

## Activity: Traps



**FAMILY TIME**  
TRAINING

Teaching Goal: Jesus is our guide to get through the traps in life.

Scriptures: Joshua 23: 12-13 Joshua warns his people to follow God's rules. If they do not follow God, but follow what others do, then they will find themselves ensnared and trapped.

Materials: Traps: rabbit trap (box, stick and string), mouse trap, noose trap, sticky or fly trap, (optional: beaver trap)  
Bait: cheese, carrots, scent  
Blindfold  
Tennis ball

- I. Play theme song
- II. Pray
- III. Review last lesson
- IV. Lesson and discussion

✓ Words written in **bold** are when the leader is speaking. Feel free to use your own words.

**What do you remember about the stories of Joshua?** *Joshua and the battle of Jericho. Joshua crossing the Jordan River. Joshua, friend of Moses.* **Joshua was the leader of the Israelites. When he got old and was about to die, he called the people together to tell them something special.**

Joshua warned them to follow God's rules, like the Ten Commandments. Do you know any of the Ten Commandments? God also warned his people, the Israelites, not to hang around with people who made bad choices. It is a "trap" to hang around people who sin (make bad choices).

**Do you know what a trap is? Can you give an example of a trap? We are going to look at several traps. Before there were grocery stores, people hunted with traps to catch food.**

A. ACTIVITY #1: Traps.

Rabbit Trap: Set a box balanced on a stick. The stick has a string tied on the bottom. Place a carrot under the box and explain how the trap is used to catch rabbits. Roll a tennis ball under the trap, and the children can take turns pulling the string and trying to trap the ball.

Noose: Make a noose at the end of a rope. Put the noose down on the ground/floor. (The noose will work best if the rope pulls up and over a couch inside or tree limb outside.) Use some bait and talk about how the food attracted animals that would step into the noose. Each child can take a turn trapping mom or dad (explain how to pull the rope gently for the demonstration).

**FAMILY TIME TRAINING**

FAMTIME.COM • [info@famtime.com](mailto:info@famtime.com) • (866) 433-7010

Sticky trap: Demonstrate using fake bugs or paper bugs how they get stuck in a sticky trap or on flypaper.

Mouse trap: Demonstrate how a mouse trap works with cheese as bait. Use a pencil to trigger the trap. Keep children away from the trap.

**Joshua warned the Israelites, and God warns us about traps in life.**

**Adam and Eve were trapped. What was the bait?** *The tree of knowledge, the fruit.* **What was the trap?** *They wanted to do their own thing even though God told them not to.* **What were the consequences?** *They were kicked out of the Garden of Eden, and death.*

**Samson was trapped. What was the bait?** *Wanting to please Delilah.* **What was the trap?** *Cutting his hair.* **What were the consequences?** *He was captured by the Philistines and blinded.*

**Lot was trapped. What was the bait?** *The party life of Sodom and Gomorrah.* **What was the trap?** *Hanging out with people who lived in sin making bad choices.* **What were the consequences?** *Death.*

**What traps do we have to watch out for?**

**Lying is a trap. What is the bait?** *Avoiding trouble.* **What are the consequences?** *Leads to more lying and does not avoid trouble but creates more trouble.*

**Using bad words is a trap. What is the bait?** *Mad/hurt/selfish.* **What are the consequences?** *Hurts others and can't take the words back.*

**Greed - wanting too many things is a trap. What is the bait?** *TV commercials, magazines, others' toys.* **What are the consequences?** *Wanting to take things that don't belong to you; spending money on yourself and not using it to help others. More things take more of your time.*

**B. ACTIVITY #2:** Set up the traps in a room (with younger kids, you do not need to set the traps, but just place them on the floor). Blindfold each child one at a time. Spin them around a few times and tell them they have to cross the room, but they have two choices: they may try it themselves blindfolded or they may ask a parent, who is not blindfolded, to lead them across the room.

**Our lives are full of traps. We cannot see all of them until it is too late, and we are caught. Jesus wants to be our guide, and if we follow Him, He will keep us out of the traps. He can see traps that we cannot see.**

V. Memorize:

**Trust Jesus to keep you free  
From all the traps that He can see.**

VI. Close in Prayer

VII. Pass It On: Make an extra copy of this lesson and *pass it on* to another family.