

THE CHURCH THAT PLEASES GOD

STUDY GUIDE • EPHESIANS 6:14-17



# BUILT ON BIBLICAL BEDROCK

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# CONTENTS

# **WELCOME:**

| Fixing Our Focus            | . 1 |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| WORSHIP:<br>Adoring Our God | 1   |
| WORD & WALK:                | . 1 |

Understanding & Applying the Word ......2

# Our Defensive Armor in Spiritual Warfare

EPHESIANS 6:14-17

# WELCOME: Fixing Our Focus

# **Suggested icebreaker:** Ask each GG member to share what they think is the most important equipment of a soldier who is engaged in battle and why they think so.

# WORSHIP:

Adoring Our God

## Suggested songs:

- O Church Arise
- Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

## LESSON AIM

- 1. GG members will put on the whole armor of God to stand against Satan's attacks.
- 2. GG members will encourage and support each other in spiritual warfare.

# INTRODUCTION

In our previous lesson, we learned about the reality of spiritual warfare. We cannot hope to survive fighting this war in our own strength. But there is hope, because we have the armor of God, which God makes available to all believers, so that we can stand against the spiritual attacks of Satan and his minions. Let's take a look at the different pieces of the armor of God.

### The belt of truth (v. 14a)

- 1. What verb did Paul use at the beginning of this verse? How does this describe the believer's role in spiritual warfare? (cf. Ephesians 6:11, 13)
- How did Jesus describe Satan in contrast to Himself in John 8:44-45? (cf. John 14:6)
- 3. How would you characterize a life lived in truth?

# APPLICATION

#### Children

- 1. Share why being honest and truthful is important and the best thing to do.
- 2. Draw the belt of truth, color it and write examples of being honest and truthful around the belt.

#### Youth

What are some of the ways you see the idea of truth being destroyed or made obsolete today?

#### Adults

How can you live a life of integrity? Try to list down things you should avoid and things you should practice.

#### Community

What impact can you make at home or at work by living a life of integrity? How might it affect the people around you and how can it become an opportunity for sharing the gospel?

#### World

As you try to live truthfully, what challenges are brought about by the belief that "truth is relative" or "what may be true for you may not necessarily be true for me"?

### The breastplate of righteousness (v. 14b)

- 1. What is the source of righteousness for all believers according to Paul in Romans 3:21-22?
- 2. Because God has credited Christ's righteousness to all believers (cf. Romans 5:17-19), what does God expect from them according to Romans 6:19?
- 3. How can Christ's righteousness help believers defend themselves against Satan's attacks?

# APPLICATION

#### Children

- 1. List up to ten things (actions or attitudes) that are right.
- 2. Draw and design your breastplate and on that breastplate write what you just listed in number 1, the actions or attitudes that are right.

#### Youth

How can you practice righteousness where you are today (e.g. – in your school, your orgs, your family, etc.)?

#### Adults

How can you pursue a life of righteousness while avoiding legalism?

#### Community

Doing what is right is not always easy. In fact, many times the right thing is the most difficult thing to do. Can you share an experience when you found it difficult to do the right thing at home, at school, or at work?

#### World

How is Satan and the world system trying to attack Christ's righteousness in our world today? Can you give examples of how what is right is being twisted to look like it is wrong?

## The shoes of the gospel of peace (v. 15)

- 1. Why do you think Paul described the gospel as the "gospel of peace"? (cf. Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:14-17)
- What assurance do believers have because of the gospel? (cf. Ephesians 1:13-14)
- 3. What did Paul write about people who declare the gospel in Romans 10:15? What does this tell us about sharing the gospel with others?

# APPLICATION

#### Children

- 1. What do we put on our feet when we need to move around our home, go to school, and attend church? Why do we need to wear them for our feet?
- 2. Draw these gears that you wear and design the "speed power" to help you be ready to move around and help others.

#### Youth

How does remembering the gospel of Christ bring you peace in your circumstances today?

#### Adults

What hurdles do you face when it comes to sharing the gospel? How can you overcome them?

#### Community

Think of a person at home, at school, or at work whom you can share the gospel with. Pray for that person and ask God to make you sensitive to opportunities to share the gospel with them.

#### World

The world is in need of the gospel of peace. How can you be ready and prepared to share it?

## The shield of faith (v. 16)

- 1. How would you describe faith? Is it a one-time decision or something that one continues to do?
- 2. How does Satan sow seeds of doubt in minds of believers in an effort to attack their faith in God?
- 3. What are some ways believers can reinforce their faith in God, especially in difficult times?

# APPLICATION

#### Children

Draw and design a spiritual shield that will protect us from fiery darts of the enemy. List down the kinds of darts that can be thrown at you by the enemy (example: worries).

#### Youth

What are some of the darts of Satan being thrown at you currently that you need protection from?

#### Adults

How has God shown His faithfulness in your life? Can you recall a couple of instances?

#### Community

How is God revealing His faithfulness to our country during this time?

#### World

How is Satan sowing doubt about who God is in the minds of people today?

## The helmet of salvation (v. 17a)

- How did Paul describe this same piece of armor in 1 Thessalonians 5:8? Why do you think he described it that way?
- Is salvation a thing of the past, present, or future? (cf. Romans 5:8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-2; 1 Peter 1:3-5)
- 3. How can the salvation that comes from God defend believers from Satan's attacks?

# APPLICATION

#### Children

- 1. What is the book we go to in order to know more about God, His character, His love, His plan for us?
- 2. Draw a helmet you like to wear to remind you that you are a child of God. Put a Bible verse on the pointed part of the sword. Now go back to all your drawings of (belt, breastplate, shoes/sandals, shield, helmet, and sword). Enjoy and learn what God's Word can do to help us live the LIFE God has given us.

#### Youth

What are some ways God's salvation has changed you in the way you think, speak, and act?

#### Adults

How does God's salvation affect you in your daily life? Why should you not take it for granted?

#### Community

In our current circumstances where we are experiencing a pandemic and the war between Russia and Ukraine caused prices of commodities to rise, how can you point people to the hope of salvation that is found in Christ alone?

#### World

How is Satan using the world system to question the assurance of salvation that God gives to believers?

## PRAYER ITEM

Pray for one another that each one will put on the whole armor of God. Pray that God will strengthen each one so that they can engage in spiritual warfare. Pray for protection against Satan's attacks.





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