

Children's Message

November 11, 2018

Hold up a picture of a football player and ask the kids if they know what he is. Next show a picture of a soldier, hockey player, police officer, a firefighter, and lastly a scuba diver. Does anyone notice what these pictures have in common? In many jobs or activities, it's important to have the right gear to protect us. What would happen if a firefighter walked into a burning building without his gear? What would happen to a scuba diver without his gear? What other things can you think of that we need protection from? Just like people do things to protect themselves from harm in their jobs, God has given us certain types of "gear" or tools to protect us. In the Bible Paul writes that this gear is like the armor of a soldier. Today we'll hear about how **God gives us armor to help us fight against evil,**

Today's lesson is from the book of Ephesians 6:10-17. Paul wrote this letter to the church in Ephesus to remind them that God gives them everything they need to fight the battle against evil. 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.

Stand up as we read from Ephesians. Grab your waist: We find Truth in God alone, and when we wrap this Truth around us like a belt, it holds everything together. Our breastplate of righteousness. Point to our feet as 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! 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. Our helmet of salvation is the knowledge that we are loved. The sword of the Spirit, as the Word of God.

***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.*

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