

Story: Armor of God 2

SUPPLIES NEEDED

You will need the following:

- 12 Sheets of Cardstock (8.5" x 11")
- 12 3 mil Laminating Film

DIRECTIONS

- Print pages 2-13 two-sided. Laminate the story pages.
- Print pages 14-25 two-sided. Cut the "letters" along the gray line.
 Laminate all the letters and cut them apart.
- As students arrive, give them a few letters and ask them to look up the verses and fill in the blanks using a transparency (wet erase) marker.
- During class, read the story while holding up the pictures. When you come
 to the verses in the lesson, have the students take turns reading their
 "letters." At the end of class, they should put their "letters" in the correct
 "mailbox" (see Epistles Mailbox Bulletin Board).

Illustrations courtesy of Ian & Sue Coate www.freechristianillustrations.com

Illustrations courtesy of Aya & Nicole Velasquez www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/anv-christian-armour/

Clip Art: Laura Strickland http://www.whimsyclips.com/



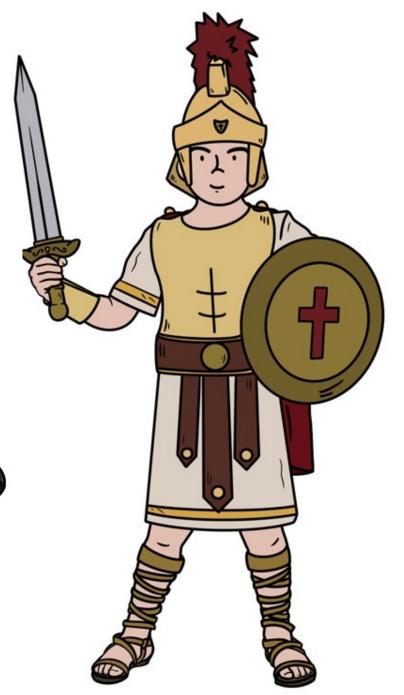
Let's review what we learned last time. Who's army are we in? (The Lord's Army) Who are we fighting against every day? (The devil, Satan) What can you tell me about Satan? (He's sneaky and tricky, Tempter, Liar, Evil, etc) What are the first two pieces of armor we learned about? (The Belt of Truth & the Breastplate of Righteousness) How do we know what is Truth? (God's Word is Truth)

Good, now let's continue. Remember that Paul is comparing the Armor of God to what would have been familiar to him and his readers—that would be the Roman soldier's armor.









The Roman soldier's feet were protected by sandals with thick leather soles that usually had nails or spikes on the bottom to help them stand firm. We already saw in verses Eph. 6:13-14, that Paul mentions "standing firm" twice. Let's see what else Paul says about the Christian's feet in Ephesians 6.

Let the students take turns reading the "letters" (NASB):

Eph. 6:15 - and having shod your <u>feet</u> with the preparation of the gospel of <u>peace</u>;

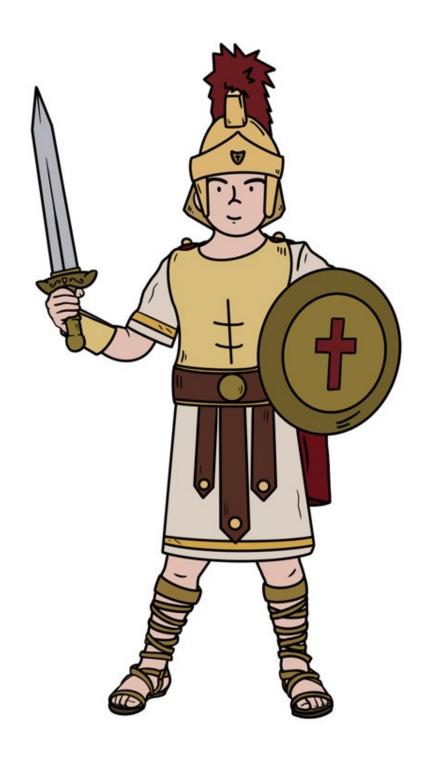
Rom. 12:18 - If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at <u>peace</u> with all men.

1 Cor. 16:13 - Be on the alert, stand <u>firm</u> in the faith, act like men, be strong.

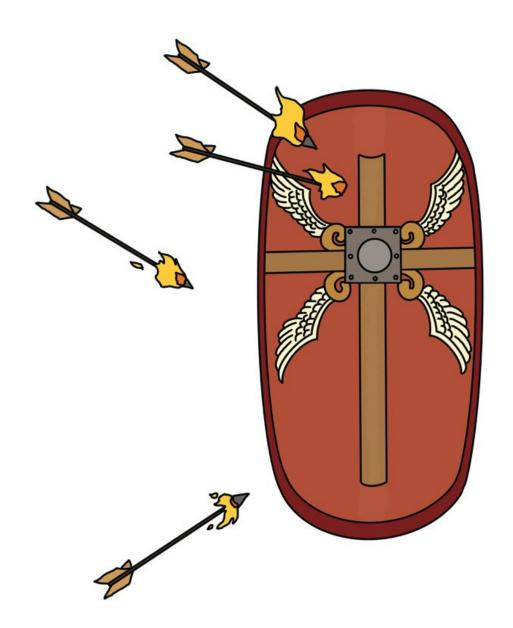
Ask / Discuss:

What do you think "shod" means? *(Covered)* Do you remember when we talked about "peace" as one of the Fruits of the Spirit? *(Yes)* Romans 12 tells us to live in peace with all men, as much as depends on us. Sometimes no matter how much we try to live in peace with someone, they won't listen to the gospel. In that case, what should we do according to 1 Corinthians? *(Stand firm in our faith)*





SHIELD



The Roman shield was either circular or rectangular and 4 feet tall. The shield was used to block any arrows from the enemy. Let's see how Paul describes the Christian's shield.

Let the students take turns reading the "letters" (NASB):

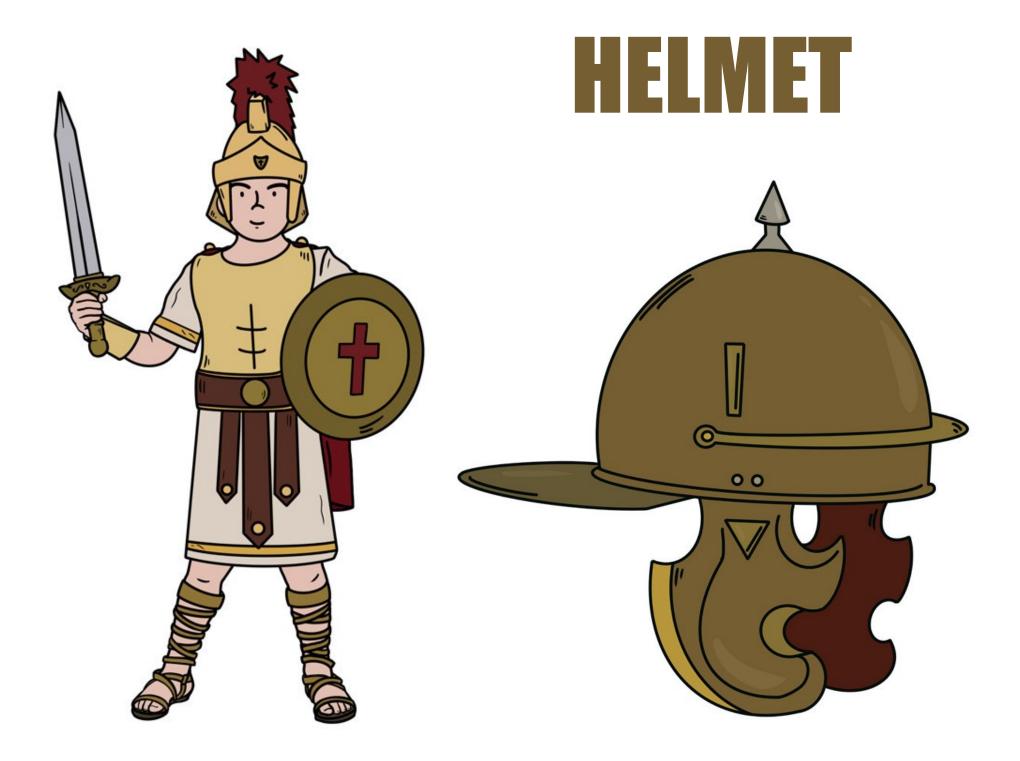
Eph. 6:16 - ...in addition to all, taking up the shield of <u>faith</u> with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming <u>arrows</u> of the evil one.

Heb. 11:1 - Now <u>faith</u> is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not <u>seen</u>.

Ask / Discuss:

Our shield of faith is able to put out what? (The fiery arrows of the devil) How does the Hebrew writer describe faith? (A confident hope for something not seen yet) Another word for faith would be trust. If you trust God, then you will believe what He says is true and no amount of flaming arrows from the devil will change your belief.





The Roman helmet was made of thick leather or brass and it helped to protect the soldier's head. Let's see how Paul describes the Christian's helmet.

Let the students take turns reading the "letters" (NASB):

Eph. 6:17a - And take the helmet of <u>salvation</u>...

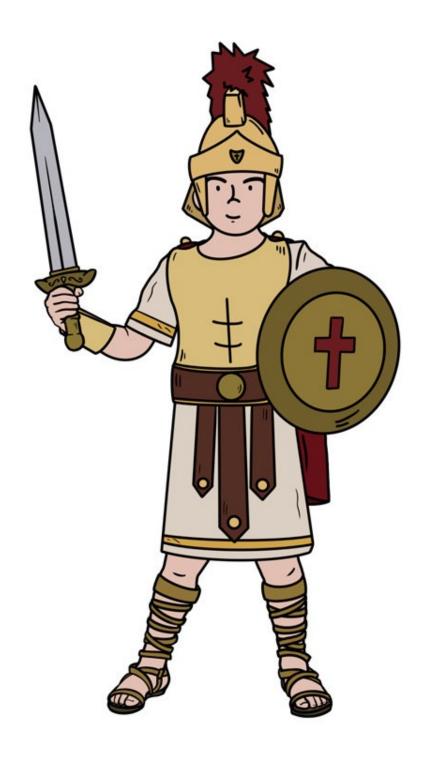
1 Thess. 5:8 - But since we are of the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the <u>hope</u> of salvation.

Titus 1:2 – ...in the hope of eternal <u>life</u>, which God, who cannot <u>lie</u>, promised long ages ago,

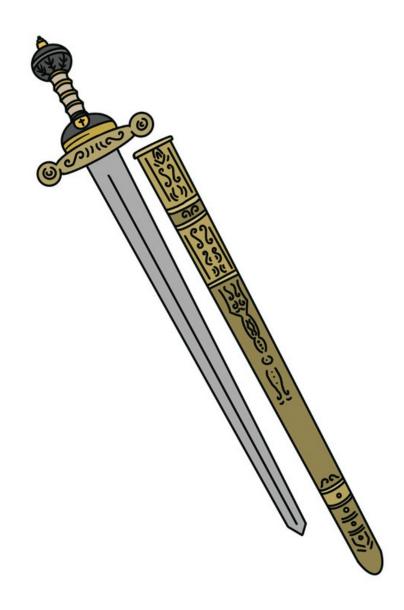
Ask / Discuss:

What does Paul call the helmet in his letter to the Thessalonians? *(The hope of salvation)* What does Paul tell Titus the Christian's "hope of salvation" is? *(Eternal life)* God promised a long time ago that we could be with Him forever if we obey Him and what can God not do? *(God cannot lie)*





SWORD



The Roman soldier usually carried a short sword used for close combat. Let's see how Paul describes the Christian's sword.

Let the students take turns reading the "letters" (NASB):

Eph. 6:17 - And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the <u>word</u> of God.

Heb. 4:12 - For the <u>word</u> of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged <u>sword</u>, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Ask / Discuss:

What does Paul say is our sword? *(The Word of God)* How does the Hebrew writer describe the Word of God? *(Sharper than a two-edged sword)* When Satan was tempting Jesus in the wilderness, what weapon did Jesus use to defeat the devil? *(God's Word)* Matthew 4:10 says, "Then Jesus said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only." When Jesus was tempted, He quoted God's Word back to Satan and we can do the same thing when we are tempted by the devil!





Let's read a couple more verses to close our lesson.

Let the students take turns reading the "letters" (NASB):

Eph. 6:10 - Finally, be <u>strong</u> in the Lord and in the strength of His might.

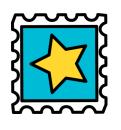
Eph. 6:18 - With all prayer and petition <u>pray</u> at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the <u>alert</u> with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,

Ask / Discuss:

Why do we need the Armor of God? *(To be strong in the Lord, to resist the devil's temptations)* Besides wearing our armor, what else does Paul say we need to do? *(Pray all the time and be alert)* God has given us all the necessary armor and weapons we need to fight against our adversary the devil. But in order to use our sword, the Bible, we need to make sure we know it well. That's why it's so important to read your Bible every day like it says in Psalms 1:2, "[the righteous man's] delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night." Let's all make sure we are reading our Bibles and praying every day so we aren't ensnared by the devil's tricks.

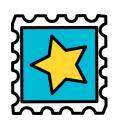
(After the lesson, have the students put "The Epistles" in the correct mailboxes.)





To: The Ephesians

From: Paul



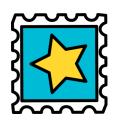
To: The Romans

...and having shod your preparation of the gospel of with the

Rom. 12:18

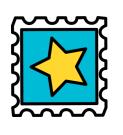
Yr 3 / Qtr 4 / Less 6b / #2

If possible, so far as depends on you, be at with all men.



To: The Corinthians

From: Paul



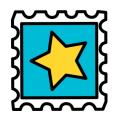
To: The Ephesians

| act like men, be strong. | Be on the alert, stand in the |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | in the faith |
| | 2 |

Eph. 6:16

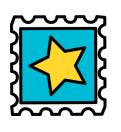
Yr 3 / Qtr 4 / Less 6b / #4

extinguish all the flaming ...in addition to all, taking up the shield of with which you will be able to evil one. of the



To: The Hebrews

From: Paul



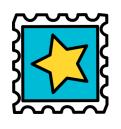
To: The Ephesians

Mon for, the conviction of things not is the assurance of things hoped

EPh. 6:17a

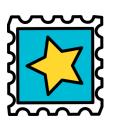
Yr 3 / Qtr 4 / Less 6b / #6

And take the helmet of



To: The Thessalonians

From: Paul



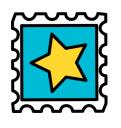
To: Titus

But since we are of the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the of salvation.

Titus 1:2

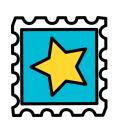
Yr 3 / Qtr 4 / Less 6b / #8

who cannot ...in the hope of eternal , promised long ages ago, , which God,



To: The Ephesians

From: ?



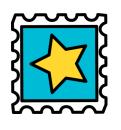
To: The Hebrews

| the Spirit, which is the _ | And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of |
|----------------------------|--|
| of God. | ation, and the sword of |

Heb. 4:12

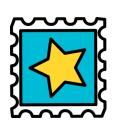
Yr 3 / Qtr 4 / Less 6b / #10

| thoughts and intentions of the heart. | both joints and marrow, and able to judge the | piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of | sharper than any two-edged | For the of God is living and active and |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------|---|
| the heart. | e to judge the | oul and spirit, of | , and | g and active and |



To: The Ephesians

From: Paul



To: The Ephesians

| | Finally, be |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| strength of His might. | in the Lord and in the |

Eph. 6:18

Yr 3 / Qtr 4 / Less 6b / #12

With all prayer and petition in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, at all times