



Mustard Seed Children's Summary for May 31, 2009
Released on Wednesday, May 27, 2009

"Protected by God!"

Lesson Text: Ephesians 6:10–18

Background Scripture: Ephesians 6:10–18

Memory Verse: "Take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day" (Ephesians 6:13).

Ephesians 6:10–18

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

11 Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Teach that God's way of coping with Satan's attacks is to have His special armor in place.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. God's enemy, Satan, is our enemy too.
2. We can successfully ward off Satan's attacks by keeping on the various pieces of the armor of God.

PLANNING LESSON AIDS:

For Beginning the Lesson, make a flash card that says "Enemy."

For Telling the Lesson, make the following flash cards: "Satan," "Armor," "Read the Bible," "Tell the truth," "Do what is right," "Tell the good news," "Believe God," and "You belong to Jesus." (You will keep some on display as you continue to teach the lesson.) You will need a picture of praying hands and a Bible.

For Helping to Remember, take a sheet of construction paper and crayons, for each child, and a sample.

For Lesson Activity, make a copy of the lesson activity and quarterly review for each student.

TEACHER'S NOTES:

Many children will have at least heard of the devil. Fewer will recognize the name "Satan." Sadly, some of them, will not know he is a personal enemy whose goal is to do them harm. This week's lesson on God's armor will give students the happy news that God has made a way for His children to be fully protected when attacks from that enemy come.

Paul likened God's means of protection to the battle armor worn by Roman soldiers of that day. Paul was in prison and chained to Roman soldiers, so he got a close look at the armor they wore and the importance of each piece. Rather than being one piece of metal, a soldier's armor consisted of several pieces shielding different body parts. As long as each piece was in place, a soldier would be wholly protected when attacked.

Paul said something similar happens in the spiritual realm when God's children "put on" (Eph. 6:11) speaking truth, doing right, communicating the gospel, believing God, remembering salvation has been accomplished, and meeting every attack with God's Word. Here are some wonderful practical truths to remember ourselves and to pass along to our children.

Summary of God's armor: Helmet of Salvation, Breastplate of Righteousness, Belt of Truth, Shoes of the Gospel of Peace, Shield of Faith, Sword of God's Word and Prayer in the Spirit.

BEGINNING THE LESSON:

Can anyone tell us what an enemy is? (Show "Enemy.") You can read about many enemies in the Bible. For example, David had an enemy. King Saul knew God wanted David to be king someday. But Saul wanted to be king himself, so he kept trying to kill David.

An enemy will make trouble if he can. An enemy is dangerous.

TELLING THE LESSON:

God has an enemy. One name for God's enemy is Satan. (Show "Satan.") Another name is the devil.

This is what happened. Long ago there was a beautiful angel who wanted to be like God (Isa. 14:14). He did not want to follow God's good rules anymore. He wanted to please himself. Some other angels decided to go with him, and the beautiful angel became their leader. God began calling him Satan. (Show "Satan.") And that is how a good angel changed and became God's enemy.

Satan is still God's enemy. He tries to make trouble for God. If you belong to Jesus, Satan is your enemy too, and he is dangerous.

Did you know you have an enemy you cannot see? Did you know you have an enemy who wants to make trouble for you? He makes some people think they cannot believe what God says. He makes other people think what they want to do is better than what God says is good. He tells lies, for he wants to spoil whatever God wants us to do. Satan is dangerous.

Do you know what we need? Armor! (Show "Armor.") We do not need the kind Bible-time soldiers wore to keep themselves from getting hurt. Jesus' people need a special kind of armor that will protect them when Satan attacks. The Bible calls it the armor of God. And as long as we have it on, Satan will not be able to trick us.

In this letter, Paul told some of Jesus' friends just what this armor is. (Point to Ephesians.) You can't see the pieces of this armor, but each is important to help protect us from the enemy.

The first piece for our head is a helmet. It is called the Helmet of Salvation. It protects our minds and our thinking. It reminds us about what we have read in the Bible. (Show "Read the Bible.")

Another piece is righteousness. The Breastplate of Righteousness covers us from our neck to our waist. It protects our heart and helps us do what is right. (Show "Do what is right.") One piece is telling the truth. (Show "Tell the truth.") As children of God, we wear the truth like a belt around our waist. We should always tell the truth.

Still another piece of armor covers our feet like shoes. They are Shoes of the Gospel and protect us by telling the good news of Jesus. (Show "Tell the good news.")

Soldiers used to hold a thing called a shield in front of them. That was a piece of wood that kept any arrows from hitting them. The Bible says that faith, believing God, will protect you like a shield. (Show "Believe God.")

Remember that you belong to Jesus. (Show "You belong to Jesus.") He knows how to help you.

God has a sword for you to use too. (Hold up your Bible.) The Bible is like a sword because God says it can fight off any wrong thought Satan puts into your head. We use God's Word to fight off the enemy.

The last part of the armor is really not a piece at all. It is prayer. (Show praying hands.) Prayer helps us to hold all the other pieces of the armor together. We should pray for ourselves and for others (Eph. 6:18).

TELLING HOW TO LIVE:

Now you know the kind of armor that will keep you safe when Satan attacks you. Put it on. Read the Bible. Do what is right. Say what is true. Tell the good news. Believe what God says. Remember that you belong to Jesus. (Point to each.) And along with wearing your armor, remember to pray.

HELPING TO REMEMBER:

First, show the children your sample. Have them write at the top of their papers "God's Armor for Me" and under that, have them draw a picture of themselves wearing the parts of the armor of God. Have them list the armor pieces: Helmet of Salvation, Breastplate of Righteousness, Belt of Truth, Shoes of the Gospel of Peace, Shield of Faith, and Sword of God's Word.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:

"Take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day" (Ephesians 6:13).

Soldiers in Bible times wore special metal clothes called armor. That kept them from being hurt by the enemies' swords and spears. This Bible verse says there is something like a soldier's armor that will protect us from getting hurt when *our* enemy (Satan) attacks. If we have all the armor on, the Bible says that we too will be safe.

This special armor is guaranteed to help us withstand Satan's attacks if we put it on and keep it on. So let's be good soldiers for God and put on His whole armor.

CONCLUSION:

The new life does not come without a fight, but this fight is a good one because we are in a fight of faith. We fight against the evil one (Satan) who does all he can to steal what God has prepared for us.

The Lord is good and gives us all that we need to fulfill His plans for us. God has provided His people with special equipment (armor) to stand against the devil's attack. God's spiritual armor will help us to stand up in battle and be left standing when the battle is over!

PRAYER:

Dear God, thank You for providing all we need to protect us against Satan. We praise You for the power of Your strength. Help us to trust in You and to be strong, in Jesus' name, amen.

ANTICIPATING NEXT WEEK'S LESSON:

Next week's lesson is "**Standing on Holy Ground**" and recounts the events that led to God's call of Moses. Study Exodus 3:1-12.

LESSON SUMMARIZED BY:

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WORKS CITED

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The Pulpit Commentary, Spence-Jones, H. D. M. (Hrsg.), Bellingham, WA : Logos Research Systems, Inc.

The KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, by Nelson Books

LESSON ACTIVITY:

“Protected by God!” (Ephesians 6:10-18)

Find the following keywords from the lesson:

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|--------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| STAND | ARMOR | PEACE | SHOES |
| SWORD | STRONG | RIGHTEOUSNESS | BREASTPLATE |
| GOSPEL | PRAYING | ENEMY | POWER |
| FAITH | SPIRITUAL | BELT OF TRUTH | DEVIL |
| HELMET | WORD OF GOD | SALVATION | SHIELD |

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QUARTERLY REVIEW:

"New Creation in Christ" (Spring 2009)

Fill in the blanks to complete the memory verses from the lessons this quarter:

- 1 "I will give them one _____, and I will put a new spirit within you" (Ezekiel 11:19).
- 2 "I will set up one _____ over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David" (Ezekiel 34:23).
- 3 "I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to _____ in my statutes" (Ezekiel 36:27).
- 4 "I will...put _____ in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the Lord" (Ezekiel 37:6).
- 5 "Every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live:...for they shall be _____" (Ezekiel 47:9).
- 6 "When Jesus had cried with a loud _____, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit" (Luke 23:46).
- 7 "Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is _____" (Luke 24:5-6).
- 8 "Ye are _____ of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you" (Luke 24:48-49).
- 9 "Peter...prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she _____ her eyes" (Acts 9:40).
- 10 "[God chose] us unto the _____ of children by Jesus Christ to himself" (Ephesians 1:5).
- 11 "By grace are ye saved through _____; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8).
- 12 "The Gentiles [are] fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his _____ in Christ" (Ephesians 3:6).
- 13 "[Submit] yourselves one to _____ in the fear of God" (Ephesians 5:21).
- 14 Take unto you the whole _____ of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day" (Ephesians 6:13).

