

SPIRITUALLY PROOFING THE HOUSE

SCRIPTURE:

*Hear, my son, and accept my sayings, and the years of your life will be many.
I have directed you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in upright paths.
When you walk, your steps will not be impeded; and if you run, you will not stumble.
Take hold of instruction; do not let go. Guard her, for she is your life.
Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not proceed in the way of evil men.
Avoid it, do not pass by it; Turn away from it and pass on. (Proverbs 4: 10-15)*

MATERIALS LIST:

- (1) outlet cover plate
- (1) child plug cover
- (1) electric wire (coating on)
- (1) electric wire (coating off)

MAIN MESSAGE:

The best way to never find yourself on the wicked way is to never start down that path in the first place. We understand covering to avoid danger when it comes to electricity. What about when it comes to our spiritual lives? Maybe it's time to "spiritually-proof" our house.

SONG: "To Christ Be Loyal and Be True"

LESSON:

Ok, so not everyone carries the title "World's Greatest Electrician". However, that doesn't prevent even the most simplest of us from understanding the dangers that are present when electricity is flowing through wires, especially in our house. While some of us might have learned a few lessons the hard way, such as when you touch an electric fence that is turned on you're going to feel a not-so-pleasant shock go through your body, we don't always have to live with the "hard-headed" mentality. Old dogs or not, we all can learn without having to hurt ourselves.

Have you ever been inside a house that is being built, in the stage where all that's up is the framing, the plumbing pipes, and the electrical wiring running through the studs? If you haven't, check out a picture of it online. It can look pretty confusing. If you have, then you can visually understand the network of electricity that runs literally throughout your house every day, powering all your televisions, radios, alarm clocks, hair dryers, and computers. Most of the time, we don't realize the power that is all around us because we don't see it, we only see its effects; however, if you've ever been through a storm that knocked power lines down, and you've seen the explosions that can occur from this, you realize very quickly what's surrounding you.

In this devotional, bring your family to an electric outlet on the wall and take the cover plate off. Explain to them that the wires they see back in that hold are part of the overall system flowing through your house, which means the electric outlet is active and dangerous. In other words, they shouldn't stick their little fingers in the holes in the outlet nor should they try and stick their little brother's fingers in there. Show them the outlet plate cover and explain how it keeps little curious children safe. Then show them the baby-proofing outlet plug cover and explain that this is simply one more step of safety and protection.

In the book of Proverbs chapter 4, we are told to avoid the path of the wicked and the way of evil men. Notice the writer doesn't say it would be acceptable to get on the path for a little bit. He says avoid it all together. In order to do that, we need safety measures in our lives and in our homes. Like the outlet covers protect us from the dangers of electricity, we need covers from immorality, filthy talk, violence, lies, immodest dress, and whatever else would be on the wicked path. What are some of the covers you have in your house right now? As a family, what are some of the covers you need to get?

PRAYER: Help our family have the courage to place spiritual covers in our home to give us protection.