

Say: Today's lesson is from the book of Ephesians 6:10-17. Does anyone know who wrote this book? (Paul.) Paul wrote this letter to the church in Ephesus to remind them that God gives them everything they need to fight the battle against Satan.

Say: Paul wrote this letter when he was in prison. He was surrounded by Roman guards and probably noticed the armor they wore. Paul thought that the ways God protects us are a lot like armor. Listen to God's word and hear about the different types of armor Paul mentions.

READ FROM EPHESIANS (YOU CAN READ BELOW) 6:10-18

Read: *"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."*

Say: We read that we're basically at war against Satan. Do we fight this war on our own? *(No way! God gives us what we need to fight.)*

Read: *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.*

Say: We will be learning about each one of the pieces of the armor. Can you remember the pieces Paul mentioned? - *Give them time to remember each piece.*

- The first piece of armor we read about is the **belt of truth**. We find Truth in God alone, and when we wrap this Truth around us like a belt, it holds everything together.
- Our second piece of armor is the **breastplate of righteousness**. Even though we all sin, when we put our trust in Christ, we are forgiven. Having righteousness means that we're able to stand before God, because God sees the perfection of Jesus instead of our sins!
- **SHOES (SANDALS)** are worn to protect your feet and help a soldier to run bravely into battle. Paul said our shoes are like the gospel. It gives us courage to run and tell everyone about Jesus because we know the gospel message can change the hearts of our enemies and bring peace!
- What is a shield used for? *(To protect from the enemy's arrows.)* Paul said our **shield is our faith** in Christ. When Satan tries to fire arrows of lies and accusation at us, we can hold up our faith in Jesus and are protected.
- Why should we wear a helmet? *(To protect our heads.)* Sometimes Satan tries to discourage us by the evil things he says and does. God has given us **the helmet of salvation** to protect us from Satan's lies. Our salvation keeps us from believing lies and giving up!

- God has also given us a weapon with which to fight back. We have the sword of the Spirit, which we can think of as the Word of God. This sword is so powerful that nothing can beat it! It can defeat all our enemies so we should never be without it.

Your can discuss –

- Why do we need the armor God has given us?
- Discuss with them what they think we can use the pieces of the armor.

Main Point: God gives us armor so we can stand firm in our love and faith in HIM.

- **Say:** in the next few weeks we will learn how to use each one of the pieces of the armor.
Say: God has given us armor to fight against Satan and he has promised to always be with us in this battle! Let's spend a moment thanking him for this wonderful truth!
Pray: Dear God, thank you so much for our lesson today. Thank you for giving us armor to protect us from Satan. Help us to remember each day to trust in your provision and protection. We pray all this in Jesus' name. Amen.