



Kindergarten-2nd

May 6-7, 2017

DATE

The Armor of God

LESSON TITLE

Ephesians 4-6

WHERE TO FIND IT

We need God's strength (and his armor) to act like Jesus.

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (15 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (15 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you all have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

Today, we're talking about the theme of Ephesians 4-6: how to live as Jesus followers. Before the weekend, read it on your own and ask the Holy Spirit to prepare you to discuss it with kids.

check-in/out

As kids leave, remind them to tell their parents about God's armor—and why we need it!

large group heads up

Today, we're looking at the second half of Ephesians, in which Paul instructs the people of Ephesus on how to live as Jesus-followers. But, since God has an enemy who constantly tries to get us to mess up, God has given us special armor to give us strength to stand up to the devil's temptations.



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

SURVIVAL ACTIVITY

- Split kids into **groups of 4-6** (Kindergarteners may need to be in bigger groups so that a volunteer can be with each one.)
- Tell them they are stuck on a deserted island.
- Give them **1 brown paper bag** and **3 pieces of paper** for the group.
- In order to survive, they must **AGREE** on three items they can take with them.
- They can talk about what they want to bring; then **draw/write one item per piece of paper, stuff it in the bag, and take into large group.**
- Check your group's bags. If they settled on three items before Large Group starts, tell them to bring their brown bag to Large Group and set it in the presentation area before they sit down.

TALK ABOUT IT

- Was it hard to agree? Why or why not?
- What kinds of things did you disagree about?

Before you go to Large Group, you can ask kids how their week went. You can also remind kids of the expectations for Large Group behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) recognize that we need God's strength to follow Jesus and stand up to Satan's temptations and (2) begin to understand what it means to "wear" God's armor

Why? Wearing God's armor can be tough to understand, but taking the time to look at what it means is important: it's the way we have the strength to live as Jesus-followers!

Tip: Kids may have questions about Jesus. This is an in-depth lesson that does require a base knowledge of Jesus' Rescue. Encourage kids to read their Bibles and visit the website on their armor sheet. Don't be afraid to tell them that you don't have all the answers.

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Why do you think Paul tells Jesus-followers to work together?
2. What are some of the things Paul instructed Jesus-followers to do (from the game)?
3. Why do you think we need God's power and strength to do those things?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

- Say: Let's remember the armor God gives us to give us the strength to follow him.
- Give each kid a **image of a figure** and set out **markers** to decorate the figure.
- Then, step by step, give kids the appropriate **stickers** to put on the image. They can either **put it directly on the figure**, or **put the stickers beside the figure and draw a line to where that piece of armor goes**. (Beside each sticker description is a suggestion for kids to write/do. Kindergarteners/younger kids may not be able to do that part, so they can just put the stickers on, etc.)
- **Sticker 1: BELT OF TRUTH:** stick on the belt (*Write one true thing they know about God. Give ideas if they need help. Ex: God loves me, God is good, etc.*)
- **Sticker 2: BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS:** stick on breastplate (*Write one bad choice they made this week. Cross it out completely with a marker. Say: Because Jesus died to rescue them, they can always turn from what they did wrong—no matter what it is—and do right!*)
- **Sticker 3: SHOES OF GOOD NEWS:** put this sticker on the feet (*On the foot, write the name or initials of one friend they could tell about Jesus.*)
- **Sticker 4: SHIELD OF FAITH:** stick on the shield (*Write one truth about God, could be the one they wrote on the belt.*)
- **Sticker 5: SWORD OF THE SPIRIT:** stick on the sword (This means God's word, the Bible, and it's FULL of God's truth. It's our one weapon, so we must read it. Ask kids if they have a Bible at home. If they don't, give them one!).

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- **Sticker 6: SALVATION:** stick on helmet
 - Ask: What does salvation mean? (We are rescued or saved by Jesus. If kids want to know more, let them ask!)

***If kids want to know more, encourage them to read their Bibles at home. Pray with them, asking God to cover the group with His armor this week and asking that each kid will be able to depend on his power.**

Extra time? Try to find specific instructions Paul gives us by looking at Ephesians 4-6; then figure out how the armor could help make the right choice! Or play the Connect Time survival game again, but this time let groups choose 10 items. As always, you can also gather together and re-watch today's videos.

special notes

Remind kids (like Paul reminds the Ephesians) that living like Jesus is easier when we help each other out. It's not the main point of today's lesson, but it's an overarching theme in Ephesians.

presenter tips

Watch today's video here!

God's Story / Armor of God:
<https://vimeo.com/75364291>

script

WELCOME AND INTRO

Main Goal: Review Connect Time and introduce the lesson.

Notes:

***Click to play intro music.**

- **Say:** Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. I'm so happy to see you today! You guys have been working together to SURVIVE, right? Looks like some of you would have made it.
- **Say:** Let's see what you would have brought (Randomly, choose 2-3 bags and read what the teams would have brought. You can ask other kids if they agree or disagree.) It's hard to work together sometimes, isn't it? We're all so different. But we can do a lot more if we help each other out. Kind of like these guys:
- **Video: Teamwork Crabs**
- **Say:** Those guys in the video were just cartoons. But we are really living as a part of God's family and trying to follow Jesus! And today we're talking about Ephesians, which is a bunch of letters written by a guy named Paul, who wrote to people that followed Jesus.
- **Say:** And throughout the whole book, Paul kept reminding the Ephesians that when we follow Jesus, we should work together and help each other. The letters were written a long time ago to people in a city called Ephesus ("EH-fuh-suhs").

INTRO: EPHESIANS

Main Goal: Introduce the book of Ephesians.

- **Say:** Today, we're going to talk about a book in the Bible called Ephesians. Can you say, "Ephesians"? (Let kids respond.) In this part of this book, Paul tells us how to act if we follow Jesus.
- **Say:** We don't have time to read the whole book of Ephesians together. So we're going to play a game to learn the quick version of some of the things Paul said to the Ephesians.
- **Say:** To play, stand up (let kids stand). If I say something that sounds like how a person who follows Jesus would act, take a giant step forward. If I say something that does not sound like something a person who follows Jesus would do, take a giant step backwards.

EPHESIANS GAME

Main Goal: Play an active game to help kids recognize what is and isn't following Jesus!

- **Say:** (Read the following statements. When they require kids to take a step backwards, make sure you re-read it correctly-see below.)
 - Be gentle. (forward)
 - Be patient. (forward)
 - If somebody's different than you, ignore them. (backwards)(Say: We should help and support each other.)
 - Lie. (backwards)(Say: We should speak truth.)
 - Hold a grudge (stay mad for as long as you feel like it). (backwards)(Say: Don't let the sun go down while you are angry.)
 - Don't steal. (forward)
 - Don't say mean things. (forward)
 - Get rid of hatred. (forward)
 - Be kind to each other. (forward)
 - Give thanks for everything. (forward)
 - Obey your parents when you feel like it. (backward)
 - Obey your parents. (forward)

FOLLOWING JESUS TAKES STRENGTH

- **Say:** OK, so those are some of the things that are written, word for word, in Ephesians! You guys did a good job figuring out which ones were things people following Jesus would do. Now you can have a seat. (Let kids sit.)
- **Say:** Those are things we often try to do today, aren't they? But the problem is, always acting like Jesus... doing things like being kind and patient with people, forgiving others, and obeying your parents... are all hard to do!

FOLLOWING JESUS TAKES STRENGTH

Main Goal: Understand that it is hard to follow God, so we need to be prepared.

- **Say:** I mean, how many of you have done one of the things Paul told the Ephesians not to do? (Let kids raise hands; raise your own.) Yeah, me too.
- **Say:** Let's see what Paul said first in his letter:
- **Slide: Ephesians 6:10-11 Finally, let the Lord make you strong. Depend on his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor. Then you can stand firm against the devil's evil plans.**
- **Say:** You know, it's hard to always make right choices and act like Jesus, because God has an enemy. We call Satan or the devil, and he wants us to mess up.
- **Say:** In fact, in the very beginning of God's Story, he convinced the first man and woman who ever lived—Adam and Eve—to disobey God. And now, we all make bad choices sometimes. And the devil is constantly trying to get us to turn away from God by disobeying him.

THE ARMOR OF GOD

Main Goal: Understand what the armor of God represents, and how we can use it as followers of Jesus!

- **Say:** Fortunately, Jesus took our punishment when he rescued us, so when we mess up, we can turn away from our sin and follow Jesus again. And we can actually put on "God's armor" to fight against Satan and fight FOR God!
- **Say:** That's kind of hard to understand because God's armor isn't like the actual clothes you're wearing. Let's watch a video to try to understand what it means. As you watch, pretend you're putting on the armor. Imagine it covering you.
- **Video: God's Story: Armor of God**
- **Say:** Wow, that's amazing, isn't it? It's hard to understand exactly what that armor is like. But we know we can ask the Lord to make us strong—and stay focused on remembering that Jesus died for us and that no matter what we do, we can turn away from our disobedience and follow God again.
- **Say:** But remember, we NEED God's help to follow Jesus, so you can ask for his armor every day. And if you mess up, just ask God for his help to start fighting to follow Jesus again!



script continued

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Main Goal: Close the lesson with prayer and worship.

- **Pray:** Ask somebody to come ask God to cover us in his armor and help us live like Jesus this week.
- **Say:** Let's now worship God and tell him we want him to help us follow Jesus!
- **Music Video: Jesus Loves Me**
- **Music Video: Brave Ones**

Dismiss kids to small groups.



connect questions

Tell me about the Armor of God.

What does Paul teach us about acting like Jesus?

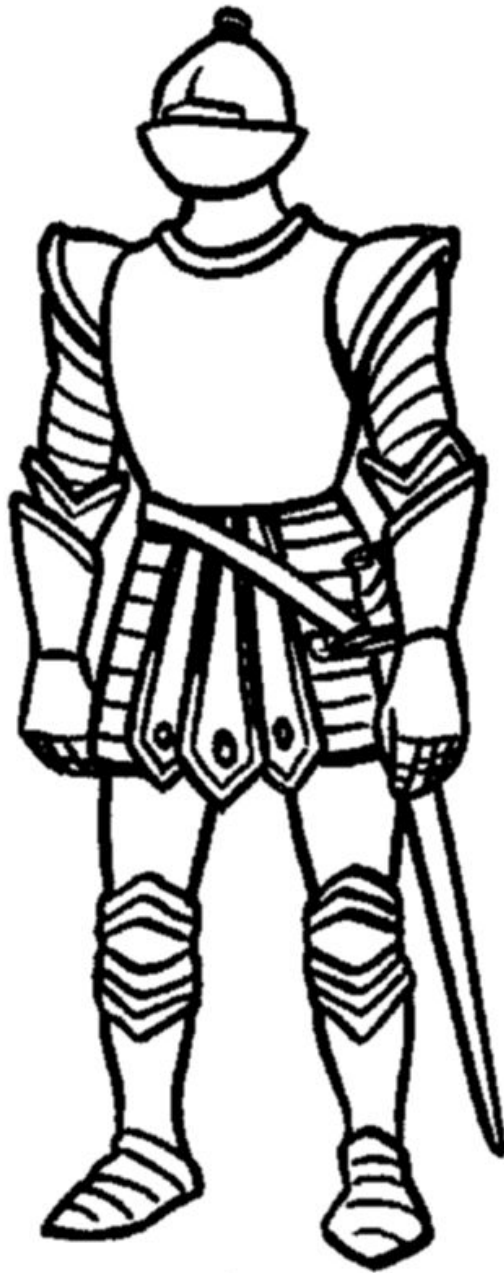
lesson supplies

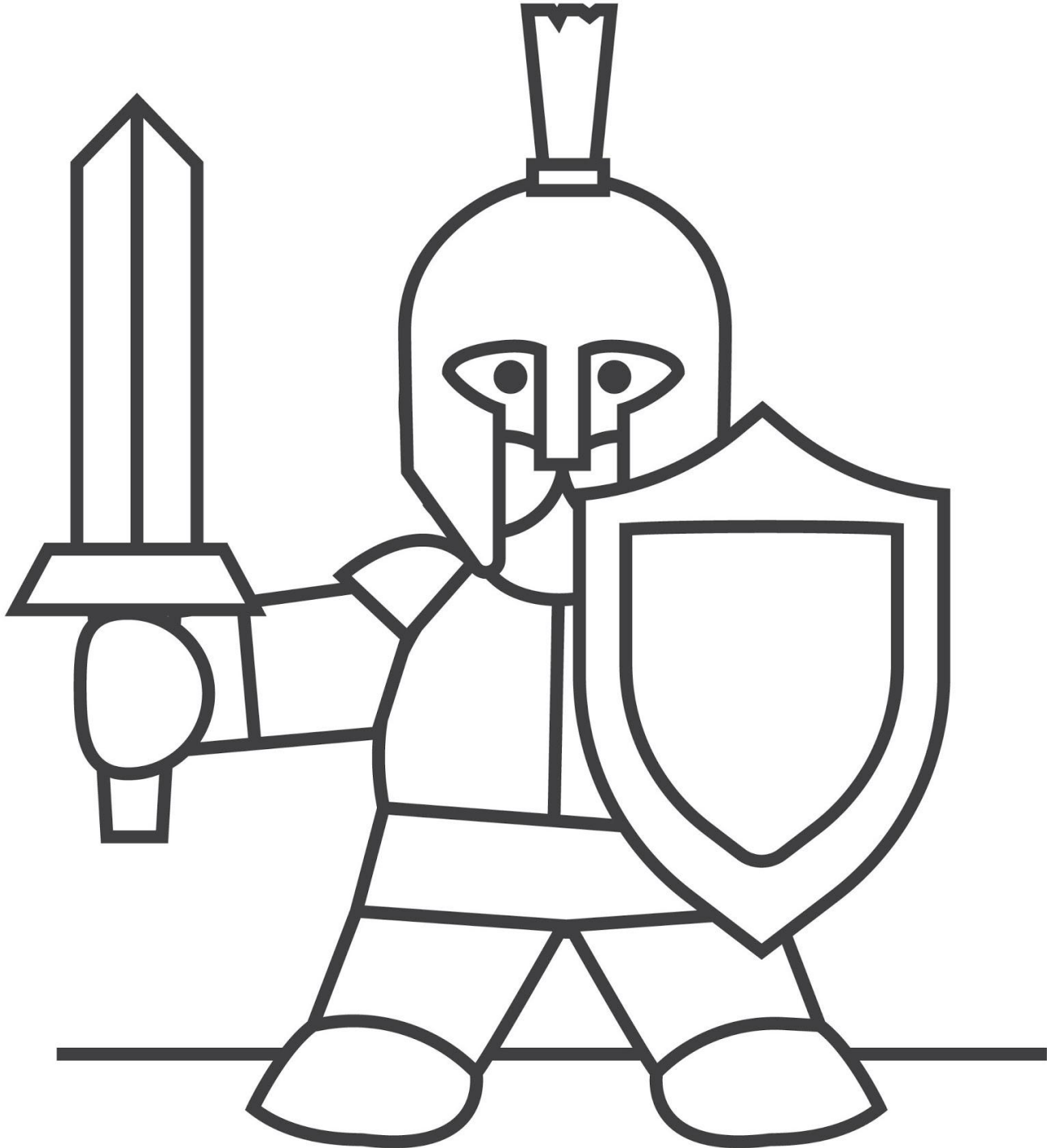
Connect Time			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Paper Bag	1 per group of 4-6 kids	Sam's Club; Brown Paper Bag ; Item #12528; lunch size	KC Central
Paper	3 per group of 4-6 kids	8.5x11, white	site
Markers	1 set per small group, reused		site

Small Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Markers	1 set per small group, reused		site
Coloring Page - Armor	1 per kid	Page 10, white paper, black & white	site
Armor of God figure	1 per kid	Black and white; 8.5x11 cardstock; Page 11	site
Sticker 1: Truth	1 per kid	Page 12 , Avery 5293, color	site
Sticker 2: Righteousness	1 per kid	Page 13 , Avery 5293, color	site
Sticker 3: Good News	1 per kid	Page 14 , Avery 5293, color	site
Sticker 4: Faith	1 per kid	Page 15 , Avery 5293, color	site
Sticker 5: Bible	1 per kid	Page 16 , Avery 5293, color	site
Sticker 6: Salvation	1 per kid	Page 17 , Avery 5293, color	site

Large Group			
Item	Usage	Details	Provided by
Adventure Bible for Early Readers	1 per room		site

name







Belt of Truth



Belt of Truth



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Good News



Good News



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Good News



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A/V needs

Kindergarten-2nd



1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
1. Video: Teamwork Crabs (KC/SM media videos songs>videos>misc)
2. Slide: Ephesians 6:10-11 Finally, let the Lord make you strong. Depend on his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor. Then you can stand firm against the devil's evil plans.
3. Video: God's Story: Armor of God (<https://vimeo.com/75364291>)
4. Music Video: Jesus Loves Me (<https://vimeo.com/44164426>)
5. Music Video: Brave Ones (<https://vimeo.com/126214265>)