



LIVE IT OUT

next steps
IN DISCIPLESHIP

Impact Kids Spring 2026 Older Kids Leader Guide

April 15, 2026

Armor of God- Put on all the armor God gives you so you can stand strong when things get tough. With God's help, you can stay strong and do what's right no matter what happens. Eph 6:13

Bible- Apr 15 Genesis 6-9; Hebrews 11:7 We fight evil with faith.

Memory Verse: Ephesians 6:13



At a Glance



The Code



Gospel Page



**Armor of God-
Leader Devos**

Memory Verse Mania

We'll focus on one key Bible verse connected to what we're learning in Impact Kids. Kids will have a chance to memorize it, live, and share it.

Memory Verses:

Psalm 119:105, 1 Corinthians 12:4-5,

John 15:5, Ephesians 6:13

Bonus: Eph 6:10, Psalm 23:1, Matt 6:9-13, Psalm 100:2, Favorite Verse and extra bonus

Wednesday Group Schedule

Leaders Arrive: 6:15 PM

Family Dinner: 6:30 PM – 6:50 PM

K-3rd Outside Play: 6:50 PM- 7:20 PM

4th & 5th Small Group: 6:50 PM- 7:30 PM

K-3rd Small Group: 7:25 PM- 8:00 PM

4th & 5th Outside Play: 7:30 PM- 8:00 PM

Dismiss: 8:00 PM- 8:05 PM



Opening Game:

Supplies:

- Bible
- "Knight" handout, printed on 11x17 paper (1 copy) (this will be used for the next 6 weeks)- Hang in the wall
- aluminum foil- 1 roll per group will be used for 6 weeks
- scissors
- glue sticks

Welcome

- Thank kids for coming.
- 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 shield of our faith. Our faith can protect our hearts from the enemy.

- Have each child cut a shield shape out of aluminum foil that will fit on the knight's hand.
- Kids can glue their shields to the knight's left hand, one on top of another, so you end up with a stack of foil that makes a thick shield.
- You'll continue to add to the knight handout for several weeks, so leave it up.

Share

- Tell kids something you believe will happen this week.
- Have kids form pairs. Ask kids to share something they believe will happen this week.
- After partners have shared, ask two or three kids to share with the whole group.

Summarize

Open a Bible to Ephesians 6, and say: We may believe really strongly in those plans, and we'll have to see how things work out! When we have faith in God, we believe he'll be who he says he is and he'll do what he says he'll do. Then we can fight evil with faith. Let's find out about a guy in the Bible named Noah who had major faith in God. The Bible can help our faith grow, so let's dive in! We can also grow in our faith by talking with God. Let's start with that.

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

Talk About Video:

Discuss and Watch “Noah’s Ark”

Say: We’re learning that we fight evil with faith. Noah had to have faith that what God said would happen would really happen. Let’s see what happened to Noah.

Watch “Noah’s Ark.”

Ask: • Which joke was the best joke in this video?

• Since animals can’t really tell jokes, what do you think Noah did to stay entertained while he was on the ark?

• Would you want to go on a boat ride for that long? Why or why not?

Which animals would you want with you?

Say: Noah had to have faith in God. He had to trust God that it really would flood. He had to build an ark just like God said to. He had to trust God to gather all the animals for the ark! And he had to have faith that the scary animals wouldn’t hurt him. We fight evil with faith when we believe God will do what he says.

Deeper Bible:

Supplies

- Bibles
- box wrapped with light-colored wrapping paper (it can be empty or have anything you want inside)
- construction paper- 1 sheet per kid
- scissors
- markers
- permanent marker

Define Faith

Say: We’ve been learning that we fight evil with faith and that faith is trusting God to do what he says he’ll do. Here’s a way the Bible describes what faith is.

Read Hebrews 11:1.

Ask: • How would you define faith?

Say: For Noah, faith meant trusting that God would do what he said he would do: flood the earth. Even though it didn’t make sense, Noah believed God and followed God’s instructions to build the ark. But we don’t always get such a specific message from God. So how do we find out what God says he’ll do for us? Let’s dig in to that.

Guess What’s in the Box

Say: First, let’s practice having some faith. Hold up the wrapped box.

Ask: • What do you think is in this box? Why did you make that guess?

- • How much faith do you have that your guess is right?
- • If I told you what was in the box, how much faith would you have in what I said?

Say: You had to make a random guess about what’s in this box. But it’s not easy to feel confident about your guess because you had no information to base your guess on! Really, what’s in the box could be anything that can fit in it. And it could be nothing at all! If I told you what was in the box, you’d have more information. Then you’d have to decide if you believe me.

Ask: • Which feels more like having faith in God—believing what I say is in the box or making a guess? Explain.

Say: Sometimes faith can feel like a guessing game. Faith is being sure of what we hope for, but sometimes it can feel like we don’t know what to hope for! So how can we trust God will do what he says he’ll do if we don’t know what he says? Let’s find out what the Bible has to say about that.

Dig Deeper

Say: Sometimes, like Noah, you may hear really specific messages from God about what he says he'll do for you. God can definitely still work that way!

But he doesn't always do that. And sometimes we can convince ourselves God made a promise to us when really, that "promise" is just something we want to happen. The closer we get to God, the more we'll know his voice and be able to figure out whether he's talking to us or we're just "hearing" something we want.

But the Bible tells us a whole bunch of things God promises to do for everyone, so we know we can trust those promises! We'll look at four of those promises and make shields of God's promises.

Set out construction paper and scissors, and have each child cut out a shield shape. Then have kids use markers to divide their shields into four quadrants each.

Read 1 John 4:16.

Ask: • What promise do you think God makes in this verse?

Say: God promises to love us and to live in us! That's so cool! Did you know there's nothing—not even one thing—you could do that would make God stop loving you?

Have kids draw hearts and write "love us" in one quadrant of their shields to remind them of this promise. As they draw, you can use the permanent marker to draw a heart on one side of the wrapped box.

Read 1 John 1:9.

Ask: • How would you describe this promise from God?

Say: God will always forgive us when we ask. That's amazing! Forgiving is hard, but God does it every time! And we can have faith that he will, because he promised.

Have kids write "forgive us" in another quadrant of their shields. As they do, you can write "forgive" on another side of the box.

Read Hebrews 13:5.

Ask: • When do you most need to remember this promise?

Say: Sometimes we feel all alone. But we can have faith that God will never fail or abandon us. We're not alone!

Have kids draw two stick figures holding hands and write "be with us" in another quadrant of their shields. As they do, you can draw two stick figures on a third side of the box.

Read Acts 1:8.

Ask: • Why do we need God's power to tell people about Jesus?

Say: God promises to give us power to do what he wants us to do. We don't have to be strong enough on our own!

Have kids draw lightning bolts and write "give us power" in the last quadrant of their shields. As they do, you can draw a lightning bolt on the last side of the box. Then allow time for kids to decorate their shields around their images.

Say: We still don't know what's inside this box. There are some things about God we will never know until we're in heaven. But there are things we know for sure about God...like that he loves us (show the heart), that he forgives us (show the word forgive), that he's with us (show the stick figures), and that he gives us power (show the lightning bolt). We don't have to open the box to see that...it's right in front of us! And you have those same images on a shield you can take home to remember God's promises.

Our enemy will try to get us to believe that God couldn't really love us or that the thing we did is so bad God couldn't forgive us. But we fight evil with faith when we believe God will do all he promised to do for us. That's what it means to hold up our shields of faith against the enemy's lies!

Memory Verse Mania:

Supplies:

- Leader Tracking Sheets (1 set per group in leader folder)
- Memory Verse Mania Instruction Page (1 per leader in leader folder)
- Memory Verse Posters (1 copy for each kid)
- painter's tape
- paper plates (1 per child)
- disposable cups (10, plus extras just in case)

Explain Memory Verse Mania

Say: This Spring Impact Kids groups will be taking a Memory Verse Challenge called Memory Verse Mania. In this challenge, each week we will practice the verse. If you think you have it memorized before we practice, leaders will take time during Family Table to listen to you and mark on their Leader Tracking Sheets. Then on Feb 4, Mar 4, Mar 11, and April 29 you will get the chance to win a prize in our drawing. On May 6, we will celebrate everyone who memorized all the verses. If you can do it, we will share other verses from our lessons in the Fall to add to your memory banks. Storing God's Word in our hearts, helps us in the future. Are you ready to take the challenge? Here is your chance to practice the verse for this week. *(Send Posters home with kids- if kids already have a poster, there is no need to send more home.)*

“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

Memory Verse Mania cont.

Learn a Verse

Say: Today's Bible story about Noah gives us a great example of what faith looks like. Noah believed God when he told Noah of the flood that was coming, and Noah put his belief in God into action when he built the big boat. When we believe what God says, we fight evil with faith. Let's learn a Bible verse that tells us more about fighting evil. The word Bible means "book," and it's God's special book. It's full of amazing stories to help us learn what faith is and what we can do with it.

Ephesians 6:13 says, "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." Use the Bible Verse Poster to guide kids in repeating after you as you say the verse one more time, phrase by phrase.

Say: One piece of God's armor is the shield of faith. A shield gives us a picture of one of the awesome things faith can do. Let's play a game to see it in action!

- Invite everyone to work together to stack cups into a triangle with four cups on the bottom row, then three, then two, then one.
- Form two teams, and give everyone a paper plate. (It's okay if teams have only one or two kids...or if they have a lot!)
- Assign one team to stand near the pyramid to defend it. This team can situate themselves near the pyramid where each person can hold out a paper plate to act as a shield for the pyramid. Kids shouldn't stand directly in front of the pyramid; they're relying on their paper plate shields to block the wind.
- Have the other team stand about 10 feet away from the pyramid and quickly, continuously fan their paper plates to try to make an air current that'll knock over the pyramid.
- If the wind from the fanning isn't budging the pyramid, allow that team to take a step or two closer until the pyramid comes down.
- Rebuild the pyramid, and then guide everyone in repeating the Bible verse.
- Have teams switch roles and play again.
- Repeat the Bible verse with kids again.

Talk About It

Say: While a paper plate might not be the best choice for an actual shield, you got to use it to block the wind and try to protect your cup building.

Ask: • What made the paper plates a good wind shield, or not?

• Our verse says God's armor helps us resist the enemy. How did your shields help you resist the fanning plates?

• Now that you've seen shields in action, how is faith like a shield? This is a thinking question, so make sure you allow time for kids to process.

Say: The paper plate shields could use some changes to make them better, but our shield of faith actually does its job. In Bible times, shields that soldiers would carry into battle often covered their entire bodies. That's what a shield of faith in God's armor is like—a big, strong shield that doesn't leave us uncovered. Faith in God does big things, and we fight evil with faith.

Activity Page with a Point

Supplies Needed:

- Activity Page
- colored pencils
- crayons

Pass out activity pages and supplies.

SAY: Today we learned how we fight evil with faith. Noah had faith to follow God's plan even when it seemed unusual! He built the ark and gathered the animals, just like God said. Let's see if you can gather pairs of matching animals.

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Kids will find matching animals.

Ask: • How did you know there would be a match for each animal?
• What other things do you trust will happen?

Say: You looked for the match because you believed I wouldn't give you an impossible puzzle. We can have that same kind of faith in God. We can trust that he'll always do what he says! We fight evil with faith.

ANSWER KEY: elephant—3; tiger—1; lizard—2; flamingo—2; rhino—4; bunny—3; frog—1; skunk—2