



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

Armor of God

Lesson 7 – Sword of the Spirit

“Take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.” Ephesians 6:17

Circle Time

God has given us many gifts and tools to stay strong in the Lord. We have learned about the breastplate of righteousness to protect our hearts and the shield of faith to defend us from doubting God in hard times. Today we are going to learn about the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. Can anybody tell me another name for the Word of God? That's right, the Bible! The Bible is where we find truth to protect us against the temptations of the enemy.

Words can be very powerful. Have you ever had anyone say mean things to you? How did it make you feel? Our words have great power. Think about how powerful God's words are. He spoke the earth into creation and He gave us a book called the Bible. The Bible is full of God's truth and love. God's words are powerful and give strength.

God is not the only one using words to guide us. Satan is trying to use lies and clever words to get us to stray from God. God's word is a weapon we can use to protect ourselves from Satan's lies just like Jesus did in the desert. The words of the Bible are our sword.

A sword is strong and sharp just like God's word. The word of God is strong enough to defeat the lies of Satan and sharp enough to protect our hearts. When we use God's word against Satan, we can conquer him because even he knows God's word is true. We know that God's word is true and we can use it as a sharp and strong tool to bring us closer to God. We want to glorify God in all things and use the tools He gave us to be strong in Him. We want to tell others about His great love and power to save.

Ephesians 6:13-17 says, “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.”

Ask Jesus to help you remember God’s word when you are sad, lonely, or angry. We want to glorify God in all things and use the tools He gave us to be strong in Him and tell others about the source of our strength.

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.



Treasure Hunt

Supplies:

Sword

Cards with clues

Before class, you will tape the clues in the following places.

Kids will go on a scavenger hunt around the room – explain to them that, like following the clues, we should follow God’s direction/God’s word in our lives.

Clues

1. (Is in the bin and will be read aloud by the teacher) This object has 4 legs and you sit on it.
2. (Tape clue 2 under a chair) With these toys you can build a pretty tall tower.
3. (Hide Clue 3 in the blocks) You read these.
4. (Hide Clue 4 among the books) We build small things with these. They are smaller than blocks.
5. (Hide Clue 5 in Legos) We eat at this, think big.
(Hide the foam sword underneath a table)



Create Your Own Sword

Supplies:

Verse label

Foam sword

Markers

Stickers

Give each child a foam sword and a memory verse label. Have them decorate their sword with the markers and stickers. Review the memory verse with them while they work.

Soldier Says

This game is similar to Simon Says except you do what the leader says after “Soldier Says.” Explain how God’s word is our direction just like the phrase “Solder Says” in this game.

Battling Sin

Supplies:

Empty paper towel tubes

Paper balls

Masking tape

Tape a line down the middle of the floor. Split the kids into 2 teams and give the kids “swords” (paper towel tubes). Explain that the Bible is our sword against sin. Have the children call out some sins or temptations that they face every day (lying, being unkind, arguing, throwing tantrums, disobeying, not sharing, etc). As the kids call out their temptations throw paper balls onto the floor, making sure the balls are on both sides of the battlefield.

Give the rules of the game: the object is to move the balls of sin from your side of the battlefield to the other.

- You must stand at “home base” until the teacher says, “go.”
- You must stay on your side of the field and not cross the line.
- You must only use your sword (not hands, feet, etc) to move the balls to the other side.
- You must stop and freeze when the teacher says, “stop.”
- Use your sword carefully or it will break.

After the rules, the leader can say, “go” and let the kids play for a bit then say, “stop” and announce the winner or play another round.



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