Session 4: Sept. 25

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Today kids studied the book of Ephesians. Paul wrote this letter to the believers in the city of Ephesus. Boys and girls focused on 10 verses in chapter 2 and 11 verses from chapter 6. In chapter 2, Paul wrote that salvation is a gift from God and not something that we can earn. It is an example of God's grace and kindness to us. In chapter 6, kids learned about the armor of God. As believers, we will face attacks from the devil. But we are not left without help. God has given believers armor to protect and defend themselves from the evil one. Review the armor as a family. Don't forget to check out the discussion questions on the back of this week's Family Card.

BIBLE PASSAGE: Ephesians 2:1-10; 6:10-20
MEMORY VERSE: Ephesians 2:4-5
BIBLE VERSE: Ephesians 2:8-9
OLDER KIDS TEXT TRUTH: Salvation is a gift from God; we cannot earn it.
YOUNGER KIDS TEXT TRUTH: Salvation is a gift from God.

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians
Ephesians 2:1-10; 6:10-20

Paul wanted to tell everyone about Jesus. One day when Paul was in prison for telling people about Jesus, he wrote a letter to the believers in Ephesus. Paul said, "You were once dead in your sin. We were children under wrath because we disobeyed God. But God, who is full of mercy because of His great love for us has made us alive with Jesus. You are saved by grace!" Paul continued, "Then God will show His endless grace and kindness to us through Jesus. You are saved by God's grace through faith. This isn't something you can do. It is God's gift to you. It is not because of your good actions, so you cannot boast. You are God's creation, created by Jesus for good works that God planned for you to do."

Later, in his letter to the Ephesians, Paul explained that followers of Jesus have been given armor—spiritual armor for a spiritual battle. This armor helps believers be strengthened by God to resist the devil's evil plans.

Paul said, "Put on the full armor of God and be ready to take a stand. Stand with truth like a belt around your waist and righteousness like armor on your chest. Put the gospel of peace on like you put sandals on your feet. At all times, pick up the shield of faith so that you will be defended against the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit. The sword of the Spirit is the Word of God. Then, pray in the Spirit all of the time. Stay alert. Pray for other believers."

Finally, Paul explained he was an ambassador of the gospel, an ambassador who was in chains. But Paul asked the Ephesians to pray that he would be bold enough to share the gospel as he should.