

**WEEK 2: SUIT UP!**

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**Created by Ministry to Youth**

**MinistrytoYouth.com**

**LEGENDARY**

**WEEK 2: SUIT UP!**

**Bible Verse:** Ephesians 6:11-12

**Bottom Line:** Put on the full armor of God.

**SUPPLIES**

* **Copies of Week 2 - Coloring/Take Home Sheet**
* **FOR OPENING GAME**
  + **Small, soft balls**
  + **Frisbees**
  + **Masking tape**
  + **Stopwatch**
  + **Lots of floor space**
  + **Music from Avenger movie (Talita put on Youtube)**
* **For ILLUSTRATION**
  + **A G.I. Joe style action figure with accessories**
  + **A Captain America with shield**
  + **A Bible**

**LEADER NOTES/PREP**

Welcome to the second week of our series called Legendary.

As we continue our 4-week series, remember the goal. We want our students to be legendary in their faith, just like the Bible heroes they’ve studied.

Now that they know where their strength comes from, help them understand the real enemy is the devil, not other people.

It’s time to explain spiritual warfare in terms they can easily understand.

Knowing God will give them strength and that he has provided them with armor will make them much more ready to stand against the enemy.

Just like last week, it is important to keep the video game feel going while teaching these truths. The armor of God should be exciting. Feel free to show the kids how excited you are about wearing your armor as you go about your daily life.

Remind them frequently that God has given them everything they need to be legendary in their faith and assure them you know they’ve got the makings of heroes inside them.

This week, kids will learn some basic truths about spiritual warfare.

They’ll learn who their real enemy is and why it is important to always be suited up and ready for battle.

*Prayer: God, help me to be mindful of the truth that our enemy is not other people. Help me not to forget the true enemy is the devil. Remind me every morning to wear your armor, so I am ready to face whatever the devil throws my way. Amen.*

***LESSON OUTLINE***

**Say:** Welcome! I’m so glad each of you are here for Week 2 of our Legendary series.

Last week, we learned our strength comes from God, and with him, we can do big things just like our Bible heroes.

This week we are going to learn who our real enemy is, so we don’t fall into any of his traps.

It is important to know who your enemy is if you’re going to stand against him.

We’ll also learn that God has given us an armor to protect us in the battle, and his armor is all we need to win the battle.

Before we get started, let’s talk about a few things we want to remember that will help our time together to be awesome!

**LESSON** *(SLIDE 7)*

What are some video games you can think of where you have to fight?

Do your characters have special equipment to help them win?

Without the right equipment, it isn’t easy to win those battles is it?

You’ve got to really level up your hero’s equipment, and that takes time.

For some games, it can take hours of play time to get your hero ready to win.

When we have a job to do, it’s important we have the right equipment.

We talked last week about what it means to be legendary in our faith.

Did you know that we are called to be soldiers of God?

Being a soldier of God doesn’t mean we have to go into battle with other people.

The Bible says we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies.

We are fighting against enemies we can’t see.

That probably sounds a little scary.

How do you fight an enemy you can’t see?

Well, it starts with knowing who he is, and I’m going to tell you that right now.

Our enemy is the devil.

Don’t worry.

God isn’t asking you to fight him the way you fight bad guys in your videogames.

That’s not your job.

He’s not asking you to go up against the devil without being equipped either.

He wants you to wear the armor of God, and he isn’t going to give you some starter armor and make you level it up yourself either.

All you have to do is put it on every day.

The armor of God isn’t like an armor you physically put on your body every day.

We might look cool walking around in a metal armor, but it wouldn’t be very practical.

Can you imagine how hard it would have been to play our game if we were all in suits of armor?

No, the armor of God is invisible, but it is very important.

We put this armor on by praying, listening to God’s commands, and studying His word.

This keeps our hearts ready to face the enemy.

When we are staying close to God, it is much easier to recognize the devil’s attacks.

When he attacks, he tries to convince us to do things God’s Word tells us not to do.

If we are praying and studying the Bible, we’ll quickly realize when he is trying to tempt us into doing something wrong, and it will be much easier for us to tell him no.

Remember, I said we don’t have to physically fight the devil.

Instead, our job is to stand on what God says is right and resist temptation to do what is wrong.

This is our job as soldiers of God.

With our armor in place, we can be legendary.

Let’s read a Bible verse that will lay the foundation for our lesson.

**BIBLE VERSE**

This week our Bible verse is Ephesians 6:11-12. *Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in the dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.*

**BOTTOM LINE**

Our bottom line is: Put on the full armor of God.

**ILLUSTRATION**

I need two volunteers.

*Hand one volunteer the G.I. Joe style action figure and the other the Captain America (or similar equivalent) action figure.*

*Speak to the volunteer holding the G.I. Joe style figure first.*

Tell us what kind of enemies your action figure might face on the battlefield.

*Listen as the volunteer explains the potential enemies a soldier might face.*

Your soldier has a lot of gear.

Why does he need all that gear?

*Again, listen as the volunteer gives the reason for each piece of gear.*

Thank you for explaining this soldier’s armor so well.

You really understand why it is so important.

*Turn your attention to the volunteer with the superhero action figure.*

What kind of enemy would your hero face on the battlefield?

*Listen to the answer.*

Can you tell me how he would use his gear?

*Allow volunteer to explain each piece of equipment.*

I see he has a shield.

We used our shields earlier in our game.

Could he use his shield the same way?

*Allow the volunteer to go into detail about all the ways the hero would use the shield.*

*Pull out the Bible.*

We talked about how one of the ways we put on our armor is by studying God’s Word.

Do either of you remember the other ways?

*Give them time to answer.*

*If neither of them remembers, allow the class to help.*

We don’t need any special gear to pray or follow God’s commands, but we do need our Bibles if we are going to study God’s Word.

Our Bible is our weapon.

When Jesus was tempted by the devil, Jesus resisted everything the devil tried to get him to do by quoting the Bible back at him.

The devil couldn’t argue with the Word of God, because it is too powerful and always true.

Jesus was suited up and ready for battle.

He never had to throw a punch.

Quoting God’s Word was enough.

When he was tempted, he had just spent twenty-one days in the wilderness praying and fasting.

He was prayed up and he had the Word of God.

Would you say Jesus knew it was important to wear the armor of God?

*Give the volunteers time to agree.*

We have the armor.

We know it works, because it worked for Jesus.

Let’s remember to suit up in our armor every day.

*To the volunteers…* Thanks for your help! You can go ahead and return to your seats.

**PRAYER**

I want to end our time together by praying for each other.

Let’s ask God to help us to remember the importance of suiting up in the armor of God every single day.

We all get busy.

It is very easy to say we are too tired to pray or read God’s Word, but it is very important.

It isn’t always fun to do what we are told, but we don’t need to neglect doing as God tells us. When we don’t do these things, we are not suiting up and getting ready for battle.

The devil doesn’t warn us that he’s coming to tempt us a week from Tuesday.

He tries to catch us off guard.

We must always be in our armor, ready to resist his attack, so we can’t not wear our armor.

As we pray, we need to remember that this prayer time is us putting on part of our armor. Let’s take it very seriously.

**ACTIVITY SHEET**

Let’s pray together.

*Close in prayer.*

*Next, divide kids into groups of 5-6 people, with an adult leader, or an older student leader, in each group.*

*Also, give each kid a take-home coloring sheet before the end of your time together.*

**SMALL GROUPS: LOWER ELEMENTARY** *(SLIDE 11)*

**SUPPLIES**

* Copies of Week 2 - Activity Sheet
* Copies of Week 2 – Coloring/Take-home Sheet
* Crayons/Markers

**SAY:** Today, we learned the real enemy is the devil and talked about the armor of God.

Now, we know what it is and why it is so very important.

No legendary hero wants to go into battle without the right equipment, and we want to be legendary heroes of faith.

Don’t forget to suit up every single day.

How do we put on our armor?

Why is it important we always wear the armor of God?

Who is our real enemy?

How do we fight him?

*After each question, allow kids to respond with a few answers.*

**SMALL GROUPS: UPPER ELEMENTARY** *(SLIDE 11)*

**SUPPLIES**

* Copies of Week 2 - Activity Sheet
* Copies of Week 2 – Coloring/Take-home Sheet
* Crayons/Markers

**SAY:** Today, we talked about who our real enemy is and the armor God has given us to wear into battle.

Tell me some things we know about our enemy. Who is he?

Do we fight him ourselves? How do we stand up to this invisible enemy?

What things do we need to do every day to put on the armor of God?

Why is it important to keep our amor on?

Do we usually have warning before the devil tries to tempt us? How can we be ready?

Why do you think the Bible is such a powerful weapon against the devil?

Do you study your Bible enough to use it when you are tempted?

Can you think of a time when you were tempted to do something wrong but hadn’t been spending time with God?

Was it harder to resist the temptation?

*After each question, allow kids to respond with a few answers.*