

Instructions: Use this agenda for a 75-minute training seminar. Find resources for this training at pursueGODkids.org

Lead Trainer:
Assistant Trainers:
Date of Training:

Training Checklist and Assignments

- Name Tags, Printouts and Packets:
- Food and Drinks:
- Technology:

15 min **Meet and Greet**

Welcome people as they show up. Have them sign up on an attendance sheet and fill out a name tag. Let people grab refreshments and settle into a seat.

5 min Introduce your team leaders, explain your age breakdowns for each class, and distribute schedules if necessary. Talk about the expectations for volunteers. (Finding a sub, who to contact and when)

20 min **[KC Principle #1](#)**

Watch the video together and discuss questions as needed. Review your [safety policies](#) and have everyone fill out their background check forms.

20 min **[KC Principle #2](#)**

Watch the video together and discuss questions as needed. Watch the [How to Use Teacher Notes in KC](#) and review the sample teacher's pack. Talk about how it all works in the classroom (and large group if applicable).

15 min **[KC Principle #3](#)**

Watch the video together and discuss questions as needed. Review the family guide (sample teacher's pack) and talk about how to encourage parents to continue the conversation at home.

Meeting Notes:

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name:

Phone:

Email:

SPIRITUAL BACKGROUND

Briefly share your faith journey.

How long have you been attending this church? Have you served in other areas?

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Share any experience you've had working with kids.

AREAS OF INTEREST

Check any that apply:

- Infants
- Toddlers
- K-1st
- 2nd-3rd
- 4th-5th
- Admin (preparing weekly lessons)
- Sub List

Signature (with consent to a background check): _____



Use this series to train leaders and volunteers on the Explorers curriculum at PursueGOD Kids. We'll cover three principles to keep everyone on the same page as we help kids pursue God.

Session #1: Prioritize Safety

The key to success for any kid's ministry starts with the environment. From a kid's point of view, they want a fun environment full of color and energy. They don't want to hang around in a place that's drab and depressing. From a parent's point of view, they want to see a safe and orderly space that lends itself to learning. So, as kids ministry volunteers, you need to take into consideration both points of view.

Make a good first impression

As volunteers, start your day by looking at your classroom. Make sure it's clean and stocked with fun toys or activities that can engage the kids right away. Greet kids at the door and call them by name. If they're new, introduce yourself. If you can, interact with the parents so they get to know you, too.

Follow your policies and procedures

This is of paramount importance. In order to ensure the safety and security of the kids in your care, you must follow your policies and procedures. This ensures the safety of both the kids and the volunteers. So, make sure you know how your check in and check out system works and understand the bathroom protocols work at your church. Read through them so you can understand them and then be committed to following them.

Church should be a safe place for kids to learn about Jesus. Following the policies and procedures will help to create that safe space for kids and will give parents the confidence to know that their kids will be okay.

Talk About It

1. *What experiences (good and bad) have you had with churches or Kids Church volunteers? What things did you notice that excited you or turned you off?*
 2. *What are some conclusions parents might draw if they see a messy, disorganized classroom? What are they likely to think about a structured and clean classroom?*
 3. *Why are policies important for safety in a church setting?*
 4. *Why is it important to have good classroom management?*
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Session 2: Lead with Energy

Faithful kids church volunteers are the best! After all, a successful kids ministry is dependent upon its volunteers. You guys are the face of the ministry. You're the ones that interact with the kids and bring the Bible lesson alive every week. So, your mindset and prep work will either make or break the experience.

Remember to have a servant's heart

Serving can be hard sometimes. You might wake up not feeling well or just not in the mood to come to church. If that happens, just remember how your actions affect the whole. So, when you can't serve, find a sub or give enough notice to your coordinator so they can make the appropriate adjustments. And, every time, come with a good attitude. God loves a cheerful giver which includes giving of your time.

Lead with excitement and energy

No one likes to listen to a monotone person, especially kids. Come to your class with a smile and an infectious energy that gets the kids excited to learn about Jesus. After all, they will follow your lead. So, if you model that it's fun to worship Jesus by singing songs and learning about him in the Bible, the kids will think it's fun, too.

Preparing before class is the key

Our lessons are short and concise so that means your prep time is easy. Just read through the lesson overview and take note of the Big Idea, Key Question and Memory verse. This will help you to lead with confidence and clarity so that you can help kids discover more about Jesus and his love for them.

Working with kids is a privilege. Teaching them about Jesus is an honor. So, as you



serve, remember to show your love for Jesus through your energy and effort.

Talk About It

1. *Describe the best teacher you ever had. What made them great? Describe the worst teacher you ever had. What made them terrible?*
 2. *What are some ways to engage with the kids in an energetic, fun way?*
 3. *What might you be communicating to kids if you don't participate in worship?*
 4. *What happens when teachers aren't prepared to teach? Share some helpful tips for preparing the lesson each week.*
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Session 3: Partner with Parents

The heart behind all of our resources at PGkids is to empower parents to talk to their kids about matters relating to faith and life. The reason- we believe that parents are ultimately the pastors of their kids, so even though church is an important part of a child's spiritual development, we feel that it solidifies and deepens in the home. We believe this happens through conversations where kids discover God's truth and then learn how to apply it to their lives.

The conversation starts at church, but finishes at home

As volunteers, your job is to start the conversation. You present the lesson in a compelling way and help kids discover the biblical truths for that week's lesson. But then, your job is to pass off the responsibility to the parents. Every week, make sure to remind both the kids and parents to take their Family Guide home and re-watch the bible lesson video and go through the questions as a family. Repetition is a good thing as it gives kids a chance to really understand the lesson and provides them the opportunity to apply the lessons in a more personal way.

Our world is getting scarier by the day and our culture is moving further and further away from biblical values. We need to equip the next generation to know how to stand for Jesus. In order to ensure that this happens, we need churches to do their part and we need parents to do their part.

Talk About It

1. *Who had the greatest influence in your spiritual development?*
2. *Why is it important to get parents more involved?*



3. *Why is it important to get families talking about God's word at home?*

4. *What are some ways you can encourage families to use the family guide at home?*

Congrats! You've finished the training! Now check out the Teacher Page for the lesson schedule and additional resources.

Kids Church Safety Policy

The first priority of our Kids Church ministry is to create a safe environment for all of our kids and volunteers. The following policies are to be followed by every volunteer in the church.

1. All adults working with children will agree with and sign this policy form and will submit to a criminal background check. Anyone with a criminal conviction related to a violent or sexual act will not be allowed to work with children. Convictions that don't fall in one of those two categories will be reviewed by the KC leadership on a case by case basis.
2. Ministry settings will be staffed by a minimum of two qualified workers at all times, unless your ministry setting is one large space, subdivided into smaller classrooms. In this case, it is permissible to have one volunteer in the class, so long as the class is visible to other volunteers working in the same area.
3. In any ministry setting, adults are never to be alone with a child/children in a restroom or other enclosed spaces where observation from other responsible volunteers isn't possible.
4. Physical contact with children should be age and individual appropriate, demonstrating the pure and genuine nature of God's love. Inappropriate physical contact includes:
 - Kissing a child or coaxing a child to kiss you.
 - Extended hugging and tickling, or prolonged physical contact of any kind.
 - Touching a child in any area that would be covered by a bathing suit. Exceptions: diaper changing and properly assisting a child in the restroom (see number 5).
 - Carrying an older child or sitting him/her on your lap.
 - Treating a child in a rough manner, including yelling, intimidating, threatening, grabbing the arm firmly, shaking them, sitting them in a chair forcibly, or striking them.
5. Bathroom procedures:
 - Volunteers will encourage parents of pre- 1st grade to take their child to the bathroom before check in.
 - When assisting a child in the restroom, there should be two volunteers present, one assisting the child and the other standing outside of the bathroom stall.
 - If a child needs to use the bathroom during class, the volunteer will notify the Team Leader for assistance. The Team Leader will find a second adult to assist in escorting, clearing the bathroom, and safely returning the child back to class.
6. A security tagging system is used for all children ranging from infant through the 5th grade (unless otherwise specified at your campus). Parents are responsible for following the check in procedures at their campus. The parent must present the parent tag for release of their child. Volunteers are responsible for making sure the child and parent tag or family number are matched before dismissal. Children may only be released from their classroom by a parent or family member over the age of 12.
7. All volunteers working with children 0-18 years of age will immediately report any items of obvious concern regarding suspected child abuse. Volunteers will report such suspected abuse to their KC Team Leader and/or Director. (See policy on reporting suspected abuse).
8. All volunteers working with children will read and agree in writing to the above stated policies.

I have read and agree to the above stated policies.

Date: _____

Printed name: _____

Signature: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



Permission to Obtain a Background Check

(This form authorizes us to obtain background information and must be completed by the applicant. The church must keep this completed form on file for at least two years after requesting a background check.)

I, the undersigned applicant (also known as "consumer"), authorizes my church, through its independent contractor, to procure background information (also known as a "consumer report and/or investigative consumer report") about me. This report may include my driving history, including any traffic citations; a social security number verification; present and former addresses; criminal and civil history/records; and the state sex offenders records.

I understand that I am entitled to a complete copy of any background information report of which I am the subject upon request to this organization, if such is made within a reasonable time from the date it was produced. I also understand that I may receive a written summary of my rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

Print Name	Signature	Date
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Identifying Information for Background Information Agency (Also known as "Consumer Reporting Agency")

Print Name:

First	Middle	Last
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Current Address:

Street / P.O. Box	City	State	Zip	County	Dates
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Former Address:

Street / P.O. Box	City	State	Zip	County	Dates
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Social Security Number: * _____ **Daytime Phone Number:** _____

Driver's License Number: * _____ **State of Issuance:** _____

Date of Birth: _____ **Gender:** M F

Have you ever been arrested and/or charged for a crime of any nature? Yes / No If yes, please explain in detail including the place and date of incident:

Have you ever been convicted of a crime involving the abuse, neglect or mistreatment of any person, including a minor? Yes / No If yes, please explain in detail including the place and date of incident: (Use other side for more writing space.)

Have you ever been accused of or been convicted of child sexual abuse? Yes / No If yes, please explain in detail including the place and date of incident: (Use other side for more writing space.)



Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're going to learn about a special uniform we get to wear as Christians. It's not like a football uniform and it doesn't come with a police badge. It's really not clothes at all. We're talking about God's armor. The Bible says that when we trust in Jesus, we have the strength to fight against sinful things which are things that don't honor God. This special armor helps us to do that. We get the Belt of Truth that helps us to know right and wrong. The Breastplate of Righteousness protects our hearts and reminds us that we belong to God. The Shoes of Peace helps us to be brave in sharing the love of Jesus with others. The Shield of Faith helps us to fight off the attacks of the enemy and reminds us that we have Jesus on our side. The Helmet of Salvation reminds us that Jesus has forgiven us and we have the hope of heaven some day. The Sword of Truth is our weapon, not to hurt people, but to fight off sin. The Truth is God's word, the Bible, and it tells us how to live. So kids, remember your special uniform and be sure to put it on everyday.

Big Idea

God's armor helps us to fight sin.

Key Question

What does sin look like?

Memory Verse

Ephesians 6:10 "Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power."

Classroom Agenda

- (5 min) PLAY: Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
- (5 min) WARM UP: What sports team has the coolest uniform? Why do you think certain jobs like police officers or doctors need to wear a uniform?** (Tip: Uniforms help people to know what team they represent. For police officers and doctors, their uniforms help us to know who to go to for help if we're in danger or are sick.)
- (5 min) PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
- (20 min) LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
- (2 min) RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
- (3 min) KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **Sin is anything that doesn't honor God.** (The Bible tells us what makes God happy and what makes him sad. Sin is the stuff that makes God sad. Things like; lying, gossiping, stealing or disobeying. Jesus came to set us free from sin. With his help, we can say "No" to the sinful things.)
 - Bonus Questions:** What are some other examples of sinful things that make God sad? What are some things that make God happy? **4-5th:** How does knowing the Bible help you to fight sin?
- (5 min) EXPLORE: Read [Philippians 1:27](#). What do you think it means to be a citizen of heaven? How can God's armor help us with that?** (Answer: A citizen represents their country and culture. So, as citizens of heaven, we belong to God. That means we should act like God wants us to act. We should be good representatives of him in everything we do. God's armor helps to remind us of who we are. We belong to God and we have Jesus on our side. He has forgiven our sins and given us the strength to say "No" to stuff that doesn't honor God.)
- (10 min) PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
- (5 min) CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: ARMOR OF GOD CRAFT

Instructions:

- Give each kid a Shield template (page 5). Give each kid a half sheet of card stock and a strip of construction paper.
- Have kids color their shield. Then have them glue the shield onto the card stock. Have them cut off the excess card stock around the shield. Then, have them staple the strip of construction paper to the back of the shield to serve as a handle to slip their arm through to hold it like a shield.
- As they work, read Ephesians 6:10-17 and remind the kids of each piece of their special armor God gives them to fight off sin.

Supplies needed: Shield template (pg. 5, pre cut, 1 per kid), Card stock (half sheets, 1 per kid), Strips of construction paper (1 per kid), Crayons, Glue, Scissors, Staplers

OPTION 2: PUT ON THE ARMOR RELAY

Instructions:

- Before class, tape two lines at each end of the room.
- Divide the class into two teams. Give each team a set of armor.
 - Men's shirts for the Breastplate of Righteousness
 - Belts for the Belt of Truth
 - A pair of adult shoes for Shoes of Peace
- Have teams line up behind the two lines at one end. When you say "Go!", have the first two kids in line put on their armor and run to the other end of the room and touch the taped line and then run back. Then, that kid takes off the armor and the next kid in line puts it on. Continue until all of the kids have put on the armor and run to the other end and back. The team to do it the quickest, wins.

Supplies needed: Tape, Armor items (see above)

Q12

BIBLE BASICS

The Armor of God

Hey kids and parents! Fill in the blanks as you talk about this week's lesson together. Have fun!

Key Points

- The Belt of _____ . Ephesians 6:14
- The Body Armor of _____
Ephesians 6:14
- The Shoes of _____ Ephesians 6:15
- The Shield of _____ Ephesians 6:16
- The Helmet of _____ Ephesians 6:17
- The Sword of the _____ Ephesians 6:17

Big Idea

God's armor helps us to fight sin.

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Talk About It

1. What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?
2. In your opinion, what sports team has the coolest uniforms? Why do you think certain jobs like police officers or doctors need to wear a uniform?
3. How does the shield of faith help us in life?
4. What book is our sword?
5. Read Philippians 1:27. What do you think it means to be a citizen of heaven? How can God's armor help us with that?
6. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Color the picture.

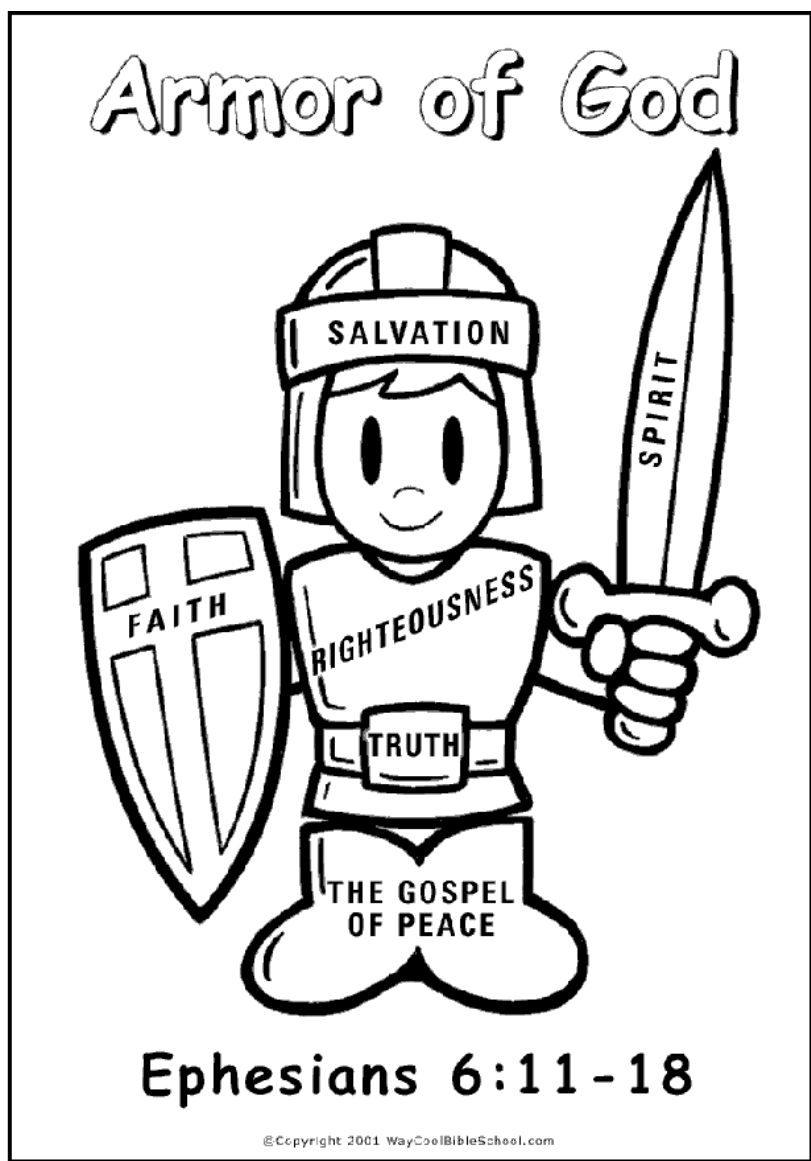
GOD'S ARMOR HELPS US TO FIGHT SIN

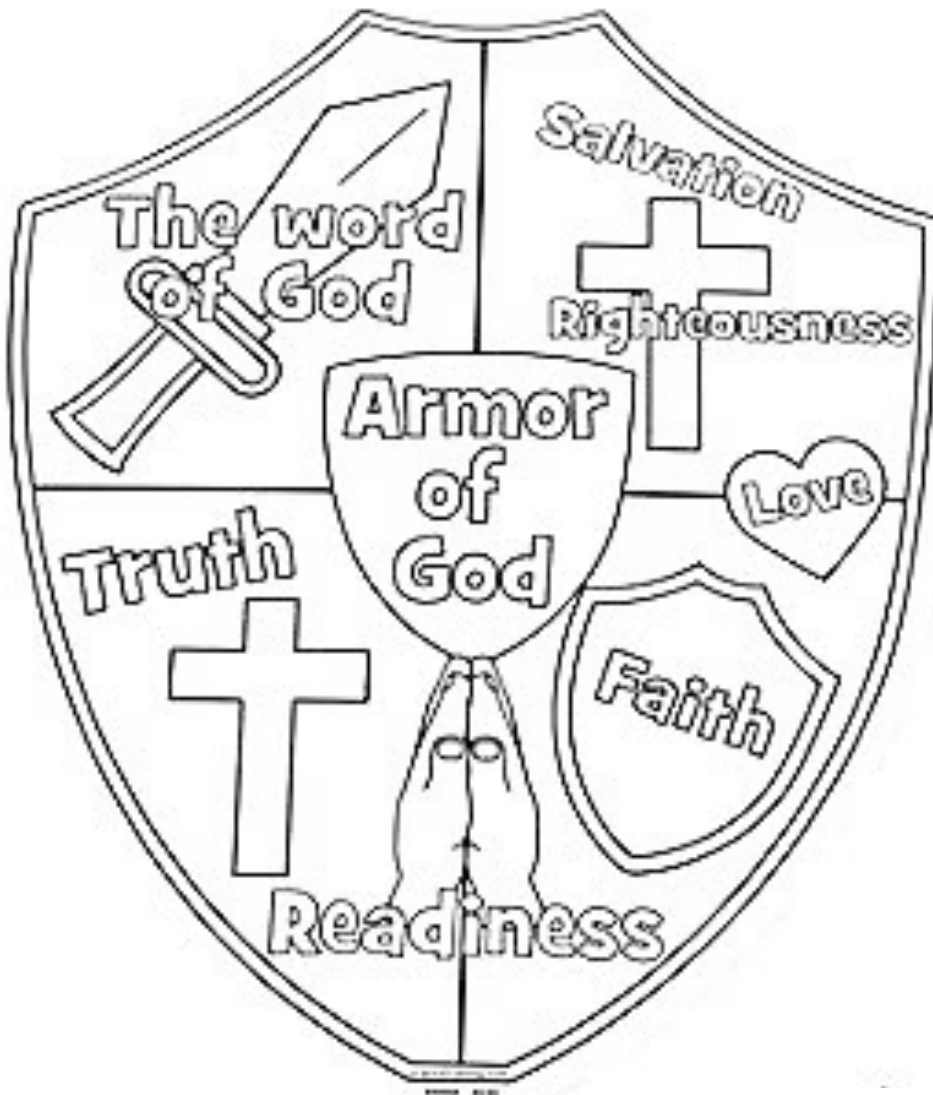
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- (10 min) PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
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Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

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3. How does the shield of faith help us in life?
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6. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Solve the puzzles.

LIST YOUR TOP 3 DREAM JOBS

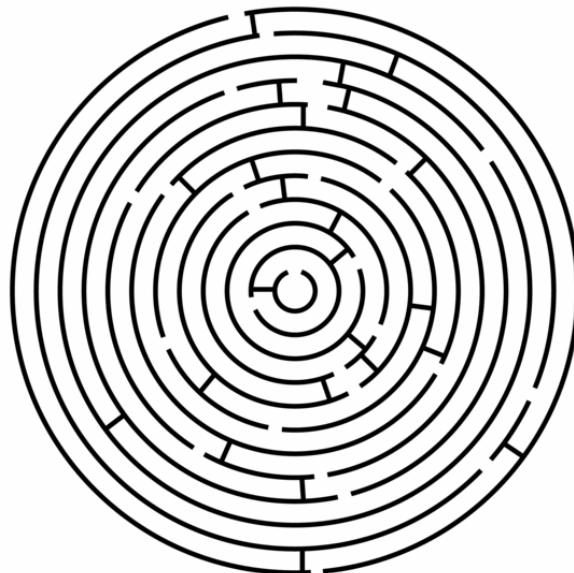
- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

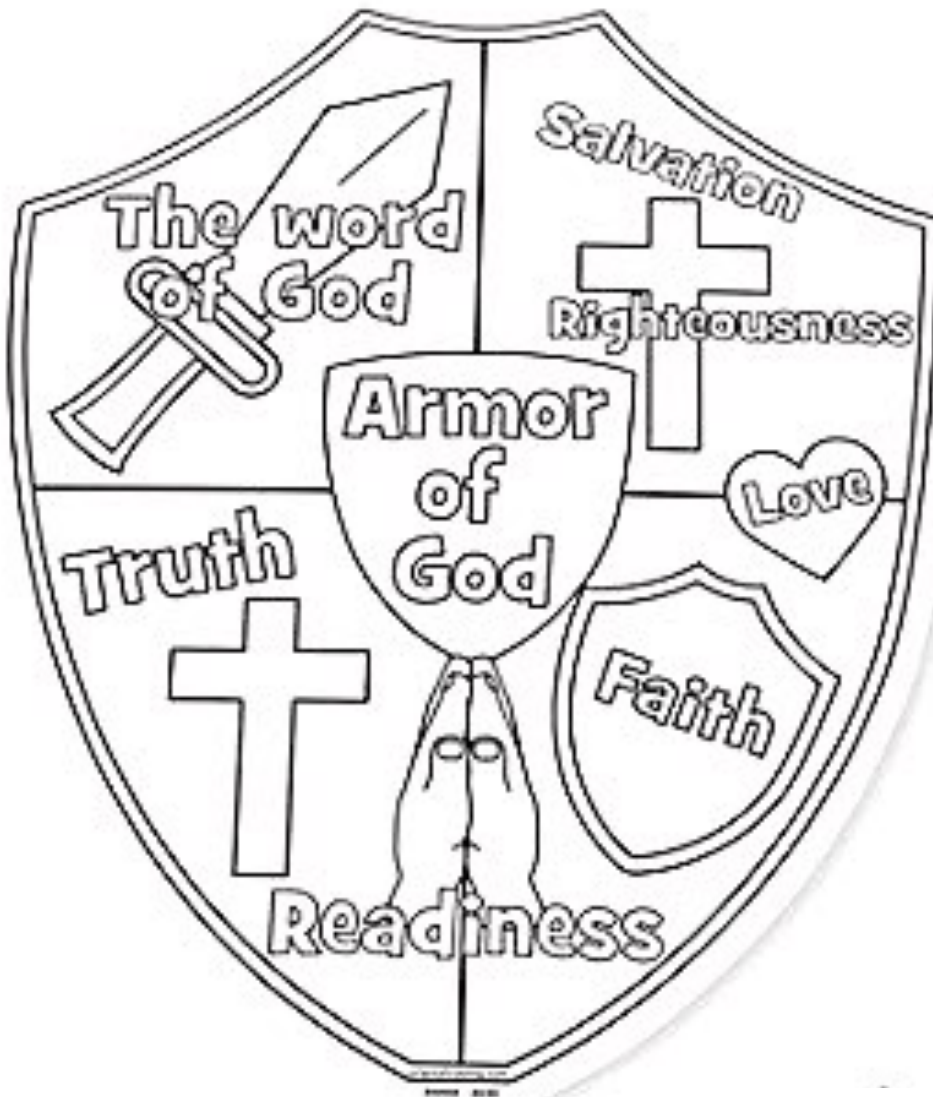
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Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: LESSON REVIEW FILL IN THE BLANK

Instructions:

- Read a fill in the blank statement from below. First kid to raise their hand gets a chance to answer. If correct, they get a point. Keep track of each kid's points on the whiteboard as you go. Kid with the most points, wins.

Statements:

1. The ___ of God helps us to fight sin. (Armor)
2. The Belt of ___ helps us to know right and wrong. (Truth)
3. The Breastplate of Righteousness guards our ____. (hearts)
4. The ___ of Peace help us to share Jesus (Shoes)
5. The Helmet of ___ helps us to think about the right stuff. (Salvation)
6. The Sword of Truth is the ____ (Bible)
7. Jesus died on a ___ for us. (Cross)
8. Our memory verse is from the book of ____ (Ephesians)
9. The Shield of ___ protects us from satan's attacks. (Faith)
10. ___ is anything that doesn't honor God. (Sin)

Supplies needed: None

OPTION 2: PUT ON THE ARMOR RELAY

Instructions:

- Before class, tape two lines at each end of the room.
- Divide the class into two teams. Give each team a set of armor.
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- The Shield of _____ Ephesians 6:16
- The Helmet of _____ Ephesians 6:17
- The Sword of the _____ Ephesians 6:17

Big Idea

God's armor helps us to fight sin.

Key Question

What does sin look like?

Memory Verse

Ephesians 6:10 "Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power."

Talk About It

1. What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?
2. In your opinion, what sports team has the coolest uniforms? Why do you think certain jobs like police officers or doctors need to wear a uniform?
3. How does the shield of faith help us in life?
4. What book is our sword?
5. Read Philippians 1:27. What do you think it means to be a citizen of heaven? How can God's armor help us with that?
6. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Solve the puzzles.

LIST YOUR TOP 3 DREAM JOBS

- 1.

- 2.

- 3.

Big Idea

Key Question

Memory Verse

*Ephesians 6:_____ "Be _____
in the _____ and in his
mighty _____."*

