OLYMPIC THEME
TITLE: “CHAMPIONS FOR CHRIST”

SUMMARY OF LESSONS:

LESSON 1 – “WHO’S A CHAMPION?”

This lesson is an introduction to the Olympic Games, their motto and purpose. Discussion centers on “what does it take to be an Olympic winner….a champion? How can we be “winners” or “victorious” in our lives? The Bible teaching is based upon I Corinthians 15:57-58. The craft is a decorated duffle bag or backpack. The training exercise is a game, “Beat the Clock” putting a puzzle together.

LESSON 2 – “TRAITS FOR A CHAMPION”

This lesson is based upon “what character traits do we need to be a winner...or a loser?” It will stress how we need to prepare ourselves to be the best that God made us to be. The Bible teaching will be based upon I Corinthians 15:57-58. The traits are defined as self will, self confidence, self control, self defense, self reliance, self respect for others and finally, self respect for ourselves. The craft is making a book marker with the character traits of a champion. The training exercise will be “Frisbee Golf”.

LESSON 3 – “WHO’S OUR COACH?” (Father’s Day Lesson)

This lesson introduces the flag for the Olympic Games, and the use of a flag to take a stand to show others our beliefs. In order to become a “champion”, we need to have a coach. A coach helps set our purpose, schedule our training and provide techniques to help accomplish our goals. Who is our coach to train us to live our life? “JESUS” has to train us in the seven character traits in order to accomplish being a champion. Dads can be like “Jesus” in our families and help coach the family to become “champions”. The craft is making a flag for “Champions for Christ” and make a “Father’s Day card”. The training exercise is playing a baseball game with coaches on each base.
LESSON 4 – “A CHAMPION’S SELF WILL”

This lesson is about how stubborn we are in trying to get our own way, our “self will”. Our coach, Jesus, teaches us that we need to make “God’s will” our will. In Mark 15:31-38, we learn that Jesus had to do “God’s will” for Him...that was to die for our sins, conquer death and provide us with a way to heaven. What a champion? We will learn how to recognize “God’s will for us” thru prayer, actions and beliefs in God’s word, the Bible. The craft will be a “tied dye” T-shirt to wear reminding us to do “God’s will” and not “our will”! The training exercise will be a game called “Father, May I” (like the game, Mother, May I).

LESSON 5 – “TRY, TRY, TRY AGAIN AND AGAIN!”

This lesson is based upon “how can we be sure of ourselves and be a winner?” Discussion will be about the skills God gives us. By trying and trying and trying again and again, God makes it clear to us what talents we possess! We are to use these talents for God’s will and not our own! There will be a discussion about the difference between bragging, “I can do everything” and the self confidence of a “champion” who studies the Bible, prays, and tries everything. The craft is beaded bracelets and the training exercise is a game called “Try, Try, Champion”. (Like “Duck, Duck, Goose game)

LESSON 6 – “WHAT SELF-CONTROL?”

This lesson dwells on how we can have self control and be a winner, a “Champion for Christ”. Self control is a protective wall to repel “temptation” – it allows us to make the best choices with a disciplined balance between emotions and will. We do not become “winners” if we just “give up”. Our coach, Jesus, provides us with the words of God (the Bible) to help us have self control. Based on Genesis 6, we will look at Noah and his family as they endured people making fun of them when they used their self control to build the ark and follow God’s will. What if they had given up? The craft is a “braided headband” to be used as a sweatband. The training exercise is a game of soccer, controlling the ball and making a goal.
LESSON 7 – “DEFEND OURSELVES”

This lesson teaches the importance of prayer as a self defense mode to withstand worldly attacks. In Daniel 6, we learn how Daniel used prayer to defend himself against the attack of the lions and what the world wanted him to do. Prayer can be used constantly and allow a champion to work thru all the trials and hardships of becoming a “champion for Christ”. The devil will attempt to put doubts, and blocks in our way. We must defend ourselves thru prayer, even as Jesus did. What can cause us to not be champions? I Corinthians 15:57-58 will give us victory. The craft is to decorate a Styrofoam sword. The training exercise will be “On Guard” sword fighting to defend ourselves.

LESSON 8 – “MAKE OURSELVES A CHAMPION”

This lesson uses self reliance to accomplish our goals of becoming a “champion for Christ”. Jesus teaches us that we have to do what we are capable of doing and then let God do all the rest. There is no room for “I can’t”. We will learn how to do as much as we can and then God will provide an answer or the ability we need to complete our mission. The use of our Bibles teaches us what we can or cannot do. God gives His words to us to obey and our faith will cause us to be able to overcome sin and be champions. There is victory in the words of God, I Corinthians 15:57-58. The craft is decorating a visor or ball cap. The training exercise is “run the obstacle course” and be a champion!

LESSON 9 – “A CHAMPION’S SELF RESPECT FOR OTHERS”

This lesson will dwell on teamwork and how to treat others as champions. We will actively learn how to encourage others, like others by seeing their good points, and form good teamwork habits to become champions for Christ. We will look at how the disciples of Jesus treated each other with Jesus as their coach. God looks at us, and still loves us for all the imperfect things we do. We are forgiven by God, so must we forgive others. We will practice doing for others and receive great blessings and joy from God as “champions”! The craft is making a “Helping Ribbon” for someone else. The training exercise is playing the “Undo the Human Knot” game.
LESSON 10 – “A CHAMPION’S SELF RESPECT”

This lesson will show us that we need to respect our bodies, by keeping ourselves healthy with food, exercise and practicing our skills. We will realize that we belong to God and not to ourselves. God does expect us to treat our bodies with respect and not destroy what He made us to be. God has a plan for our lives and we need to practice respecting ourselves. The craft is making a jump rope and weights. The training exercise is exercising the muscles of our bodies.

LESSON 11 – “CHAMPIONS ON FIRE FOR CHRIST”

This lesson concerns the tradition of the torch relay and the lighting of the cauldron at the place of the Olympic games. The torch is carried thru towns and country to reach its destination, symbolizing that all can be involved making it worldwide. The winners of each game receive the title of “the best in the world” along with a special medal. There is great honor in participating more than winning. Jesus, our coach, tells us that there is greater glory and victory in our belief in salvation and gaining entry into heaven to be with God. Our belief makes us the “Champions for Christ” and the need to help others become champions. Therefore, we carry the torch of Christ with us every day! The craft is a paper torch. The training exercise is running with our torch to various locations!

LESSON 12 – “CHAMPIONS FOR CHRIST” AWARDS CELEBRATION

This is a celebration of completing the training to be the best “in all that we do”, champions for Christ. A ceremony like the Olympics will be held to present GOLD MEDALS and recite the Bible verse, I Corinthians 15:57-58. A party with refreshments and fun activities can be planned to complete this program.