

K-5th Grade
Armor of God
Intro & Belt of Truth
Parent Devo & Bible Study

Session Title: Intro & Belt of Truth

Bible Passage: Ephesians 6:11-18a & Genesis 2:15-3:24

Key Passage: Ephesians 6:11-18a

Story Point: We can put on the belt of truth by believing and remembering God's truth.

Parent Devotional

It is so easy to forget that there is an unseen battle going on all around us. To be an effective instrument of God in this world, it is important that we not only know that it is happening but to prepare for it daily. Because we are in the family of God, we are Satan's enemy and he will do whatever it takes to render us ineffective in accomplishing the mission God has for us. He has multiple strategies to do this including temptation, comfort, and telling lies about God and ourselves. Our children face the very same battle and we see it daily. Our kids do things they know are wrong but choose to do them anyways and often you can see in their face the struggle to choose to do the right thing.

In Ephesians 6, Paul explains this to the believers in Ephesus and tells them how to be ready for the attacks that Satan will throw at them. This is where the idea of armor comes in to show what it looks like to intentionally "put on" the defences that we have been given in Christ as well as take up the weapon of the Holy Spirit, which is the only offensive weapon we are given.

As you prepare for the lesson, be sure to pray for your kids so that they can understand and emphasize the security we have with God and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. We don't want them to be afraid but it is important for them to know and understand that there is a spiritual world that we cannot see.

For further information on spiritual warfare and the armor of God, study the following passages. As you study these, allow the Holy Spirit to work these truths into your life so you can share them with your kids.

Isaiah 14:12-14 and Ezekiel 28 (Describing Satan and his fall)

Genesis 3 (the temptation and fall of man- Satan's first act to destroy humanity.)

Job (Satan gets permission to tempt him)

2 Kings 6 (Elisha and God's army)

Matt 4:1-11, Luke 4:1-13 (Temptation of Christ)

Acts 5 (Ananias and Sapphira lie to the Holy Spirit)

James 4:6-8 (resist the devil)

1 Peter 5:8-9 (resist the devil)

"The devil made me do it" is never a valid excuse. (James 1:13-14)

We have all the tools we need to resist the devil if we are in Christ. We put on the same armor as our Lord and we literally put on Christ. (Is. 59:16-20, Rom 13:11-14)

KINDERGARTEN - 5TH GRADE BIBLE STORY

We are starting a new unit! We are going to read and learn about the armor of God and how we can put it on daily in our lives! (Read Ephesians 6:11-18a)

The Bible says that God is our Protector and that he won't let any harm come to us (Psalm 121). All we have to do is trust that God is in control. God is our hero in our war against sin, and when we turn to Jesus and ask for forgiveness from the things that we have done wrong, then we can begin to win against sin.

Since God is our Protector, he has given us something very special to protect us. The Bible tells us to put on the armor of God. Have any of you seen pictures of a Roman soldier?



(Show picture of a Roman centurion in armor.)

Why do they wear all that armor? It keeps them from getting hurt when they are attacked by their enemy. The armor of God will protect us when we are tempted to sin. Over the next few weeks, we will all work together to memorize a verse from the Bible. It is Ephesians 6:11

So what is the first piece of armor we read about? The belt of truth. Who can tell me what a belt does? Belts hold up your pants and keep them from falling down, that's right. The belt of truth is more like a tool belt. What are tool belts used for? We use tool belts to store our tools when we are building something. The belt of truth is not something we can actually go to the store and buy. God's armor is something that we have to learn to put on every day by learning new things about God and changing our attitudes, how we think about life and other people. So when we put on the belt of truth, that means we learn about the truth of God and we keep it close to us, like we wear a belt close to our bodies.

The belt of truth is kind of like Batman's utility belt. Everything he needs to fight evil is on that belt. Everything we can ever need to know to fight evil is the Truth, and we wear the Truth tight around us just like Batman wears his belt.

So, who can tell me some true things about God? God loves us so much that he sent his Son to die for us. We are all sinners and we all need salvation, which only comes from Jesus. All we have to do to be forgiven of our sins is say sorry to God, love him, and try to do what he tells us to do in the Bible. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father but through him. (John 14:6) When we remember these truths about God, we are putting on the belt of truth.

Remembering and choosing God's truth reminds me of a time in the bible where some people did not choose to believe God's truth, but believed a lie instead.

Read Genesis 2:15-3:24 (below)

15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. **16** And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, **17** but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat^[g] of it you shall surely die."

18 Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for^[e] him." **19** Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed^[f] every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. **20** The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam^[g] there was not found a helper fit for him. **21** So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. **22** And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made^[h] into a woman and brought her to the man. **23** Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones

and flesh of my flesh;

she shall be called Woman,

because she was taken out of Man."^[i]

24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. **25** And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

The Fall

3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.

He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You^[j] shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" **2** And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, **3** but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" **4** But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. **5** For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." **6** So when the woman saw

that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise,^[k] she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. **7** Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool^[j] of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. **9** But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"^[m] **10** And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." **11** He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" **12** The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." **13** Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

14 The Lord God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

15

I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring^[n] and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel."

16 To the woman he said,

"I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be contrary to^[o] your husband,
but he shall rule over you."

17 And to Adam he said,

"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife

and have eaten of the tree

of which I commanded you,

'You shall not eat of it,'

cursed is the ground because of you;

in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

18

thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;

and you shall eat the plants of the field.

19

By the sweat of your face

you shall eat bread,

till you return to the ground,

for out of it you were taken;

for you are dust,

and to dust you shall return."

20 *The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.* [a] **21** *And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.*

22 *Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—" **23** therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. **24** He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.*

Adam and Eve chose to listen and obey to the lies of the enemy instead of trusting God, and believing in His truth. Because of that they were separated from God.

We have Jesus who died for us so that our sins can be forgiven and so that we are no longer separated from God. This is an important truth we should carry around with us always, this truth gives us strength, peace and power!

Memory Verse:

Ephesians 6:11-18a

11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. **13** Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. **14** Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, **15** and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. **16** In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; **17** and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, **18** praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.