



Resource Material

Hello and welcome to the resource material for Full Armour.

As the name suggests, we are using the imagery set out in Paul's letter to the Ephesians describing the armour of God. Paul urges us to put on the full armour to protect ourselves with the truths of the gospel of Jesus.

It is colour coded as follows:

Black: to be read aloud

Blue: [parents/leader info](#)

Purple: additional facts if you have particularly keen and interested children

Green: additional prayer ideas if your children are keen

For each 30-40 minute session:

- play the 'Full Armour' video clip of the appropriate episode (each episode is around 4 - 6 minutes)
- Play the 'Family Series' video of the appropriate episode. (At the end of this video there is a suggested craft)
- work through the games and discussion questions of the corresponding piece of armour (explore the different aspects of the armour as a group and talk together about what it means for our lives)
- print off the appropriate fun sheet for each child
- finish with the prayer activity (decide an appropriate length of time to spend on the prayer section, depending on where your children are in their faith journey)

We pray and trust that you find your time with your children to be thoughtful and challenging and ultimately life changing.

You're on the frontline and it's an exciting place to be. You've got the armour on, but it is God's battle, so let Him take the lead and prayerfully watch for what He does.

God Bless

Chris, Matthew and Carol

Out of the Box (Scotland) Ltd

Session 5 – The Shoes of Readiness – the Gospel of Peace

1. The Bible is constantly reminding us that we have an urgent task. We need to tell the whole world the good news that Jesus is victorious! Did you know that after the Second World War ended, many soldiers lost their lives because the news did not reach them in time that the war was over and the fighting could stop. In what ways is the message Christians must share similar or different to that situation? **It is urgent; people will perish if we don't tell them; it is very good news; but people might not believe it.**

Ready, steady, ready! Tell the children we are going to have a race across a short distance. Get two volunteers to prepare. Say 'ready, steady' then shout 'wait'. Tell everyone to look at the position the racers are in. They will likely have one foot forward ready to spring into action. Explain there is one additional rule: they have to race without bending anything! (watch out for knees, arms and back). They will find it very hard to move quickly and gracefully in this manner! Point out the value of being 'ready'.

2. Read Jesus words to his followers (which can include us!) in **John 16.33**. What do you think Jesus means when he says 'in me you may have peace'? Is Peace something you really want? If so, how far up your list of priorities is it?

Fact time for word geeks! When Jesus says he has 'overcome' the world - which means he is victorious over the world - he is using a very special Greek word. What if I told you that you already know the word for 'overcome' in Greek, it's a great word for a famous shoe brand: Nike! The word Nike is used 34 times in the New Testament and it would have been very familiar and significant for the first readers. They would have associated it with the massive victories of Alexander the Great or with great athletes when they win a race. Have you ever worked really, really hard for something and won? Have you ever had a big test and finally passed? That amazing feeling you get when you sit back at last and think: "I've done it! I've 'overcome' and no-one can take that away from me". That's the 'peace' that Jesus offers. He has won the battle completely and he wants us to share in that victory and the peace he has accomplished forever.

3. 'Miriam, I'm afraid'. Even after all he has learned and seen, when the time comes for Timothy to be free he has to admit that he is afraid. Miriam responds by praying for him with words from the Bible. The Bible has lots of encouragement for us if we feel this way. If you are a Christian, what are some of the things that scare you most about telling other people about Jesus? If you are not a Christian but maybe would like to be, what are some of the things that scare you most about making that step?

4. Can you think of any encouraging verses from the Bible that can help us conquer our fear? Paul says the shoes are 'the readiness that comes from the Gospel of Peace'. In what ways does the Gospel of Peace (knowing that Jesus has won) help us to be ready for action?

When Greek athletes had won a great victory they would rejoice by saying to each other: "Nike, Nike, Nike!" Paul encourages Christians by saying that because of what Jesus has done we are 'more than conquerors': literally that we are 'supernikes'! Take some time to pray and thank Jesus that he has made us supernikes.

Optional Prayer activity:

Pass an object round the circle and imagine it is a baton. Pray for the person you are about to pass the baton to, thanking God for the skills and gifts that God has given them. Pray they will be ready.

Craft

Make a Shoes of Peace - you will need:

1. cardboard cut to correct size of feet
2. Things to decorate the shoes - pens, paint, glitter, stickers, paper etc
3. more strips of card to help keep shoes on feet
4. Glue/sticky tape
5. Insurance - as these things are dangerous to walk in

Activity Sheet 5 for P4-P7

Draw something from today's story



Find the words hidden in the shield



Design your own shoes



The Armour of God:

Have your feet fitted with the readiness of the gospel of peace.



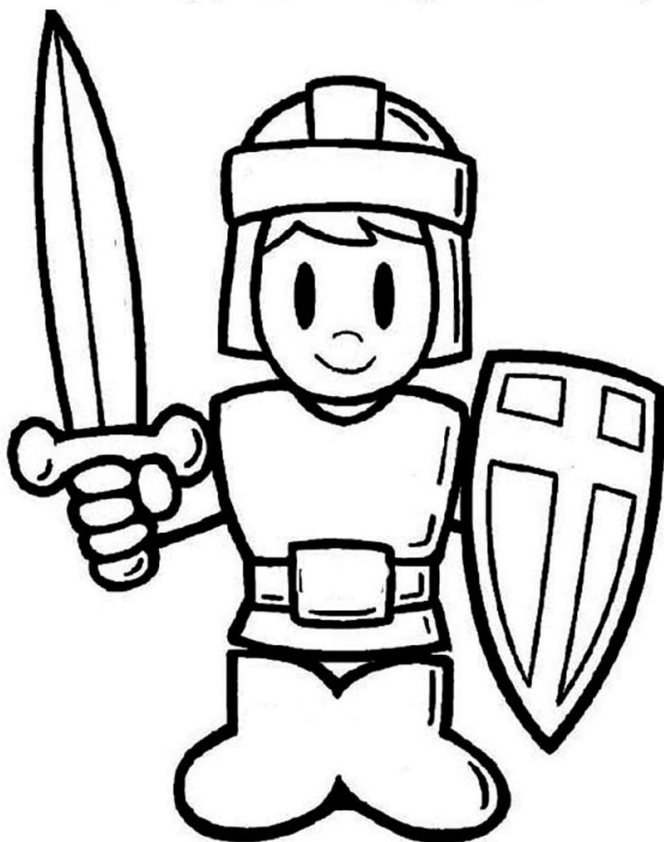
Activity Sheet 5 for P1-P3

Draw something from today's story



Colour this picture

Armor of God



Design your own shoes



The Armour of God:

Have your feet fitted with the readiness of the gospel of peace.

