Date: 2 and 3 July, 9 and 10 July, 16 and 17 July, 23 and 24 July, 30 and 31 July, 6

and 7 Aug 2016

[13 and 14 Aug, 27 and 28 Aug- National Day series; 21 Aug – G12 Asia Conference Anniversary Service – No GKidz]

Story Theme: Armour of God Scripture Text: Ephesians 6:13-18

Teaching Focus: To memorize the 6 pieces of the Armour of God and to understand

what each piece represents.

Duration: 6 weeks

Learning Objectives for Leader

To teach children the meaning of the 6 pieces of the Armour of God namely: belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, shoe of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation and sword of the spirit. Each week, we will focus on one piece of the Armour to help the toddlers understand the significance of each piece. The teaching will be done through:

• the making of each piece of the Armour

object lessons

playing imaginary games

Biblical Learning Objectives for Children

To teach the children how to put on the Armour of God in their daily lives through role-play and repetition.

Each week, a piece of the Armour will be made during craft time. This Weekly Focus is the key activity through which they learn about the truth behind each piece of the Armour.

If time does not permit, then choose to give more time and attention to doing the Weekly Focus Teaching than in making the Weekly Craft. Some pieces of the Armour can be challenging to make for the children. Leaders need to help the children.

At the end of this series, children should have mastered:

- a) Memorizing the 6 pieces of the Armour.
- b) Match each piece of the Armour to what it symbolizes.
- c) Experience through role-play and object lesson the meaning of truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation and Word of God as a weapon to overcome the fears that they often face with the Word of God eg. fear of dark, fear of monsters, fear of the strong wind and sudden downpour, fear of nightmares, fear of strangers, fear of separation, fear of masks and mascots, fear of sickness, doctors and dentists.

Date	Weekly Focus	Key Verse (NIV)
Wk 1 – 2/3 Jul	The focus for this week is to make the belt of truth and memorize the 6 pieces of the Armour	Ephesians 6:14a Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist. John 8:32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.
Wk 2 – 9/10 Jul	To make the breastplate of righteousness	Ephesians 6:14bwith the breastplate of righteousness in place 1 Corinthians 16:13 Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.
Wk 3 – 16/17 Jul	To teach the children to be messengers of Good News; news of peace.	Ephesians 6:15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace Isaiah 5:7 "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace and bring good news."
Wk 4 – 23/24 Jul	To teach children how to have faith	Ephesians 6:16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Romans 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
Wk 5 – 30/31 Jul	To make the helmet of salvation	Ephesians 6:17a Take the helmet of salvation John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.
Wk 6 – 6/7 Aug	To teach that the Word of God has power	Ephesians 6:17band the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

The Armour of God lesson will be taught through a Platform teacher and the Small Group leaders (N2, N3, N4)

Lesson Segment	Duration
Memorising the Armour of God with Actions (Platform Teaching)	5 minutes
Armour of God 6 Pieces Overview (Small Group Teaching)	5 minutes
Armour of God One Piece Craft (Small Group Teaching)	15 minutes
Armour of God One Piece Teaching (Small Group Teaching)	5 minutes
Total	30 minutes

Platform Teaching-Memorising the Armour of God with Actions (5 mins)

Background to Ephesians 6 Roman Soldier and the Armour of God, Ephesians 6:10-20

Paul wrote Ephesians in Rome in AD60. This contains an appeal to be strong, and, with the assistance of the Spirit, to fight the power of evil.

Paul near the end of Ephesians wrote the famous words about putting on the whole Armour of God which is broken down below to in its seven base components:

- 1. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist.
- 2. With the breastplate of righteousness in place.
- 3. With your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.
- 4. Take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.
- 5. Take the helmet of salvation.
- 6. The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
- 7. Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

Use these actions to help children memorize the 6 pieces of the Armour, putting on each piece in the way a Roman soldier would put on for a battle.

Armour of God	Action
Belt of Truth	Hands tracing imaginary belt around waist, legs apart
Breastplate of Righteousness	Slap on chest, legs apart
Shoe of Peace	March
Shield of Faith	Left hand lift up and shield like Batman, one leg step forward towards left
Helmet of Salvation	Hands putting on imaginary helmet, legs apart
Sword of the Spirit—the Word of God	Right hand draws up imaginary sword from waist and point sword up towards sky, one leg step forward towards right

Small Group Teaching – Armour of God Overview (5 mins)

Material Needed: A2 Teaching Aid and Detachable pieces

Bible Verse [children need not memorise]

Ephesians 6:13-18 (NIV)

- 13 Therefore put on the full Armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.
- 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,
- 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the Gospel of peace.
- 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.
- 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
- 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.
 - 1 Using the A2 teaching aid with detachable pieces of Armour, seat the children in a circle with you.
 - 2 Hold up the A2 poster and read the bible verse out loud (printed at the back of the A2 poster) slowly.
 - 3 As each piece of the Armour is being mentioned, give the piece to the children to stick (blue tac) onto the A2 teaching aid.
 - 4 When completed, begin to remove each piece of the Armour one at a time but this time add on what that piece of Armour represents.

Belt of truth

Leader to say: "Children, can you point to the picture of a belt. Usually daddy wears belt. The belt holds our pants and prevents it from dropping. It also helps to hold small objects like our camera and small pouches. In the same way, when we speak truth and not tell lies, our lives are held by our truthful words."

Breastplate of righteousness

Leader to say: "Now, the breastplate is not a common piece of costume. It was worn by the Roman soldiers and it helps to protect our heart. When the enemy tries to use a sword and aim at the heart, the breastplate will provide a layer of protection. Choosing to do right things will protect our hearts from becoming hurt and wounded or boastful."

Shoe of peace

Leader to say: "Children, I am sure you know why we wear shoe. Here's a pair of shoe. Do you wear your shoe when you are at home or when you are outside of your house? In the same way, God is the Prince of peace. When we wear the shoe of peace, we bring God's peace to our friends or relatives homes and their families."

Shield of faith

Leader to say: "Does anyone know how does a shield look like? This is also a Roman times weapon. (Picks up the picture) The shield protects all the fiery arrows that satan shoots at us. And you use the shield of faith to defeat the fears that satan throws at us."

Helmet of salvation

Leader to say, "Children, which one is the helmet?" Is it this one? (picks up belt picture) No. Is this a helmet? Yes! Helmet of Salvation (picks up the helmet picture). The helmet protects us from anything that is dangerous and might hit our heads. In the construction worksite, they wear helmets when they build houses in case the loose bricks or nails will drop on their heads. When we cycle, we also wear helmets to protect us in case we fall off from our bicycles.

In the same way, God wants us to wear the helmet of salvation is to protect our minds from the scary monsters or the nightmares when we sleep."

Sword of the Spirit

Leader to say: "The last piece of the Armour of God is the sword. This is the only weapon that attacks. The other 5 pieces of the Armour are to protect. Who do we attack and defeat? Yes, it is satan and all his lies and wrong things he wants to tempt us to do."

Small Group Segment: Week 2 (09 & 10 July)

Weekly Small Group Time & Craft: Armour of God – Breastplate of Righteousness

Objective: This week teaching is to make the breastplate of righteousness and let the children know what it means to stand firm in the Lord.

Materials

- 1) 2 pieces of rectangle silver art card of 19cm x 26.6cm
- 2) 2 silver art card strips of 5cm x 30cm (shoulder strips)
- 3) 2 silver art card strips of 5cm x 20cm (waist strips)
- 4) Words "Breastplate of Righteousness printed on sticker label
- 5) 8 red dots of 2 cm diameter
- 6) Sticky tape



Completed Craft

How to do

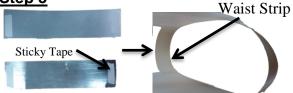
Step 1

Give each child 2 rectangle pieces and 2 shoulder strips.

Step 2 Shoulder Strip Sticky Tape

Guide the child to stick 2 rectangle pieces and 2 shoulder strips together. By pasting sticky tape on all 4 ends of the shoulder strips.

Step 3



Guide the child to stick the 2 waist strips at both left and right of the breastplate by pasting sticky tape on all 4 ends of the waist strip.

Step 4



Direct child to paste "Breastplate of Righteousness" sticker on one side of the rectangle piece.

Step 5



Give each child 8 red dots to decorate the breastplate.

Step 6



Write the name of the child at the back of the completed craft.

Small Group Teaching – Armour of God One Piece Teaching (5 mins)

The focus of this piece of Armour is to teach the children to "Stand Firm in the Lord" 1 Corinthians 16:13 "Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong." Righteousness is defined as choosing the way of the Lord even when it is difficult to do so.

Help each child to put on the breastplate

Game – "I Can Stand Firm In The Lord"

- 1 leader with 3-4 children.
- Form a circle and have 1 child stand in the middle.
- Start by telling child that everyone is going to ask him to do something that will not please God. Tell child to reply each time with "No, I will stand firm in the Lord!"
- ullet Action to go with this reply—child to crunch both fists and bend elbow (like doing eta
 - 步). Then bring elbow in towards waist whenever he says "I will stand firm in the Lord!"
- Leader to start by being the person telling child to do wrong. May begin by saying "Go tell lie!" Then child reply with accompanying action "No! I will stand firm in the Lord!"
- Another child may say "Fight with me!" Encourage the child in the centre to echo what the leader says.
- Do this for same child with 2 bad suggestions. Then change to another child.
- Some wrong things suggestions: "Go and touch the wire", "Go and steal some toys!", "Go and eat the snacks in the fridge!" "Go and disobey mummy", "Go and bite your friend's hand!" "Throw your friend's craft on the floor!" "Go and jump queue", "Go and eat the snacks mummy say No", "Take your friend's toy".
- Let every child has had a turn to stand firm in the centre.
- Leader decides when to end the game. End the game by gathering the children to do the wrap up group activity.

Wrap Up Group Activity

Leader to say: "Children, repeat after me:

We will always choose to do right. [children echo you]

We will always choose to do things that please God. [children echo you]

Even when all your friends around you are doing wrong, what do we do?!!! We will choose to 'Stand firm in the Lord!'

Leader to say: 'I will stand firm in the Lord!" [children echo you]

This is call righteousness—to do right even when no one is doing it. Why? Because we are God's children

Leader to say: Repeat after me, I am a child of God! [children echo you] I will do right! [children echo you]

Platform Declaration Prayer (before wrap up song)

Leader to say: "God loves us so much that He gives us the breastplate of righteousness to protect us. I must stand firm in the Lord."

Ephesians 6:13-18 (NIV) – Leader's Script for Actions and Small Group Teaching

- 13 Therefore put on the full Armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.
- 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,
- 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the Gospel of peace.
- 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.
- 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.
- 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

<u>Actions</u>

Belt of Truth (hands tracing imaginary belt around waist, legs apart)

Breastplate of Righteousness (slap on chest, legs apart)

Shoe of Peace (march)

Shield of Faith (left hand lift up and shield like Batman, one leg step forward towards left)

Helmet of Salvation (hands putting on imaginary helmet, legs apart)

Sword of the Spirit—the Word of God (right hand draws up imaginary sword from waist and point sword up towards sky, one leg step forward towards right)

Small Group Teaching Aid

Belt of truth

Leader to say: "Children, can you point to the picture of a belt. Usually daddy wears belt. The belt holds our pants and prevents it from dropping. It also helps to hold small objects like our camera and small pouches. In the same way, when we speak truth and not tell lies, our lives are held by our truthful words."

• Breastplate of righteousness

Leader to say: "Now, the breastplate is not a common piece of costume. It was worn by the Roman soldiers and it helps to protect our heart. When the enemy tries to use a sword and aim at the heart, the breastplate will provide a layer of protection. Choosing to do right things will protect our hearts from becoming hurt and wounded or boastful."

Shoe of peace

Leader to say: "Children, I am sure you know why we wear shoe. Here's a pair of shoe. Do you wear your shoe when you are at home or when you are outside of your house? In the same way, God is the Prince of peace. When we wear the shoe of peace, we bring God's peace to our friends or relatives homes and their families."

Shield of faith

Leader to say: "Does anyone know how does a shield look like? This is also a Roman times weapon. (Picks up the picture) The shield protects all the fiery arrows that Satan shoots at us. And you use the shield of faith to defeat the fears that Satan throws at us."

Helmet of salvation

Leader to say, "Children, which one is the helmet?" Is it this one? (picks up belt picture) No. Is this a helmet? Yes! Helmet of Salvation (picks up the helmet picture). The helmet protects us from anything that is dangerous and might hit our heads. In the construction worksite, they wear helmets when they build houses in case the loose bricks or nails will drop on their heads. When we cycle, we also wear helmets to protect us in case we fall off from our bicycles.

In the same way, God wants us to wear the helmet of salvation is to protect our minds from the scary monsters or the nightmares when we sleep."

Sword of the Spirit

Leader to say: "The last piece of the Armour of God is the sword. This is the only weapon that attacks. The other 5 pieces of the Armour are to protect. Who do we attack and defeat? Yes, it is Satan and all his lies and wrong things he wants to tempt us to do."