

LESSON 5: THE ARMOR OF GOD: HELMET OF SALVATION

Classroom: My One Room Classroom Leader Guide for One Room

04/26/2020

Ephesians 6:10-12, 17; Acts 16:25-40

Teachers Dig In

Dig In to the Bible

- Read: Ephesians 6:10-12, 17; Acts 16:25-40
- In This Passage: Paul talks about the spiritual battle we're fighting against evil and tells us to wear the helmet of salvation. Even though they can get in trouble, Paul and Silas wear their "helmets" when they spread the good news about how Jesus can save people. They get thrown in jail, but God sends an earthquake to free them. Then, instead of escaping, they help their jailer put on *his* helmet of salvation!
- Bible Point: We fight evil with salvation.
- Summary Verse: "Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm" (Ephesians 6:13).

Dig Deeper

- You'll Be Teaching: *We fight evil with salvation.* For kids who aren't as familiar with churchy language, *salvation* may be a hard word. Break it down simply for them! Make sure everyone understands how to put on the helmet of salvation.
- Think About: What's your story about putting on your helmet of salvation? Give God thanks for saving you.

Dig In to Prayer

- Ask God to stir the hearts of any kids who aren't wearing the helmet of salvation.

Quick Tip

- Different faith traditions have different ways of presenting the salvation message. Some churches will do an altar call, while others may wish to present the message but work with parents to have kids begin their faith journey. This lesson includes time for you to present the message of salvation as your church sees fit, so make sure you understand how your church would prefer you do that.

This Lesson at a Glance



OPENING [5 min]

Welcome

Supplies

- Bible

Welcome

- Thank kids for coming.
- Make announcements.
- Introduce new kids.

Introduce the Lesson

Say: **We're learning about the armor of God. In battles, soldiers wear armor to protect themselves. We're not in a war against people, but the Bible says we're in a war against unseen powers of evil! But don't worry, we're on the winning side—God's side! And we have his special armor to put on, including the helmet of salvation—which means being friends with Jesus! When we believe in Jesus, it's like putting on a helmet to protect our minds.**

Share

- Tell kids about the best news *you've* ever had to share.
- Have kids form pairs. Ask kids to tell about the best news *they've* ever had to share.
- After partners have shared, ask two or three kids to share with the whole group.

Summarize

Open a Bible to Ephesians 6 and say: **That was a lot of great news! In the Bible, Paul and Silas had some great news to share about how Jesus offers salvation! *Salvation* is a word that means Jesus died to save us from being separated from God. Let's find out what happened to Paul and Silas in God's special book, the Bible. But first, let's talk with God because he made a way for us to be saved! Let's do that now.**

Pray, thanking God for his victory over evil with salvation.



TALK-ABOUT VIDEO [10 min]

Olivia & Elyse's Story

Supplies

- “Olivia & Elyse’s Story” teaching video (watch or download [here](#))

Tip:

- Don’t have internet in your classroom? That’s okay! You can download the videos before class using the “download” button at the link provided, or just purchase this quarter’s DVD [here](#).

Discuss and Watch “Olivia & Elyse’s Story”

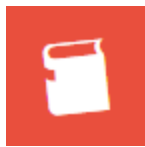
Say: **We’re learning that we fight evil with salvation. When Paul was in prison and an earthquake set him and his friend free, they didn’t even leave! They stuck around to tell the jailer about Jesus. And we can do the same thing. Let’s watch the story of some twins who did just that.**

Watch “Olivia & Elyse’s Story.”

Ask: • **What can you learn from the way Olivia and Elyse helped Uncle Martin?**

- **Who is someone you can tell about Jesus?**
- **What will you tell that person?**

Say: **God wants everyone to know him. When you believe in Jesus, you’re wearing the helmet of salvation! And the best news is, there’s enough helmets for everyone! Like Olivia and Elyse, we can tell other people about Jesus so Jesus can free them from the punishment for what they’ve done wrong.**



CORE BIBLE DISCOVERY [20 min]

The Armor of God: Helmet of Salvation (Ephesians 6:10-12, 17; Acts 16:25-40)

Supplies

- Bible
- party hats (1 per child, available at your local dollar discount store)
- chairs
- black permanent markers

Tip

- This experience is written to accommodate any number of kids! If you have fewer than 10 kids, you may wish to have some kids play multiple roles by putting on more than one party hat. The nice thing about the hats is they stack easily!

Spread the News

Say: Today we're learning that we fight evil with salvation. We're in a battle! But it's not against people. Listen to this.

Read Ephesians 6:10-12.

Say: Yikes! Unseen powers? That sounds scary. But we're not in it alone—we have God on our side, and he gives us armor to wear. That includes a helmet of salvation. *Salvation* means being friends with Jesus.

Read Ephesians 6:17.

Say: We don't need to be scared in this battle, because God's side is the winning side! And we fight evil with salvation. That's just what Paul and Silas did in the Bible. They knew and loved Jesus, so they had on their helmets of salvation. *Salvation* means Jesus is your friend and saved you from your sins.

Choose two kids to play the roles of Paul and Silas, and have them put on party hats as helmets.

Say: Paul and Silas were missionaries, which means they traveled around telling everyone about Jesus. Let's hear about part of their journey.

Read Acts 16:4-5.

Say: How cool! The church grew larger every day! That means more and more people were putting on their helmets of salvation.

Have another child put on a party hat.

Ask: • Talk about people who've told you about Jesus. Share your own story first.

Say: Then they went to Macedonia after Paul had a vision where a man from Macedonia asked him to help them. So Paul and Silas went to Macedonia and told *more* people about Jesus.

Have another child put on a party hat.

Say: Next Paul and Silas went to Philippi and met a woman named Lydia. And check this out!

Read Acts 16:14.

Say: Lydia put on the helmet of salvation too!

Have a child pretend to be Lydia and put on a party hat.

Say: Then one day, Paul and Silas healed a girl who was telling fortunes by the power of the devil. They healed her with Jesus' power! The Bible doesn't tell us for sure, but maybe *she* put on a helmet of salvation, too.

Have another child pretend to be the girl and put on a party hat.

Say: People got mad at Paul and Silas for healing the girl. In fact, there were people who were mad at them just for telling about Jesus! *That's* the evil they were fighting—the people trying to stop the message of Jesus from spreading.

Go to Jail

Say: **Which brings us to today's story: They got in trouble and were thrown in jail for what they'd done.**

Have each child sit behind a chair and peer through the legs of the chair as if they're prison bars.

Say: **While they were in jail, Paul and Silas sang hymns to God.**

Lead kids in singing a familiar song, such as "Jesus Loves Me" or a song you've been using if you use the Music Video activity block.

Say: **Listen to what the other prisoners did while they sang.**

Read Acts 16:25.

Ask: • **What did you notice the other prisoners doing?**

Say: **They were listening! Maybe some of them put on helmets of salvation! But the story gets better; listen to this.**

Read Acts 16:26.

Have kids shake their chairs to make an earthquake.

Ask: • **If you were in prison unfairly and an earthquake made the doors fly open, what would you do?**

Say: **Most of us would escape from prison! But that's not what Paul and Silas did.**

Why? Because they found someone else who needed the helmet of salvation!

Read Acts 16:27-31.

Say: **And you know what? The jailer believed in Jesus!**

Have another child put on a party hat.

Say: **And so did his whole family!**

Have a few more kids put on party hats.

Say: **Then the jailer threw a party for Paul and Silas.**

Read Acts 16:34.

Say: **We fight evil with salvation. Paul and Silas led a lot of people to put on their helmets of salvation. And our helmets are party hats because salvation is something to celebrate!**

Have kids jump up and down and cheer.

Say: **After that, Paul and Silas got to travel around more and tell more people about Jesus. And the church kept growing as more people put on their helmets!**

If there are any children who still don't have party hats, have them each put one on now.

Invite Kids to Wear Helmets

Say: **The Bible talks about salvation—being friends with Jesus and believing that he saved you from your sins—as a helmet.**

Ask: • **How is salvation like a helmet?**

Say: There are a lot of ways salvation is like a helmet! But one thing you might not know about helmets in those times is that sometimes soldiers added decorations to identify which troop they were part of. It was kind of like how all the members of a sports team wear the same color jersey so you know which team each player is on.

When we wear our helmets of salvation, we know which team we're a part of—we're on God's team!

Have kids draw crosses on their party hats to show what "troop" they're in. Older kids can help younger kids.

Say: **Maybe you've heard all this talk about fighting evil with salvation, but you're not sure if you've ever really put on the helmet of salvation. Maybe you want to!**

Following your faith tradition, invite kids into a friendship with Jesus and help them take the step to putting on their helmets of salvation.



MUSIC VIDEO [10 min]

There's Power in the Blood

Supplies

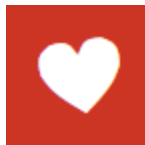
- "There's Power in the Blood" (watch or download [here](#))
- "Stand Strong" (watch or download [here](#))
- "All Authority" (Romans 13:1) (watch or download [here](#))

Tip

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Sing Songs to God

Sing the three songs in any order.



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP [5 min]

Pray and Tell

Supplies

- paper
- pencils

Pray for People You Want to Tell About Jesus

- Have each child think of someone he or she knows and wants to tell about Jesus.
- Each child will draw a picture of the person he or she thought of wearing a helmet. (It's okay if the pictures just look like scribbles to you.)
- Have kids all hold out their pictures as you pray: **Jesus, help us share the good news about your salvation just like Paul and Silas did. And help the people we drew understand and believe in you! Help them put on their helmets of salvation by becoming your friends so they can join us as we fight evil with salvation. In your name, amen.**
- Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week.

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