Dear Parents,

 Do you remember the first time you realized that there were real bad people in the world and not just in books or movies? When our children were little they worried about monsters under their bed. Through their elementary years their worries begin to reflect the real world. They’ll begin to worry about terrorism, floods, kidnapping, etc. When our children are faced with this reality, how do we talk to our child about evil; that evil is real, that it exits? We want to help you navigate how to talk candidly with your child about evil, while at the same time protecting them from the fear and anxiety that can develop when thinking about evil in our world. Check out the video below on ‘How to Teach Our Children About Evil in the World.’

<https://vimeo.com/parentministry/review/115113145/ab72f63a63>

 The bottom line is we need to talk with our children about evil. To talk about evil with our children means we talk with them about the fact that we have an enemy, and his name is Satan. In Matthew chapter 4, we see that Jesus knew His enemy and when he came against it, Jesus spoke words of truth.

 When we talk with our children about evil in the world we need to speak TRUTH, not our opinion, but the TRUTH of God’s word. I’m reminded of John 10:10, “*The thief comes only to steal, kill, and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly*”. Our children will know there is an enemy who means harm, but they will also know that Jesus overcomes! Romans 12:21 says, “*Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good*.” Our children can conquer evil by doing good. Jesus has given us a solution to standing against evil. Let’s guide our children to stand on the promises of God, rather than focus on the evil in the world. With God, we will conquer!

Here are a few resources to get you started:

<https://www.faithgateway.com/what-was-meant-for-evil-god-uses-for-good/#.Xm_W_nJKiM8>

<https://www.crosswalk.com/devotionals/your-daily-prayer/a-prayer-to-overcome-evil-your-daily-prayer-march-20-2017.html>

<http://www.steppesoffaith.com/family/daily-decisions-help-kids-put-armor-god>

Building Young Disciples,

Pastor Sarah