



Lesson 13

Armor of God



Year 3—Quarter 1: The Armor of God

Ephesians 6:10-20

Armor of God Party

End of the Quarter Party

Have an “Armor of God Party” to end this quarter of lessons. Use this as a time to review what your students have learned. You could have a variety of games and activities, fun snacks, and a brief devotion.

Ideas:

- If your church has the budget for it, you could buy a couple of sets of kid’s Christian Armor. These are sold on Amazon, Ebay, and Walmart for \$30-\$40 each.
- If you have made your own armor during the course of these lessons out of posterboard, cardboard, etc., plan to use those.
- Kids can even have fun creating armor from common kitchen items such as pots for helmets, muffin tins for breastplates, pizza pans for shields, and rolled up newspaper for swords.
- You can find plenty of inexpensive Armor Party items at: orientaltrading.com.
- You can also “recycle” any of the games or activities from this quarter that your kids enjoyed.

MEMORY VERSE

1 John 4:4,
“Greater is He
that is in you
than he that is
in the world.”

Snack Ideas:

Helmet of Salvation Helmets: Use half an apple as the base and attach grapes with toothpicks for the plume.

Breastplate of Righteousness Rice Cakes: Decorate rice cakes with cream cheese and veggies to resemble a breastplate.

Belt of Truth Twists: Serve pretzel sticks or twists as belts of truth that kids can enjoy.

Shield of Faith Cookies: Make shield-shaped cookies and let the kids decorate them with icing and sprinkles.

Sword of the Spirit Skewers: Fruit skewers can represent the sword, with a variety of colorful fruits.

Gospel of Peace Pies: Mini pies or tarts can symbolize the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.

Feet Fitted with Popcorn: Offer popcorn in cups as a snack that represents having feet ready to go and share the good news.

Righteousness Wraps: Tortilla wraps filled with healthy ingredients like turkey, cheese, and lettuce.

Salvation S’mores: Assemble s’mores kits with marshmallows, chocolate, and graham crackers to represent the helmet of salvation.

Ten Fun Game Ideas:

1. **Shield of Faith Frisbee:** Customize frisbees to look like shields and have a target practice game.
2. **Helmet of Salvation Relay:** Kids race while balancing a helmet (or a substitute) on their heads.
3. **Sword of the Spirit Balloon Pop:** Write out Bible verses on slips of paper and put them inside balloons. Kids use ‘swords’ (sticks) to pop the balloons and read the verses.
4. **Belt of Truth Tag:** A game of tag where the ‘it’ person wears a special belt. When tagged, kids answer a truth question before joining the game again.
5. **Breastplate of Righteousness Obstacle Course:** Set up an obstacle course that kids must navigate while wearing a cardboard breastplate.
6. **Gospel of Peace Race:** A relay race where kids wear oversized shoes and try to run without losing them.
7. **Armor of God Jigsaw Puzzle:** Create a puzzle with different pieces of the armor for kids to put together.
8. **Word Search:** Have a word search puzzle with terms related to the Armor of God.
9. **Sticker Stories:** Provide stickers related to the Armor of God and let kids create their own scenes on paper.
10. **Sing and Dance:** Play lyric videos related to the Armor of God and have a sing and dance along session.

Take-Home

Summary

Bible Passage:

1 John 4:4

Main Point:

When we wear God's armor of protection, we can have victory in the battles of life.

Armor Party:

In class we had an Armor of God party to celebrate the end of this quarter of lessons. Consider having a review of the various pieces of God's armor with your family. You might want to have your own party or picnic.

Our Strategy for Kids:

- To hear the Gospel
- To receive Christ
- To be baptized in water
- To grow strong in God
- To be empowered by the Holy Spirit
- To step up and be leaders in an ungodly world

Explore the Bible

Read 1 John 4:4 with your family and discuss how God the Holy Spirit in us is greater than our enemy the devil. Say: Knowing that God is in us is like having the strongest, kindest friend always with you. This friend is so powerful that no bully, no scary dream, and no mean words can ever win against Him. You have the Armor of God that protects you and gives you courage to face anything, just like David had when he faced Goliath. And when you're sure that you're not alone and that God is with you, you can be brave enough to live for God and share His love with others.

Family Activity

Let your kids raid your kitchen to find items that they can use to represent the various pieces of armor. For example: a pot for a helmet, a muffin tin for a breastplate, and a pizza tin for a shield. *(After they are finished, have them put everything back where they found it.)*

Apply and Pray

Dear God,
Thank you for giving me Your armor.
Please help me put it on every day
So I can be strong and brave for You.
With Your belt of truth,
Your breastplate of righteousness,
Your shoes of peace,
Your shield of faith,
Your helmet of salvation,
And Your sword of the Spirit,
I know I can face anything.
Amen.

Halloween Alternative Object Lesson Christians Are Like Pumpkins!

Objects Needed:

- Secure a real pumpkin and clean it out. Carve a happy face and put a candle inside so it can shine out.
- Any imitation pumpkin could be used (with a precut mouth) so the light can be seen.

Some Key Words:

Field, pumpkin patch, selection, “yucky stuff,” sin, seeds of doubt, presence of God, light, Jesus the Son of Light.

Concept Phrases or Sayings:

- Put a smile on your face.
- What’s on the inside can be seen on the outside.
- Let your light shine!

Concept Bible Passages:

- John 17:14, II Cor. 5:17
- Matt 5:16, John 9:5, Lk 8:11
- 1 John 1:5,7; I John 4:13

Extra Tips:

- Use any size pumpkin based upon your audience.
- You might want to actually clean and carve a pumpkin as you illustrate this message.
- You can expand your lesson to fill the time it takes to prepare the pumpkin.



Message:

Are You a Pumpkin Christian?

Being a Christian is just like a pumpkin! Let me try to explain...I brought this pumpkin here to help me illustrate what I mean. (Proceed to carve the pumpkin.)

First, God picks you from the pumpkin patch and brings you in from the field. The Bible says He selects us out of the world.

He then washes all the “dirt” off the outside that we receive from being around all the other pumpkins. All the outside influences of our former life must be cleaned up. Old things are passed away and all things are become new.

The, He carefully removes all the “yucky stuff” called “sin” out from the inside. Look at this! Yuk! He then changes us from the inside out by the Power of His Word. That’s why it is important to go to church and learn about God’s Word.

He carefully removes all those seeds of doubt, hate, greed, and fear. After Jesus is invited inside, you begin to experience the changing power of God’s love in your life.

Then He carves a new smiling face. Our heart is changed by the power of His presence in our life and it will even show on our face!

Now we are going to light this candle inside. Look! This pumpkin now reflects the light from inside out. Jesus shines through our life for all to see. “Let your light so shine before men that they may be able to see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.”

So you see, we Christians are really like this pumpkin! We will never be the same with Jesus inside of us!