ephesians 6: 16

Topic: a) What is faith?

a) Faith is believing what someone says and believing it so much that it changes your life.

a) There was a boy walking home from school. He was walking down the road he always took to go home when a man met him on the road. The man told him that he shouldn't walk down that road because there was a giant gorilla hiding in the bushes and whenever anyone walked by, the gorilla would jump out and steal their shoes. The boy heard what the man said. He believed what the man said. He turned around and took a different road home.

- What did this boy have? (Faith)
- How can you tell that he believed what he was told? (He went another way)
- How can you tell that someone really believes what God says? (They obey) (They have the fruit of the Spirit in their lives)
- Noah believed God and started building an ark.
- Mark 2: 11....Jesus tells a lame man to stand up. The man did it.
- Matthew 4: 18-20....The apostles believe Jesus, leave everything and follow Him.
- God told Abraham to leave his home and He didn't even tell him where he was going. Abraham obeyed.

- God told Abraham and Sarah that they were going to have a child. Abraham believed even though he knew it was impossible.
- John 9: 1-7....Jesus tells a blind man to go and wash his eyes. He obeyed.
- Peter when he believed Jesus was walking on water. When he believed the storm, he sank.

Topic: b) How do we get faith?

b) There was a girl named Beth. One night Beth couldn't sleep. She picked up a book that was by her bed and started reading it. It was her Math book from school. She stayed up all night reading the Math book. The next morning she went to school. In Math class the teacher said, "Students today we are going to have a surprise test." Later that day the teacher saw Beth in the hall with her friends. She was very happy to tell Beth that she got all the answers right on her test. Her friends all asked, "How did you get so smart?"

- How did she get so smart?
- The more you read the Bible...the more faith you get.

b) Matthew 17: 24-27....Jesus tells Peter to find coins in a fish's mouth.

- Do you think Peter's faith grew?
- Why? (Because he trusted Jesus, obeyed Him and found out that everything Jesus said was true)
- The more you trust and obey....your faith will grow stronger.

b) Judges chapters 6 and 7.....Gideon

Ephesians 6: 17

Topic: a) Helmet of salvation.

a) There is a boy out on the water in a boat. Someone standing on the shore yells to him, "You're drowning in the water and there are sharks!" The boy doesn't panic. The reason he doesn't panic is because he knows something.

- What does he know? (That he is in the boat)

a) There is a huge rain and thunder storm outside. There is a house. Inside the house there is a girl all wrapped up in a blanket, sitting in front of the fireplace. Someone calls her. They say, "There is a huge storm! You're going to get struck by lightning and blown away!" She isn't scared because she knows something.

- What does she know? (That she's in the house)

a) There is a boy who was outside playing in the mud. He is filthy. He goes home and takes a bath. Later that night his parents take him to a really fancy restaurant. There is a sign outside the restaurant that says, "You cannot come in if you are filthy." The boy smiles and walks into the restaurant. He was smiling because he knows something.

- What does he know? (That he took a bath and is clean)

a) There is a boy walking down the street. A real mean person comes up to him and says, “You are not going to heaven!” The boy just smiles and walks on. He smiled because he knows something.

- What does he know?

a) What do you know?

- Do you know and believe what Jesus has done for you?
- Then you will go to the party. Nothing can stop you because Jesus will bring you there.

Topic: b) Sword of the Spirit

b) Once there was a very mean and evil giant. One day the very mean and evil giant jumped out in front of a bunch of kids who were out walking. “I am going to destroy you!” yelled the giant. The kids stepped back, reached to their sides and each one pulled out a golden sword. When the very mean evil giant saw the swords he screamed and ran away.

- Do you know what makes Satan run? (The truth)
- The Bible is your sword. Use it!

Ephesians 6: 18

Topic: a) Pray for yourselves and others

a) There was a mouse who had a best friend. This best friend was a dog named Rudy. Rudy gave the mouse a special present. He gave him a whistle. This way whenever the mouse was in trouble and needed help all he had to do was blow the whistle and Rudy would hear it and run to help him. One day the mouse was cornered by a mean hungry cat. The cat was just about to pounce when the mouse remembered his whistle. He took it out and blew on it as hard as he could. Rudy was close by and heard the whistle. When the cat saw Rudy running towards him he turned and ran away as fast as he could. The mouse was safe.

- God has not given us a special whistle
- He has given us a voice for prayer.....Use it!

a) One day the mouse was sleeping safe in his hole in the wall. Suddenly he was awakened by someone crying for help. He peeked out of his hole and saw another mouse who was his friend being chased by the mean hungry cat. The mouse ran for his whistle. He blew it. Rudy the dog heard it and came crashing to the rescue through the doggie door in the kitchen. The cat screamed and took off running. The mouse was safe. He was glad that he had a friend who would blow his whistle and call to help him.

- We all need to pray for Gods help
- Pray for others who need help too.

a) There was a boy named Eric who liked to explore caves. He would find a hole in the ground that led to a cave. Then he would get some friends who would lower him down into the hole with ropes. Exploring caves is very dangerous. Eric and his friends had walkie talkies. This way they could keep in constant contact with each other. When Eric went into the cave he would keep talking to his friends up above. He would always tell them where he was and what was going on in the cave and if he needed anything they would send it down through the hole.

- Why did Eric keep in constant contact with his friends?
- Keep in constant contact with God.
- And you don't need a walkie talkie.

Ephesians 6: 19-20

Topic: a) Ask people to pray for you.

a) Andrea was riding her bike. Suddenly her back wheel came loose and fell off. Andrea fell off her bike. She didn't get hurt bad but her bike was in pieces and she was a long way away from home. Andrea called her friend Amy and asked her if she could come and help her bring her bike home. Amy did. The two girls carried the broken bike back to Andrea's house. They put the bike in the garage and Amy helped Andrea fix it.

- Why did Andrea ask Amy to help her? (Because two are better than one)

a) Andrea and her friends were planning a sleep over at Amy's house. They were going to stay up all night, talk, watch movies and eat pizza. Andrea asked her mom if she could stay at Amy's house. Then Andrea's friend Marsha called Andrea's mom and asked if Andrea could stay at Amy's. Then Gilda called Andrea's mom and asked if Andrea could go. Then Rhonda called Andrea's mom and asked if she could go. Then Sophie called and asked if Andrea could go. Finally Andrea's mom said, "Yes, yes, yes....! You can go sleep over at Amy's house!"

- Why is Andrea going to Amy's house? (Because so many people asked her mom)
- Ask people to pray for you. The more voices the better.

a) Amy had a problem. There was something that was really worrying her. It was a secret problem. This problem began to bother her so much that she told her friend Andrea what the problem was. Andrea listened and when Amy was done telling her about her problem they prayed together. Amy walked away with a smile on her face. She felt better because she had shared her problem with a friend and she knew that God would answer their prayers.

Matthew 18: 19 "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.

20 "For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."

Topic: b) People need to hear.

b) There was a plane flying high in the air with people on board. Suddenly one of the engines exploded. The pilot got on the microphone and told the people that the plane was going to crash. He told the people to grab a parachute and jump out of the plane. All the people heard, did what the pilot said and lived.

- Why did the pilot tell them what he told them?
- Did they need to hear? Why?
- Do people need to hear about Jesus? Why?
- How will God tell them? (Us)

Ephesians 6: 21-22

Topic: a) Keep in touch.

a) There were a group of people who were going to go diving underwater. They were going deep into the water so they had to breathe through an air hose. The problem was that there was only one air hose. When they were under water they would have to share it.

- Do they need to be together? Why? (Only one air hose)
- There is one God. We need to be together. This is why we come to church.

a) There were a bunch of balloons that were flying higher and higher in the sky. These balloons stayed together. If one of the balloons started to lose its air, the other balloons would fly over and share theirs. The bigger balloons would get underneath the smaller balloons and help push them higher and higher. If one of the balloons got tired the other balloons would encourage and help it to keep going up. If one of the balloons got a hole in it, another balloon would fly over and put a band aid on it. If the balloons were by themselves they probably wouldn't make it.

- Are we going up or down?
- Believers need to be together.

Ephesians 6: 23

Topic: a) Why did he do this?

a) There was a lady who had a flower garden. Every day she was out in her garden watering her flowers and pulling out the weeds. Her flowers grew bright, strong and happy.

- Why did she do this? (Loved the flowers)

a) There was a boy who collected bottle caps. He would walk along looking in the dirt for bottle caps that people had thrown out. When he found one he would take it home, wash it off and glue it into a special display case which hung on the wall in his room.

- Why does he do this? (Because he loves bottle caps)
- Why did God create the world?
- Why did He make you?
- Why did he come down from heaven and die for our sins?
- Why does He show you the way to have a good life?
- Why is He coming back for you?
- Is God lonely?
- Does God need people around?
- They why does he do all these things? (Because God is love)

Ephesians 6: 24

Topic: a) Why do we love Him?

a) There was a girl named Natalie. Every evening around eight thirty just when it was starting to get a little darker outside, Natalie would go out into the back yard, sit in the grass and watch. She would watch the sun go down. As the sun went down, things around her got darker but the sky would turn a bright orange. Even the clouds looked orange. The dark blue sky, the red and orange colors made her think that God had just done a beautiful painting. One evening when Natalie was out watching the sun set a friend of hers came by. “Why are you always out here watching sun sets?” asked her friend. Natalie replied, “Because I love it.”

- Why did she love watching sun sets? (Because she saw how beautiful they are)