Date: 6/12/21 based on same title of 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, 3M N-95 mask, bandana, cloth mask.

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.

We have just come through the coronavirus pandemic that has killed about 600,000 Americans and millions around the world.

And we saw a lot of people wearing a lot of masks.

Why did people put on their masks?

Because they wanted to keep the coronavirus on the outside so that it didn’t get into their lungs and grow there an infect them with COVID-19.

The coronavirus is so tiny that you can’t even see it.

And one of the ways it travels between people is that if someone sneezes or coughs or talks too close to you, a tiny droplet of spit can carry the virus from them to you.

So with a mask on, the hope is that the little droplet would stay on the outside of the mask and only good air would come through to your lungs.

So let’s look at some masks that we saw some people wearing.

[Show masks and tell how well each one worked. Go from least effective to most effective. End with respirator.]

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 the corona virus? [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 deadly virus 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.