

## Study & Discussion Questions

- ❖ Recall a time when you weren't dress properly for an important occasion or event. How did you feel, and what was the effect?
- ❖ If someone were to ridicule the idea of a devil in your presence, what would your response be? Where do you see evidence of the enemy's "schemes" in your life/church/community/nation/world? What would it mean for you "to stand" in these battlefields?
- ❖ Read again Romans 13:11-14 and Ephesians 6:13-18. How are these passages similar? Different? What's the biggest "aha!" you had from this message? What piece of armor have you failed to put on in a spiritual struggle and paid for it? What piece is easiest for you to overlook?
- ❖ Review Romans 8:31-39. Which of the issues of opposition or assault mentioned in this passage do you find the least threatened by? The most dread of? Take time to "reword" this passage as if God were speaking it in the first person directly to you. How does that change your feelings about the truths found there?
- ❖ What idea or truth from this message will be a "keeper" for you to focus on this week? Why do you think God spoke to you about this truth at this time? Note again Paul's focus in Ephesians 6:18-20 about praying for each other. What can your group do about that this week?



Here's a fun activity to try – go over the armor of God with your kids helping them to understand they're symbols. Then perhaps find a Google image of a Roman soldier's armor (Google images for "The Eagle" should have several.) If your kids are old enough, make a project of creating and coloring or painting the armor out of cardboard or even paper. Write on each of the pieces what it represents. Keep it visible this week and then ask at a mealtime – "Did anybody use the shield of faith yet this week?" "The sword...?" "Prayers?" etc. Memorize as a family Romans 13:12b: "Let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light."



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## "SUITED FOR THE FIGHT"

*Ephesians 6:10-20 (p.1160)*

### "GEARING UP" FOR BATTLE

➡ It's \_\_\_\_\_, not \_\_\_\_\_.

➡ It's \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_.

*Romans 13:11-14 (NIV)* The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave decently, as in the daytime... clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

➡ It's \_\_\_\_\_.

### YOUR COVERING OF VICTORY

1. "The helmet of salvation" - any \_\_\_\_\_.

*Romans 8:35-39 (NIV)* Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Bible Versions:** **NIV**-New International; **HCSB**-Holman Christian Standard; **NAS** - New American Standard; **NLT**-New Living Translation; **AMP**-Amplified Bible

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*Romans 5:1 (Phi)* Let us grasp the fact that we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have confidently entered into this new relationship of grace, and here we take our stand, in happy certainty of the glorious things he has for us in the future.

**2. “The breastplate of righteousness” - all \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_ . See Revelation 12:10-11; Zechariah 3:1-5  
**2 Corinthians 5:21 (HCSB)** He made the One who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

**Romans 8:31-34 (NIV)** What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

**3. “The belt of truth” - the \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_ .  
**John 8:31-32; 14:16 (NIV)** Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free...I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

**4. “The shield of faith” - the \_\_\_\_\_**

**1 Peter 5:8-9 (NIV)** Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

**5. “Shoes of readiness” - the \_\_\_\_\_**

**Proverbs 28:1 (CEV)** Wicked people run away when no one chases them, but those who live right are as brave as lions.

**6. “The sword of the spirit” - the \_\_\_\_\_**

**7. “Alert praying” - the \_\_\_\_\_**

**Matthew 26:41 (MSG)** “Stay alert; be in prayer so you don't wander into temptation without even knowing you're in danger. There is a part of you that is eager, ready for anything in God. But there's another part that's as lazy as an old dog sleeping by the fire.”