



SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS...MATTHEW 6:33

Armor of God

Lesson 1 – Intro The Battlefield

"Put on all of God's armor. Then you can stand firm against the devil's evil plans." Ephesians 6:11

Circle Time

[Have 2 adults or student helpers act out the following scene: #1 is about to sit down and #2 comes up behind him and pulls the chair out from under him and he falls on the floor. #2 laughs hysterically and makes a big scene.]

That wasn't kind, was it? No! We need to stay alert so that we are not taken off guard. We should always be ready. The enemy is always trying to get us to fall when we don't expect it.

Jesus and all of Heaven are excited and throw a great big party when any of us becomes a Christian, but there is someone who isn't as excited about us becoming Christians. He doesn't want us to grow and obey Jesus or for us to tell others about him. He is our enemy. His name is Satan.

The Bible teaches us that Satan was an angel and was created by God. But he wanted to be worshiped like God. Because of his pride and disobedience, he was thrown out of Heaven. Ever since then he has been working against God, fighting against God's plans and God's people. He tries to come up with ways to lead people to follow him instead of God.

So, there is a battle that is taking place. Only, it's not a battle we can see. Our enemy, Satan, lives in the invisible world of the spirit. Even though we can't see him, Satan is very real. And he wants nothing more than to take us away from obeying God. Satan will try to come against us to keep us from doing what God wants us to do. He uses temptation, bad thoughts, and lies to try to get us to sin or make wrong choices.

Satan wants us to mess up and do things God doesn't want us to do. He might try to do that by getting you interested in video games, shows on TV or movies that show people doing things that are sinful and try to make them look like fun. You might also be pressured to do things from other kids that we

know God wouldn't want us to do.

These are some of the ways that the devil tries to trick you into doing things we shouldn't. But, by putting on the armor of God, you will be able to stand up to these things and do what is right. The armor will give you God's help to fight this battle.

There are some very important things we need to remember in fighting this battle. First of all, Satan is not more powerful than God. God has provided for us special armor for the battle. The armor is how we protect ourselves from Satan's attacks. We need to remember that we do have a strong enemy, but we also need to remember that God has provided all we need to defend ourselves and fight back in this battle. And God is stronger than anyone or anything.

Over the next few weeks we will talk about all the different pieces of armor God has given us and how we can be ready to fight this important battle against evil. Remember God is stronger than anything that Satan throws our way.

Prayer Time

Activity Time

The goal of this time is to utilize a variety of engaging activities –passive and active play, crafts, application, and more – to reinforce what was taught in the lesson. While you may not get to every activity, we encourage you to complete the "Take-Home" activity so children leave with a tangible reminder of what was discussed today.

If numbers are high and/or time and space allow, you may want to use a center format: divide the class into groups (one for each activity) and rotate through the centers after an allotted time.



Musical Chairs

Supplies:

CD/GCK Spotify Playlist

Have the kids play musical chairs. Remind them to stay alert and when the music stops they need to sit in one of the open chairs. Someone will be left without a chair each time the music stops. Like our friend learned when he got the chair pulled out from under him during circle time, we need to be alert and ready.



The Full Armor of God Activity Book

Supplies:

Armor of God activity books (1 per child)

Give each child an Armor of God activity book. Have them work on the first page of the book (and any other pages as time allows). Tell them that they can take these books home to help them remember all of the pieces of the armor of God that we'll be talking about!



Dress-Up Center

Supplies:

Dress-up clothes

Let the kids try on dress up clothes and talk to them about how firefighters wear a helmet, a full fire suit, and boots to protect them when they go to fight a fire. When they ride their bikes they need to wear a helmet and maybe even kneepads and elbow pads to protect them if they fall.



Memory Verse Card

Supplies:

Magnetic sleeves

Verse cards

Stickers

Crayons

Give each child a verse card to decorate. Go over the memory verse a few times with the children.



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