



Monthly Project and Lesson Topics 2015

This year's theme "Stand Firm," Ephesians 6:11-13

Ephesians 6:11-13, New King James Version (NKJV), ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Teach the boys - "Stand Firm." Don't be afraid to be who you are. Don't be afraid to stand up against wrong and evil. In battle, the enemy has a plan, you should too. You should be prepared to take him on. When we use the Word of God as our sword, our tool for survival we will be protected. Train the boys to be true, stand firm, KOZ Strong.

January: Survival - How do you make it through?

Expect the unexpected. Beware of your surroundings. Think ahead about what could happen. Be smart as you get ready for your next adventure. If you are not planning in advance, training, collecting your materials, tools, gear you take the chance that along the way you will put yourself or others in severe danger. Preparation for the danger and problems that may come up during your adventures in the outdoors is crucial. If you head out unprepared the chances are good that something can go terribly wrong and someone is going to get hurt or even worse, killed.

Scripture: Psalms 139: 23-24, Search me, Oh God and know my heart. Try me and know my anxious thoughts; And see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in everlasting way.

KOZ: There are so many times in our life, in our day, that we get confronted with a decision. Sometimes it is really no big deal, do I want cheese on my burger or no? Should I wear these socks or go get my favorite ones from the laundry. Then there are ones that are more important. Should I go study or watch another TV show? And even more serious. They invited me to a party with drugs, should I go? I could take that and nobody would know. Should I tell my parents or an adult about what happened or keep it to myself?

Every decision we make means something. When you ask Jesus in your heart everything changes. You can't live your life doing the same things, make those bad decisions anymore without knowing in your heart it is wrong. He will help you be prepared for hard things. Talking to Him in prayer and reading your bible is what you do to prepare for the biggest adventure of your life - your life as a follower of Jesus.



February: Gear Head

One of the coolest things about outdoor adventure, hunting, fishing etc. is the gear. So many cool things you can use. Suppressors for guns and mechanical broad-heads for your arrows. Fishing tackle of every shape and size. Mountain gear, ropes, clips, tents and backpacks are all incredibly cool.

Scripture: Matthew 6:21, for where your treasure is there will be your heart also..

KOZ: Gear is so cool. Every flashlight, gun, knife. Can you ever have too many of any of those things? The problem with gear and a lot of things is that there are just that, things. Eventually you will get bored with them. They will get lost, rust or become the older model. How many video games have you had that the next year were the "old one"? What about a cell phone? The only thing that you can really count on to get better and help you pick things that have real value is Jesus. If you know Him, if you spend time learning about Him and invite Him to be a part of your life you will find things that never get old, never rust and never bore you. Friends, family, church are things you can really enjoy if you try. Reading your bible, listening to Christian music and making it point to try to do those things are where life's real value is. When you die you won't be able to take one of those "things" with you. (**Timothy 6:7**, For we have brought nothing into this world, so we cannot take anything out of it either) But people will remember you and what you found important. They will say he "was a good friend" or "he always just wanted to play video games". When you have the right heart gear, your life adventure will be epic!

March: Green scales, sharp teeth and poisonous fins.

Did you know that the fins on a catfish are dangerous. They can stick into your hand or foot and you will have to go to the emergency room and get them cut out. Did you know that if a bass was as big as a car it would be more dangerous than a great white shark. Fishing is one of the best outdoor days you can ever have. There are so many different kinds of fishing. Ice, lake, stream, river, ocean and more. But in each of them there are a few things that are exactly the same.

Scripture: Mark 1: 16-17, And as He was going along the sea of Galilee, He saw Simon, Andrew, the brother of Simon, casting a net in the sea: for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men."



KOZ: Jesus was not looking for the fancy priests or rich guys for His team. He picked regular guys, fishermen. Does that make sense? Why wouldn't He not go to the college or the government? He actually did start teach some of them, but He wanted you and me to know that even us, we can be and are really important to Him. We can do incredible things for Jesus. These fishermen wrote a lot of the bible. They started most of the churches in the world way back then. Now look at what they did and how it has effected you, me, the whole world. God wants you to know you are valuable, important and you can do great things, if you ask Him into your heart and follow Him. Wow.

April: Crafts and outdoor projects: We are responsible to make sure we take care of the outdoors. The hunters, fishermen, hikers and climbers are the ones who really do the most when it comes to conservation and habitat for the animals. This month you are going to get your hands dirty. You are going to craft, restore or fix something that you will see later helped wildlife in some way.

Scripture: Mathew 10: 37-38, Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.

KOZ: So much to do. It always seems like there is so much to do. Things to get done at school, at home. Homework, school projects, take out the trash, mow the lawn, clean your room. What about finding time to do something like cleaning up a hiking trail, picking up trash along the river bank, putting out duck boxes? All the things you need to do are important but what about sharing your experiences with God with a friends? What about praying with a friend? What about telling them about accepting Jesus in their heart so you will spend eternity, forever, with them in heaven? Do you know what that means? Do you know Romans 10:9 or John 3:16? Have you prayed for Jesus in your heart? There are a lot of people out there you need help. There are a lot of people hurting. Knowing Jesus can be the first step to helping them and you can be the one to share that with them.

May: Living off the land: Would you know what plant to eat or what bug tastes good if you had to eat them? Have you ever picked wild berries or made pine needle tea? How do you know what is safe and not safe? Can you just eat grass and get fat like a cow? Have you ever had poison ivy, poison oak or sumac? What kind of plants are like medicine? How did the Indians survive?



Scripture: Galatians 6: 6-7, And let the one who is taught the word share all good things with him who teaches. Do not be deceived, God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.

KOZ: Eating bugs and learning about God, how much more awesome can that be? Do you think it would be important if you were in the woods to point out the poisonous plants to a friend who might not know what they were? What if they were going to sit up against poison ivy, you could teach them right? It feels good to teach other people things you know. What about teaching a friend who is going through a hard time how to pray? Would you laugh at your friend if they messes up and did not know how to pray? Has anyone ever made fun of you because you were a Christian or praying? God wants you to tell others about Him and when you do He loves it. He wants you to learn about Him and tell others. That is super important. If you need help on what to say to a friend or family, talk to a KOZ leader.

June: Meat eating predators. The Carnivore

You are the top of the food chain. Man can and will eat just about any other animal. There are also a lot of animals that would eat a man. Animals that eat meat, carnivores, range in all sizes. Many ants eat meat just like a lion or wolf, coyote or badger. They don't usually barbeque or season it up, but they like it all just the same.

Scripture: 1 Samuel 17: 34-35, But David said to Saul. "Your servant was tending his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and took a lamb from the flock, I went out after him and rescued it from his mouth, and when he rose up against me, I seized him by his beard and struck him and killed him.

KOZ: There are so many things that eat us up today. Most of don't have to worry about lions, bears or wolves in our lives. But sometimes it can seem worse if we are having trouble at home, our parents are fighting, your dad left, school is really hard, somebody is sick. Those things can be so painful. It almost seems like it would be easier to go track down a bear, pull your pet dog from his mouth and then fight the bear. But God wanted us to hear the story of David for a reason, like every story in the bible. We need to know that even the little guy, even when it seems like it might be impossible to get over something, study hard and pass a test, tell your parents something, quit a bad habit, we can. With God we can. He is always there and so are you KOZ leaders. Talk to us, we want to help you fight and win the battle. So does God. Pray for him in your heart and win!



July: It's all about the gun!

Big bang, little bang, laser sites, suppressors, single shot or rapid fire, guns are amazing. There are few things that we enjoy more than a good gun and the way it feels, the way it shoots. New guns and gun gear, laser guided, long range, faster and faster automatics. Even guns designed in the early 1900's and before are still top of the line. When it comes to KOZ, shooting fun, hunting and personal protection, guns are a favorite.

Scripture: James 1:19, This you know my beloved brethren. But let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger.

KOZ: Shooting guns can be really fun. But they are really loud, they can kick on your shoulder and hurt sometimes. The scope can be way off and you will miss or you just have not figured out how to aim a shotgun so you can hit your targets. When things are not going our way it is easy to get frustrated, angry, mad. We can blame everyone but ourselves, everything is wrong but me. God tells us not to get mad. He tells us to listen, be slow in talking back. It can be really hard sometimes to hold our selves back from being mad or mean but when we do, it is always better. We feel better, things turn out better and God smiles at us.

August: Water, water everywhere

On a hot summer day a swimming pool full of cool water can be a huge relief. A dip in the lake, river or the ocean can be just as refreshing. When you don't feel good a shower can help you feel better. Water is also absolutely necessary for life. Animals need it, fish need it, people, plants, everything. When we have a drought it can be a major disaster. You would not want to jump into a water hole full of trash or chemicals. What if there were dead fish everywhere. Yuk. Water is important in so many ways.

Scripture: Genesis 1:1-2, *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.*

KOZ: When Jesus began his ministry he went down to the river to see one of His best friends, John. John was telling everyone that Jesus was coming and he began baptizing them. Back then baptizing was considered a cleansing. John, known as John the Baptist, baptized Jesus right when He started His ministry work. It was important for Jesus. Baptism today is a sign we use to let people know we have prayed for Christ in our hearts and want to live a life with Him. Have you been baptized? Would you like to be? Water, simply amazing, totally God.



September: Bird of the fall - winging it

Is it not amazing that ducks will fly all the way from Canada to Mexico and further south? Even humming birds and others migrate from north to south. These are all considered migratory birds. Now you would not want to hunt humming birds but there are the migratory "game" birds. To keep the duck, goose, dove and other game populations healthy, hunting plays a big role. Camo clothes, shot guns, duck calls and working dogs all make this time of year amazing.

Scripture: Genesis 1:20, And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens."

KOZ: What God did in those first six day was huge. He created the earth and everything on it. He specifically made night and day, water and land, animals that could fly, swim and walk. There are some people who don't believe that God could have done that. They think it was an explosion or a bug in the ocean. The very first words in the bible tell us the story and it was day four that God created our migratory game birds. He created all the animals on the fourth and fifth day. It is really important for us to trust what the bible tells us. When you look at the fine detail of a feather. When you think about how it started out as a blob in an egg then grows on a bird, a part of a wing that lifted a bird into the air. That is pretty important and hard to think it was an accident that came from an explosion or a bug in the ocean. God creates amazing and wonderful creatures of all types. Take you for instance. You are unique and special in your very own way. God loves us each and every one and he has a purpose for us. He has a purpose just for you. You are amazing.

October: The Quiver and Bow

The bow and arrow. Since the beginning man used the bow and arrow to hunt. Crafted from woods and bamboo, feathers and stones, high strength plastic and fibers to steel and aluminum they are incredible. Archery is one of the most popular sports too. Some schools have archery as a Physical Education program. The Olympics have archery competitions. Youth shooters, kids, are some of the best shooters in archery. Patience, a steady hand and practice makes for a good bow hunter and Olympic champion.

Scripture: Mathew 26:75, And Peter remembered the word which Jesus had said< Before the cock crows you will deny me three times. And he went out and wept bitterly.

KOZ: Archery is a fun sport and a great way to learn to hunt. The skills you need to hunt with a bow are very special. It takes a lot of practice and you will shoot a lot of arrows that won't hit the target. I can tell you this now because every archer learns that way. When Jesus told Peter he was going to deny knowing Him Peter was upset. He said he would never do that to Jesus,



his best friend and mentor. But when it came down to it he got scared, he lied. Jesus was right. The adults in your life don't want you to make the same mistakes they made. They want to help you learn the right way, to tell the truth and make good choices. Have you ever lied and later felt bad about it. We all do at some point. But when you know Jesus in your heart, He forgives us. He forgave Peter (John 21:15-17). If you have something you need to ask forgiveness for pray and go do it. That is a gift we get from God, the gift of our heart.

November: All things deer, that's all.

Deer season is one of the coolest times of the year for hunters. The weather is cool or cold. The deer are moving around. Many people use deer hunting to put meat in the freezer so they have it all year long. Archery, rifle and cross bow are the tools we use. There is a lot that goes into getting ready to hunt deer, then the minute after you harvest a deer the work gets even harder. Getting the deer to a place where you can clean it, get it ready for the butcher or freezer. But the time with friends, the time in the woods and when you sit down to that nice deer meat dinner. That is always memories you will never forget.

Scripture: Colossians 4:2, Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving.

KOZ: When you're in the woods, hiking up a mountain or fishing. There is a lot of time to be alone or quiet. Those are great times to talk with Jesus. There is nothing fancy about talking to Him, just talk to Him like you would an adult, a mentor, a parent. You have to keep alert to watch for movement in the woods or you bait from getting taken off your hook. God wants us to stay alert and think about Him. It is also important while you are sitting there, in your sit spot of deer blind, on the boat or even in the car or at school, be thankful. There are so many other things that we could be dealing with, worries about home, school friends. But for that time in the woods, on the lake, give Jesus a shout out. Tell him thanks for the woods, the lake, the deer, the fish and the blessing just to be able to be there.

December: Gifting

Christmas time is when everyone thinks about helping others. If you have been spending time at KOZ then you have learned some powerful things. You have heard about how much God loves us, how often he forgives us. You have done some really cool things too. There are so many people who never to do the things you get to do at KOZ. We always want to remember that it is important to treat others the way we want to be treated. Take this time this week, this month and do something big for someone else. Give back for God, give back for KOZ, give back for you.



Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9: 6-7, Now this I say, he who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully. Let each on do just as he is purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

KOZ: When do you give back? It is so important to be a giver and not just a taker. If you ever give with a happy heart you will feel something special inside. That is a giving heart. Sometime it seems crazy to give away our money or things we own, things we want. But God talks about it and He wants to see us be joyful givers. Take time this month and look for ways to give back, look for ways to help others. If you ask God to tell you who and what, He will. The ability to think about others and not us is a huge step in your walk with Jesus. Go for it, give it away or help others. It matters.

OPTIONAL

Hike it out

How many steps is it to the top? What is the altitude? How long is this trail? Hiking can be one of the best outdoor activities. Some people think that hiking is no fun without a firearm or bow but it is the same challenge. Can I go to the top, can I get there. Dark green wooded areas and rocky cliffs are amazing. Hot temperatures at the beginning and cold jacket weather at the top, wow. Pick a hiking stick, put on you walking shoes and get outside!

Scripture: Ephesians 5:15, Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise.

KOZ: Life can be hard. Some days it seems like just getting out of bed is so hard. But it is at just those moments, those times you have to "do hard things." How many times have you faced something you thought you would never be able to push through and you made it. As a matter of fact they become hard to even remember what they were. And that is what it can be like when you are getting close to the top of a peak or the end of a long hike. You had to push through something hard, you saw lots of cool stuff, you had fun. You were careful not to step over the edge, walk into a cactus or take the wrong trail. You were smart. your thought about it. That is how your walk with Christ needs to be. You need to think about it, be mindful, spend time thinking about Him and how you are doing. He wants to help you with the hard things, the things that hurt and confuse you, but you have to do your part too. Walk with Him, talk to Him, listen to Him. He cares.