

Armor of God

"How to Win Against Sin"

Lesson 5

Shield of Faith

Scripture Reference:

- **Ephesians 6:11-18**

Ephesians 6:16:

And also use the shield of faith. With that you can stop all the burning arrows of the Evil One.

Who remembers what we have been learning about? That's right, we are learning about the armor of God and how to WIN AGAINST SIN! Say this with me: **With Jesus, I can win against sin!** Just like knights and soldiers wear armor to protect themselves from being attacked, we wear the armor of God to protect us from being attacked by Satan.

Last week we learned the third piece of Armor. Do you remember what that was? Shoes of Peace:

This piece (peace) of the armor of God helps us stand firm in life's storms as well as for eternity. It is worth going and sharing it with others!

- What other pieces have we learned about? *The Belt of Truth and Breastplate of Righteousness!*

The fourth piece of armor is the **Shield of Faith**. The shield of faith moves to cover our doubts and struggles. The more faith we have in our Lord, the less likely we are to be hurt when Satan attacks.

- It is also important to remember that our God is always faithful to us. When we take up the shield of faith, we don't do it through our own strength, but through God's strength.
- Satan tries to get us to sin, but since we love God, we don't want to sin. We want to live righteous lives.

Who can tell me what righteous means? **Righteous means being right with God.**

We are righteous when we follow God and don't let any sin into our hearts.

Ephesians 6:11-18 gives us a list of the pieces of armor: Belt, breastplate, shoes and shield, helmet and sword! This is the armor of our Lord. Much like the armor the soldiers or knights wore in battle. Here is picture of a Knight in his armor:

Ephesians 6:13-17 (NIV)



Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist,

with the breastplate of righteousness in place,

and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Knights wear a lot of armor, don't they?

It doesn't seem like there is any weakness in all that metal, but they still need to carry a shield. No matter how well protected a warrior may seem, there is always a weakness somewhere.

All the enemy has to do is find the weakness and they will be able to take the knight down. That's why warriors have shields. What makes the shield different from the other pieces of armor? Have a few students answer. *Unlike the other pieces of armor, the shield isn't strapped on to a certain part of your body. The shield can move to cover weaknesses in a warrior's armor and keep arrows from piercing through.*

Great warriors know how to use their shield to protect them from danger. We need to do the same thing with the **Shield of Faith**.

Why do you think God uses a shield to represent faith? Let children answer. *Faith covers areas of our lives where we struggle with sins or where we just don't know the answer to a question.*

Hebrews 11:1-3 & 11:8-12 tells us of Abraham in the Old Testament who had faith to get through difficult situations.

"It was by faith Abraham obeyed God's call to go to another place that God promised to give him. He left his own country, not knowing where he was to go. ⁹ It was by faith that he lived in the country God promised to give him. He lived there like a visitor who did not belong. He lived in tents with Isaac and Jacob, who had received that same promise from God. ¹⁰ Abraham was waiting for the city^[a] that has real foundations—the city planned and built by God.

¹¹ He was too old to have children, and Sarah was not able to have children. It was by faith that Abraham was made able to become a father. Abraham trusted God to do what he had promised.^[b] ¹² This man was so old that he was almost dead. But from him came as many descendants as there are stars in the sky. They are as many as the grains of sand on the seashore that cannot be counted."

Abraham and Sarah trusted that God would provide them with a child. Then when God fulfilled this promise, He asked Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac. Now think about how you would feel if you got something you really, really wanted from God, and then you were told to give it back, you couldn't have it anymore? That's exactly what God asked Abraham to do. But Abraham knew that God **wouldn't** break His promise. He had faith that God would pull through.

That's because **GOD IS ALWAYS FAITHFUL.**

The Shield of Faith is not only our faithfulness to God, but it is also God's faithfulness to us.

When we are faithful, it means we completely **trust** that God will protect us in our war against Satan. The problem is, when we doubt these things, we are not being faithful. That's why God is faithful to us.

He will never leave us. Even when we sin and doubt God, he is still there to protect us. When we believe that, we are picking up the shield of faith.

Now let's all practice our memory verse together.

Memory Verse: Ephesians 6:11 - "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."

Craft: Shield of Faith

Supplies: Cardstock Shield, Coloring page of crest, glue, markers and crayons, scissors.

Duck Tape or Velcro straps.

Have the children color their shield crest.

Glue onto the Cardstock shield.

Attach a loop of duct tape or Velcro strap for handle.



Activities: Practice “Put on the Full Armor of God” Song

Video: Full Armor of God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aG0zhy8sHzQ>

Shield of Faith Video Lesson

<https://youtu.be/KzP6VAGTUIk>

Video: Veggie Tales: Abe and the Amazing Promise

<https://app.pureflix.com/videos/267049510895/play?autoplay=true&recommended=q%3Aabe%20and%20the%20amazing>

Feel free to take a picture of their art work or share how your activity went!
Post it on our Facebook page or share it on GroupMe. Have a Blessed Day &
Week! Until we can meet again

~ *Teacher Chrissy*

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A large, empty shield-shaped outline centered on a white background. The shield has a pointed top and a pointed bottom, with curved sides. The text "Outer Shield Template" is centered within the shield.

Outer Shield Template



