

News Story Summary

Four-year-old Kelsi Butt survived an attack by a mountain lion in August while she and her family were camping at Green Canyon Hot Springs Resort in Idaho. When she was attacked, Kelsi's mom heard the screams, and went to rescue her daughter by yelling and chasing the lion. He dropped Kelsi and ran away. Kelsi sustained some bite punctures and bruises, but was otherwise fine. The parents had actually spotted the cat earlier and were watchful as a result. Experts say their close watch and quick thinking saved the child's life. Afterward, Kelsi asked her mom why she hadn't video taped the incident. The mom replied, "Well I was busy saving your life!"

Experts suggest that if you should encounter a mountain lion, you should stand your ground and look him in the eye. Don't run, crouch, or bend over. Make yourself look larger than you are by opening your jacket and waving your arms. If these actions don't work, throw rocks or branches in the lion's direction.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the phrase "4-year-old attacked by mountain lion.")

Focus Attention

Introduce the study by sharing the news story. Emphasize the fact that the parents were ALERT to the presence of a mountain lion. They knew of the danger, they watched closely, and they acted quickly. Ask: *How did their awareness impact their actions?* Explain that today's lesson from 1 Peter 5 includes a warning about Satan prowling around like a lion looking for someone to devour. Invite the group to join you in study to see what we are told to do in light of the danger.

Challenge

Point to the news story, emphasizing the actions recommended by experts if attacked by a mountain lion. Lead the group to identify actions presented by Peter that a person should take in defense of an attack by Satan. Invite the group to reflect on how Satan has attacked them or is now attacking them, and to write a plan based on today's lesson of defending themselves against this threat.