

Words Can't Hurt Me!

"If I had a face like yours, I wouldn't even want to keep on living to see that face in the mirror every morning!"

This is what a fifth grader said to a fourth grader just this year. Can you imagine what this fourth grader was feeling when he heard these hurtful words? Maybe you have even heard some hateful words just like this.

When someone hurts you, it is sometimes hard to not come back at them with nasty words of your own to try to hurt them back. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that." What is your light? If you have the light of Jesus, you have all the strength you need to face a bully. The bible tells us in Luke 6:27-28, "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you." So basically, your best defense is to love, bless, and pray for those who try to make you feel weak.

Jesus had lots of bullies that hated him so much that they wanted to make Him feel pain. They laughed at Jesus, spit on Him, mocked Him and then tortured Him. Then eventually, they tried to kill Him on the Cross. Even through all the horrible pain that Jesus was going through as he died on the cross, He prayed for his enemies, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34) Jesus never got mad at his enemies or cursed them. No matter what Jesus' enemies did to Him, He still loved them enough to pray for them.

If Jesus had the strength to face all His bullies with love and prayer, then you can too! After all, you have the best defender and friend on your side: Jesus Christ! Just keep telling yourself that, "I can do ALL things through Christ who strengthens me!" (Philippians 4:13) But most of all, remember that no matter how hurt or alone you feel, God is always here for you and He ALWAYS loves you! "Fear Thou not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed for I am thou God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee." (Isaiah 41:10)

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help me to treat my fellow classmates, friends, and even those who are different than me the same. Help me show your light and love to them. Please forgive me if I have bullied or hurt someone today. In Jesus Name, Amen!

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