

## IS EVIL REAL? | TOUGH TOPIC

*In connection with the following Bible Story:*

**JESUS DEMONSTRATES HIS POWER** - Mark 4:35-5:20

Many of us grew up with the devil pictured as a cartoon in a red suit with a pitchfork or as a terrifying force in a horror movie. Discussing evil can be challenging because we don't want to frighten kids. Because there is so much confusion in the world, it is essential that kids develop a biblical worldview of who Satan is and an understanding that evil is very real. The story "Jesus Demonstrates His Power" shows that God is more powerful than anything. Help your kids be aware that evil is real and there is an enemy who intends harm. However, God is stronger than Satan and any evil force.

### HERE'S HOW YOU CAN DISCUSS THIS TOPIC WITH YOUR KIDS . . .

**Ask:** How is "evil" usually shown in movies or shows you have watched?

**Ask:** Do you feel some kids might think evil is just pretend or made up by movies? Why would they think that?

**Ask:** What do you think God has to say about that?

**Say:** Some people don't believe evil is real or they think of the devil as a cartoon character who is the opposite of God. Most people don't really understand the devil is real. 1 Peter 5:8 says: *The devil is your enemy. And he goes around like a roaring lion looking for someone to eat.* While some people may picture the devil as a guy with a pitchfork, the Bible tells us he is dangerous, but he is not equal to God. He is tricky and one of his tricks is to make the world think he isn't real or isn't that bad. It is important to know what the Bible says about evil so we know how to stand against it.