6th Grade Summer Reading: Religion

Part 1: Read *Dragon Slayers: The Essential Training Guide for Young Dragon Fighters* by Joyce Denham (Amazon link here)

Background Information:

Young people face challenges every day—-anxiety, fear, self-doubt, anger, apathy, gossip, shame. These "dragons" threaten to bring kids down or hold them back. This creative yet intentional, power-packed book trains kids to become Dragon Slayers who recognize and ward off threats with faith and courage. Readers will be empowered to put on the Spiritual Armor, follow teachings of the Ancient Manual (the Bible), and rely on Jesus, the Chief Dragon Slayer. Powerful prayers and encouragement to consult Senior Dragon Slayers of Old (or Christian heroes) throughout history allows 8- to 12-year-olds to grow in their faith, ask for help, and identify harmful threats to their emotional, spiritual and mental well-being. Dragon Slayers will instigate conversation while preparing your kids for every obstacle life might throw at them!

Part 2: Writing Assignment

After reading *Dragon Slayers*, answer the below questions in your religion journal:

1. What does it mean to be a "dragon slayer" in this book?
   (Is it about real dragons, or something else?)
2. What kind of "dragons" do young people have to fight today?
   (Think about fears, temptations, or bad habits.)
3. What are some of the "weapons" the book says you need to fight dragons?
   (Which virtues or tools are most important?)
4. Why is training and preparation important for a dragon fighter?
   (How does this relate to your own life?)
5. What does the guide say about courage? How can you show courage in your everyday life?
6. Who are the "mentors" or "guides" in the book, and what do they represent?
   (Do you have people like that in your life?)
7. What lesson from the book stood out the most to you? Why?
8. How does the book use fantasy to teach real-life spiritual or moral lessons?
9. Was there a dragon (or chapter) that reminded you of something you've struggled with? How?
10. After reading this book, what's one way you want to grow stronger as a "dragon slayer" in your own life?

BONUS Reading

- *Giorgio's Miracle* by Laurie Schmitt (Amazon link)
- *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien
- *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis (Amazon link here)