Date: 4/21/18

Title: Sin Detector

Theme: God has given you a conscience: listen to it.

Object: Smoke Detector.

Text: 1 Peter 5:8 (NLT) 8 Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

The Bible says there is an enemy after us.

He’s prowling around like a hungry lion looking for someone to devour.

Do you know who it is? (It’s the devil, isn’t it?)

He’s always trying to get us to sin and disobey God’s commandments.

He hopes that, when we sin, we’ll turn our back on Jesus, and we’ll live for the devil instead.

That’s how he’s trying to devour us.

So the Bible tells us we need to stay alert and watch out for the devil and his temptations.

Well I brought something in my bag this morning that can alert us to danger.

Does anyone know what this is?

[Show smoke detector. Explain how it works. Give a demo. Show battery inside. Ask what they would do if they heard in in the night.]

If you want to be safe from fire in your house, you need a smoke detector that has a good battery and works.

Did you know that God has given to each of us a kind of smoke detector for sin?

We can call it a “sin detector: It’s called our conscience, and it’s right here in our brain.

It’s not real loud like this smoke detector.

In fact, it’s very, very quiet: You have to listen very carefully to hear your conscience alert you to sin.

The Bible says that the Holy Spirit convicts us of sin.

That means He makes us realize that sin is wrong.

And when we sin and disobey God, we feel guilty.

We feel like we’ve done something bad and have really disappointed God.

So our conscience is like a smoke detector that goes off when we’re tempted to disobey God and sin.

When Satan comes around and tempts you to disobey God, then listen to your conscience.

Think about how you’re going to feel if you follow Satan instead of God.

And if you think you’re going to feel guilty and disappoint God, then don’t do it.

Your conscience is like a smoke detector that warns you against leaving God and following Satan.

Do you know the sad thing that happens to some people?

Instead of listening to their conscience they give in to temptation so often that their conscience doesn’t bother them anymore.

It’s like taking the battery out of the smoke detector.

And when that happens, they don’t care about following Jesus anymore. How sad.

How many would like to keep their “sin detector” working so you can always follow Jesus and be His disciple?

Let’s ask Him to help us today.