



## **Lesson 5**

**Armor of God**



## Year 3—Quarter 1: The Armor of God

### Ephesians 6:10-20

## The Shoes of Peace

#### **Barefoot Thru Blackberries**

Use shoes as a prop to teach the importance of peace with God. Discuss how it represents our ability to stand firm and move forward in the midst of chaos.

**Say:** You wouldn't try to walk barefoot through a blackberry patch. And you certainly wouldn't wear flip flops for a race. That would make you unprepared to win. Likewise, your feet can't be unprepared when you're fighting against the devil. The Bible talks about special shoes will "prepare you to tell

the good news of peace." (Ephesians 6:15 NIV)

Our job as Christians is to be ready to share the Gospel with others. The Gospel is the good news of how Jesus came to save us.

Imagine you're playing your favorite video game, and you find a hidden treasure chest that gives you unlimited lives. You're so excited because now you can play forever! Just like in the game, Christians have found something even better than unlimited lives — they've found the love of Jesus, who

came to save us all. And because this treasure is so amazing, they want to share it with everyone, just like you'd share the secret of the treasure chest with your friends. So, get ready to tell others about Jesus, because sharing this good news is the best way to help everyone win the biggest, most important game of all — life!

#### **Shoe Soup**

Have all the kids take off their shoes and place them in a pile on one side of the room, then have them all stand on the opposite side. When you say go, they all have to run to the shoes, grab a pair that does not belong to them, find the person they belong to and put their shoes on them. As you help them put on their shoes, ask them questions until you find out something you did not know about them. You must take turns putting on shoes and having someone put your shoes on you. This is not a race with just one winner. All the students need to work together and make sure everyone has their

shoes on right and makes it back safely. Just like in the Christian race, they are not supposed to run on their own, only looking out for themselves. Encourage the older students to help the younger ones. When everyone gets back with their shoes on, discuss what you learned about each other.



#### **Power Point**

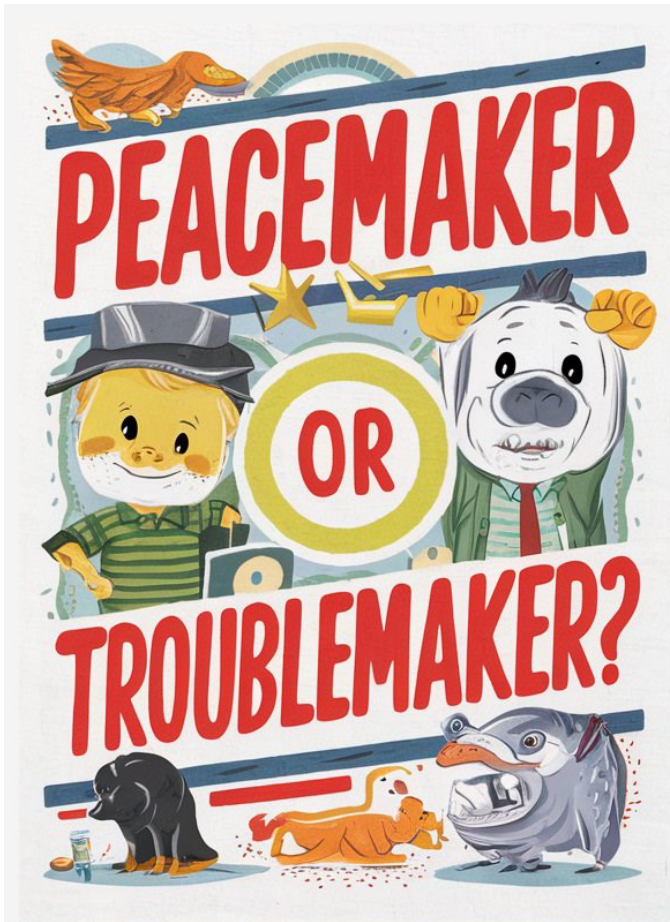
To engage in spiritual battles, readiness is essential, which comes from the Gospel—the message of Jesus that offers guidance on reconciling with God

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

Ephesians 6:14, 15, "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."



## Activity: Peacemaker or Troublemaker?



**Before Class:** (Write the following situations on 3X5 cards. Give one to each of six kids. Have them stand and read their cards when you tell them to.)

**Say:** Listen to the following situations of men in the Bible. Three are examples of being a peacemaker and three are examples of being a troublemaker. See if you can tell which.

**I am Abraham.** God has been leading me to a land of promise. Along the way, I encountered a powerful king. To keep peace with the king, I lied to him about my beautiful wife Sarah. I told him that Sarah was my sister and gave her to him as his wife. I lied so he would not kill me and take Sarah from me. (Was I a peacemaker or troublemaker?)

**I am Abraham.** My nephew Lot and I needed to separate our herds on different lands because our shepherds were fighting. There was great land near the city and much poorer land along the mountains. Instead of fighting with Lot, I let him choose the land he wanted. He chose the best land by the city. (Was I a peacemaker or troublemaker?)

**I am Joseph.** My brothers hated me because I gave my father a bad report about them. I also told them about my dreams. They beat me and threw me into a deep well. Then they sold me to Egyptian slave traders. (Peacemaker or troublemaker?)

**I am Joseph.** I became a rich and powerful leader in Egypt. I had the power to kill my brothers who came to Egypt to buy grain during a famine. But I forgave them for beating me and selling me to the Egyptians. (Peacemaker or troublemaker?)

**I am Moses.** Before being chosen by God to speak to Pharaoh, I saw a Hebrew beaten by an Egyptian. No one was around so I killed the Egyptian and hid him. When others found out what I had done, I ran away. (Peacemaker or troublemaker?)

**I am Moses.** When I came down the mountain with the Ten Commandments, I saw the Hebrew people dancing around an idol. I confronted them and told them they were wicked. I burned the idol and ground it into fine dust. I added the dust to the water and made them drink it. God also punished the Hebrews for worshipping the false god. (Peacemaker or troublemaker?)

After each card is read, have the class guess if that is being a peacemaker or troublemaker. Discuss each one with your class.

# Take-Home

## Summary

### Bible Passage:

Matthew 28:19

### Main Point:

To engage in spiritual battles, readiness is essential, which comes from the Gospel—the message of Jesus that offers guidance on reconciling with God.

### Unit Theme:

Prepare yourself for the spiritual battles of life by putting on the whole armor of God.

### 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

### ABC's of Salvation

Our job as warriors for God is to let as many people as we can know about the Gospel. One way we can do this is to tell them about the ABC's of salvation.

What are the ABC's of salvation?

“**A**” means you **accept** that you're a sinner and need somebody to help you out of your sins.

“**B**” means you **believe** that Jesus Christ has already died for all of your sins and wants you to follow Him for the rest of your life and someday go to Heaven.

“**C**” means you **confess** that Jesus is now your Lord and Savior.

**Quiz** your family by asking if they can tell you the ABC's of Salvation from memory.

## Family Activity

Be sensitive in this time if a child in your family has not made a commitment of faith. Be prepared to lead your child to Christ. Using the ABC's of salvation we just learned is a useful way to guide your child in this.

As you lead your child to make this commitment, you are giving a model to your family of how they could share Jesus with others.

## Apply and Pray

Here is a prayer that you could lead your child to say:

“Dear Jesus, I know I have made mistakes and I'm sorry. Thank you for loving me and for the good things in my life. I believe you are the Son of God and that you died for me. Please come into my heart, forgive my sins, and help me to follow you. Amen.”