Date: 5/14/16

Title: Make Jesus Your Respirator

Theme: When we love Jesus and stay close to Him, He will keep sin away from us.

Object: Respirator

Text: Romans 13:14 (NKJV) 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

Here the apostle Paul is writing to the Christians at Rome and he tells them to put on the Lord Jesus Christ and don’t go looking for ways to sin.

Life is always better and generally lasts longer when we live in obedience to God.

People that go looking for ways to sin often end up in a real mess.

Some kids disobey their parents and their teachers and they end up getting in trouble in school.

Many kids ruin their lives with drugs and alcohol and cigarettes that can lead to addiction and death.

Some kids steal and lie and get involved in gang violence and end up in jail.

So instead of looking for ways to sin, we ought to look for ways to stay close to Jesus, to love Him, to trust Him, to pray to Him.

When we love Jesus and live close to Him, we will obey His commandments and stay away from sin.

When we put on the Lord Jesus Christ, He keeps sin on the outside and purity on the inside.

A couple of weeks ago I painted the secret, secret hideout.

It’s a special room in our house that I recently discovered when I was looking for a leak that was coming through the ceiling by the front door.

I went into the secret hide out, and cut a hole through the wall to find the leak, and there I found another room that we call the secret, secret hideout.

Well I insulated all the walls and the ceiling and the floor, and put a floor in and put the inside walls up.

And I finally got to the point where I was ready to paint the secret, secret hideout.

So I got out my brand new spray painter, plugged it in, and started to spray white paint on all the walls and the ceiling.

What a mess!! The spray went everywhere. Not only on the walls and the ceiling, but on the floor, the sprayer, the electrical cord, and me.

Little tiny particles of white paint were everywhere.

They were all over my hard hat, my glasses, my clothes, my old slippers.

Do you think it would be healthy for me to breathe in all that paint spray? (No way.)

I was very thankful that I was wearing something over my nose and mouth.

It’s called a respirator.

[Explain how the respirator works.]

Now is this respirator going to work for me if I leave it in the bag? (No)

What do I have to do with the respirator to protect myself from paint spray? (Put it on!)

In the same way, to protect ourselves from sin, we have to put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

He is like the respirator that keeps us pure on the inside even though the paint spray of sin is flying all around us.

Jesus said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments?”

Would you like to stay pure on the inside?

Let’s put on the Lord Jesus Christ, love Him with all our hearts, and let Him keep us pure.