

## God's Animal Kingdom Classroom

# *Cat*



Cats are loving and affectionate but they often like to stay apart from what is going on around them. Many people think that this means cats are not friendly, but that is not true. They just do not want to follow the crowd. Cats are graceful and agile as they move from one place to another and as they avoid animals that would like to hurt them.

**What can we learn from the cat?**

Cats teach us to think for ourselves and not follow others who may be doing something harmful. Cats also teach us to avoid hurtful things gracefully.

When we do not think for ourselves, we let others think for us. This is dangerous because we may be led away from God and His ways by people who do not believe in Him. We are also in danger of having Satan lead us into dangerous ways of living and thinking. Jesus tells us in John 15:19, *"You do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. This is why the world hates you."* Jesus also tells us in John 16:33, *"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."* We belong to Jesus, not to the world and its sinful ways. That is why we must always think for ourselves and, like the cat, avoid going along with the crowd. We should always follow the teachings of the Bible and pray for the faith and wisdom to live the way Jesus teaches us to live. There is only one leader we should follow and that is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The cat also teaches us to avoid harmful things gracefully. The cat will get out of harm's way with graceful movements. It may run or jump or climb away from danger. If it must defend itself, the cat

has both claws and teeth that can do a lot of damage to an enemy. When we are faced with the dangers of sin and those who want us to join them in doing sinful things, we should act like the cat and gracefully get away from harm. The Bible teaches us in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 10:13, *“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.”*

When others want us to join them in sinful things, we should ask God for help to avoid the temptation. God is powerful and can protect us. We do not need claws and teeth like the cat to defend ourselves from sin for we have a more powerful weapon. That weapon is our faith in Jesus who has overcome the world and sin. Jesus will help us to fight sin and the devil since He has already won against them.

Just as the cat is graceful, we are filled with grace thanks to Jesus and the forgiveness of sins He gives us as a gift. The grace we receive from Jesus covers all of our sins. The Bible teaches us in Romans 5:20, *“Where sin increased, grace*

*increased all the more so that just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”*

No matter how badly we sin, God’s grace increases to cover all of our sins so that with faith in Jesus as our Savior, we will have eternal life instead of eternal punishment for our sins. The beauty of God’s grace should be as easily seen in us as it is in the graceful movements of the cat.

