

**2019 Creative Festivals Lesson Plan:
Grades 4-6**

Theme:

Antiochian Village: Past, Present, and Future

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

Goal:

To help the students understand the theme well enough to express it in art, photography, poetry, and creative writing.

Lesson Objectives:

The students will be able to:

- Organize pictures of strength building activities by body, mind, or soul.
- Describe ways to strengthen their bodies, minds, and souls.
- Identify specific challenges they face in daily life.
- Tell how God can help them face and overcome challenges.

Time: 40 minutes

Materials:

- Paper and pencils
- Pictures of the following from the internet, magazines, or family photos: person working out on equipment, person working out without equipment, a sports player in action, person repairing something, person praying, person reading or doing school work. You may add others to fit the needs and interests of your class.
- Three sheets of poster board; Scotch Tape
- Picture of the arch at Antiochian Village with the bible verse (*Attached.*)
- Bibles
- Icon of Saint Paul [From St. John Chrysostom Orthodox Church, York, PA] (*Attached.*)
- Fine point markers or colored pencils; copies of the mini poster with verse (*Attached. Print one for each student.*)
- Copy of Prayer (*Attached. Print one copy for each student.*)

Opening Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

Introduction: (5 minutes)

Ask the students to individually make a list of 3-4 things that are challenging for them. (Speaking in front of a group, completing math problems, reading, being away from home, trying new things, playing a sport, etc.) Allow about 5 min. Students may share their list if they choose. Have them put their lists aside until the end of the lesson.

Lesson:

1. Whole Class Activity: (10 minutes) Show the class the pictures of various activities one at a time. Have the students tell how strength is being portrayed in each of the pictures. Explain to the students that God helps us to strengthen our bodies, our minds, and our souls. Label one sheet of poster board with the caption "Body" another with the caption "Mind" and the last with the caption "Soul." Have students separate the pictures into the 3 different categories: body, mind, or soul. Have them tape the pictures on the appropriate sheet of poster board.

2. Whole Class Discussion: (15 minutes) Ask students if they have ever been to camp- either Antiochian Village or another Orthodox Camp. (Show them the picture of the arch at Antiochian Village.) Have them discuss activities that happen at camp. Ask them what is being strengthened- body, mind, or soul- through these activities. (Some activities may fit into more than one category.)

For those who have not attended camp- show them pictures of various activities on your phone (or a computer if one is available with internet access) from the Antiochian Village web site.

Examples: Christian Education (soul and mind), sports (body and mind), ropes course (body, mind, and soul).

Have them tell how they think each one is made stronger through these activities. *"Why are these activities important? Why does God want us to strengthen our bodies, minds, and souls?"*

Have someone read the following verses aloud from the Bible. (Exodus 4:10-14.)

"Why do you think Moses felt that he couldn't do what God asked him to do? (Maybe he was afraid of speaking, or saying the wrong thing.) Do you ever feel that you can't do something because you are afraid? We often make excuses like- I'm not good at that, people will laugh at me, etc. How often have you said- I can't do that or this is too hard? If God wants us to be something or do something, He will give us the strength to accomplish it. We have to trust Him and have faith."

Have other students take turns reading the following verses from Philippians 4:1, 4, 6-7, 11-13. *"St. Paul wrote this letter to the Philippians while he was under house arrest in Rome."* (Show students the icon of St. Paul.) *"He has suffered, but he has survived because he trusts Christ to give him patience, wisdom, and the strength he needs to overcome these difficult times. In this epistle, St. Paul encourages the Philippians to be constant in their faith in God; praise God at all times; not to worry about anything that might trouble them; to put their trust in Jesus Christ to give them the strength and courage they need to overcome the obstacles in their lives. St. Paul's situation is the perfect example of living a Christ-centered life."*

"Often at camp or school we face challenges. Can you name some of them?" (Making new friends, trying new things, being away from home and family, being independent and speaking up for ourselves.)

"How does God help us during those times? What are some activities we can do to strengthen our bodies, minds, and souls?"

3. Small group activity: (10 minutes)

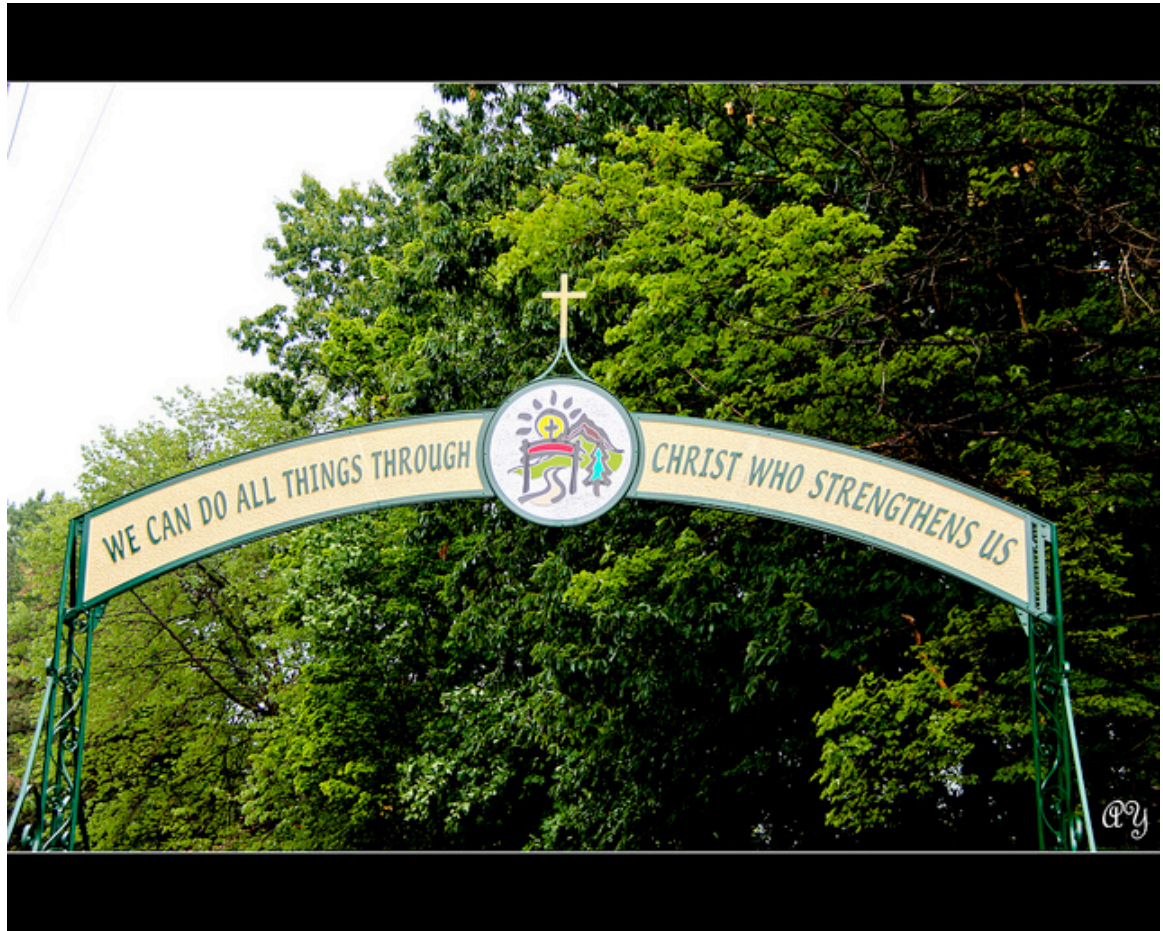
Have students work in groups of 2 or 3. Ask them to use their challenge list from the beginning of the lesson and list ideas to strengthen body, mind, and soul for each challenge. They should work together to help each other brainstorm ideas. Then each group can share their ideas with the whole class.

Have students color the attached posters with fine point markers or colored pencils and decorate the classroom with them.

Closing Prayer:

Give each student a copy of the following prayer and say together:

"Almighty God, our Help and Refuge, Fountain of wisdom and Tower of strength, who knowest that I can do nothing without thy guidance and help; assist me, I pray thee, and direct me to divine wisdom and power, that I may accomplish this task, and whatever I may undertake to do, faithfully and diligently, according to thy will, so that it may be profitable to myself and others, and to the glory of thy Holy Name. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen."



SAINT

PAUL



А. В. 1917
С. М. КАТЫРЛОВ



A PRAYER BEFORE COMMENCING ANY TASK

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