

**IMPACT  
KIDS**

**LIVE  
IT OUT**

# Impact Kids Spring 2026 Older Kids Leader Guide March 25, 2026

next steps  
IN DISCIPLESHIP

**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*- **Mar 25**- Acts 5:17-42 We fight evil with the truth.

*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

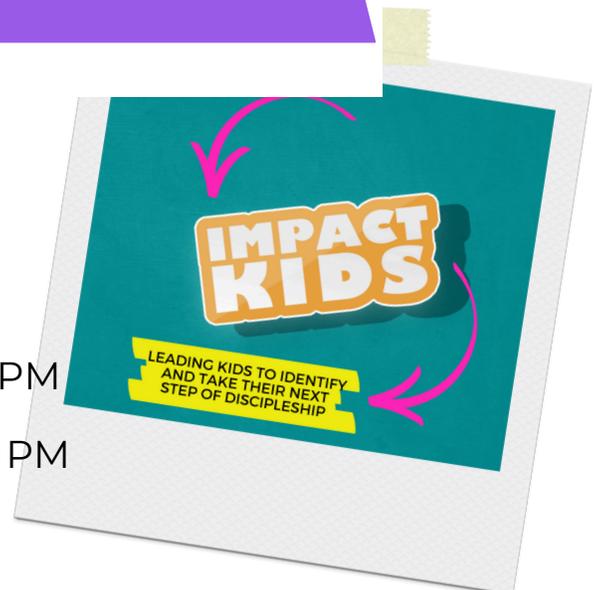
K-3rd Outside Play: 6:50 PM- 7:20 PM

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)
- glue sticks

### Welcome

- Thank kids for coming.
- Introduce new kids.

### Introduce the Lesson

**Say:** Today we’re going to start 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 belt of truth.

- Have kids tear small strips of aluminum foil to fit on the knight as a belt.
- Kids can glue their strips to the knight, one on top of the other, so you end up with a stack of foil that makes a thick belt.
- You’ll continue to add to the knight handout for several weeks, so leave it up.

### Share

- Have kids form pairs. Ask kids to share who they think would win in a fight between a goat and a raccoon. Make sure kids explain their reasoning.
- After partners have shared, tell kids who you think would win, and why.
- Ask two or three kids to share with the whole group.

### Summarize

Open a Bible to Ephesians 6, and say: Today we’re going to talk about a battle—but it’s not between goats and raccoons; it’s between Christians and evil! We’re on the winning side when we wear the armor of God. Let’s find out more about the armor of God in the Bible. The Bible isn’t an ordinary book; it’s God’s special book. The Bible is one way we find out God’s truth so we can fight evil with truth. Let’s talk with God and get our marching orders!

**Pray,** thanking God for his victory over evil with truth.

## Talk About Video:

### Discuss and Watch “Truth and Lion”

**Say:** We’re learning that we fight evil with the truth. But what happens when people don’t believe us? Let’s see what happened when one boy’s friends didn’t believe him.

### Watch “Truth and Lion.”

**Ask:** • Be honest: Did you believe Cade really had a lion? Why or why not?

- Tell about a time you shared the truth about Jesus but people didn’t believe you.
- What is it about Jesus’ story that might seem hard to believe?

**Say:** There will always be people who don’t believe the truth about Jesus. But we can keep on wearing our belts of truth and telling people the truth. We fight evil with truth.

## Deeper Bible:

### Supplies

- Bibles
- paper- 1 sheet per kid
- pens

### Set It Up

**Say:** In today’s Bible story, Jesus’ friends had a really unusual reaction to being flogged. Let’s read that part again.

Read Acts 5:40-41.

**Ask:** • What do you think about the apostles rejoicing because they got to suffer for Jesus?

**Say:** Being flogged, or whipped, seems like a weird thing to celebrate. I don’t think most people rejoice when they get bullied, whether it’s physically or with words. So is it really a good thing to be bullied for telling the truth about Jesus? Let’s dig in to that.

### Dig Deeper

**Say:** Let’s see what the Bible has to say about persecution—which is a bigger word that means being teased for being a Christian.

Read 1 Peter 4:14-16.

**Say:** Interesting—these verses show the same attitude Jesus’ friends had! It even says being called by Jesus’ name is a privilege. You’re called by Jesus’ name any time someone calls you a Christian...even if they say it in a mean or teasing way! Let me show you what I mean.

Have kids share mean things people have said to them because they believe in Jesus. For example, “Christians are stupid,” “Christians are weird,” or “Christians don’t have any fun.”

**Ask:** • Do those words feel more like a compliment or an insult? Explain.

**Say:** When people make fun of us for being Christians, they may say insulting words like the ones we just shared. But here’s what they’re really saying, according to the verses we read:

- You bear the name of Christ!
- The glorious Spirit of God rests on you!

**Ask:** • When you hear it that way, does it sound like an insult or a compliment?

**Say:** When people make fun of you for being a Christian, you can turn that insult upside down. Why? Because it's really a compliment—they just don't know it! So instead of hearing what they say the way they mean it, hear the truth—you're acting just like Jesus! What a compliment! And that's not all; listen to why these verses says we can be glad about being persecuted.

Read Matthew 5:11-12.

**Ask:** • How do these verses make you feel about being persecuted?

**Say:** When we're bullied or teased for believing the truth about Jesus, a great reward awaits us in heaven. That's exciting! Now, if you're being physically hurt, you should tell a trusted adult about that. But if you get made fun of a lot for being a Christian, you can learn to take it as a compliment and look forward to your great reward!

### Turn It Around

Give each child a piece of paper and a pen.

**Say:** When we're insulted for being Christians, that can make us feel sad. Draw a frown on your paper. Draw a simple frown without eyes.

**Say:** When the early Christians were being persecuted, they had a secret symbol they used to remind each other they weren't alone. It was a fish. We can use the same symbol for encouragement when we're persecuted. Since being insulted for following Jesus is actually a compliment, draw a smile under your frown. It should connect at one end and then overlap at the other end to make a fish shape. Draw this for kids before they do it.

**Say:** Let's try drawing more fish symbols. We'll draw them in a special way.

Have kids form groups of at least two, ideally with people they sometimes see outside of church. For example, you may have kids who go to the same school, are neighbors, or participate together in a community class. In their groups, have kids take turns repeating insults they've heard other people say about Christians. For each one, kids will draw a frown, then someone else will add the smile to make a fish.

**Say:** It's okay to feel sad for being made fun of. But next time you feel sad because someone teases you for loving Jesus, draw this symbol as a reminder to turn your frown into a smile because you just got the best compliment ever! In fact, you can use this symbol when you see other people from our class!

**Ask:** • Where do you see people from our class outside of church?

• How could you draw the symbol there? Encourage kids to think of ideas using things other than paper and pens that would be relevant to each place. For example, kids could draw in the sand at recess or in the air as they pass someone in the hallway at school.

**Say:** When you're having a hard time being insulted, talk to another Christian, because you're not in this alone. In fact, Jesus went through rejection, too. And this is what he said about our rejection for being his followers.

Read Luke 10:16.

**Ask:** • How do you feel about what Jesus said?

**Say:** We're in a battle against evil. There are people out there who want to fight against the truth! But we fight evil with truth when we wear our belts of truth and keep on spreading the truth—no matter how much other people think they're insulting us.

## 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)
- index cards (1 per child)
- crayons
- disposable cups of water (about 1 for every 5 kids)

### 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 we heard from the Bible about some of Jesus' friends who obeyed God when they told others about Jesus—even when it meant getting in trouble with the religious leaders. Jesus' friends told the truth, and we can, too. We fight evil with the truth! Let's learn a Bible verse that tells us more about what this means. The Bible is one big book broken up into 66 smaller books. Each book has chapters and verses. Today's Bible verse comes from the book of Ephesians, which is a letter written to encourage people at a church in a city called Ephesus.

Ephesians chapter 6, verse 13 tells us to fight evil with God's armor. It 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."

Refer to the Bible Verse Poster and lead kids in repeating the verse with you, one phrase at a time.

### Make Wax Resist Water

**Say:** To help us better understand this Bible verse, let's see what "resist" means.

- Distribute index cards, crayons, and disposable cups of water. ☒ Invite kids to cover about half of their index card with a thick and thorough layer of crayon wax, leaving the other half without wax. Older kids may need to help younger ones fill in any gaps.
- Once everyone has their layer of wax applied, guide everyone in repeating the Bible verse again.
- Then instruct everyone to dip a fingertip in some water and rub the water onto the waxed portion of the index card.
- Finally, have everyone add a bit of water to the index card where there isn't any crayon wax and rub the water into the card.

### Talk About It

**Ask:** • What happened to the water when you rubbed it onto crayon wax?

• What did you notice when you rubbed water onto the card where there wasn't any wax?

**Say:** As you colored with a crayon, you put thick wax on the card. Wax resists water—it kind of "says no" to the water and keeps it from soaking into the paper of the card. And when you rubbed water onto a place on the card without wax, the card couldn't resist the water. Without the wax's protection, the water soaked into the paper. Now, let's think about how that might connect with our Bible verse.

Lead kids in repeating the Bible verse a few more times.

**Ask:** • How does our experiment remind you of the way God's armor protects us?

**Say:** God gives us armor to protect our faith—and when we wear every piece, we're completely covered and protected, and we can resist evil. Like the wax resisted the water, we can tell evil, "No! Go away!" When we put on the full armor of God, including the belt of truth, we fight evil with the truth!

## Activity Page with a Point

### Supplies Needed:

- Activity Page
- colored pencils
- crayons

Pass out activity pages and supplies.

**SAY:** We've explored how we fight evil with the truth. Jesus' friends shared the truth about God! The Bible is a huge book with lots of truth in it. I wonder how much you already know.

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Kids will decide whether they think each item is true or false. When everyone is done, reveal the answers.

**Ask:** · Thumbs-up or thumbs-down: How well do you know every truth in the Bible? Explain.

**Say:** You don't need to know everything about the Bible to share God's truth. It's okay not to know the name of Moses' wife! Jesus' friends didn't know everything, but they knew the most important truth: Jesus loves us and died for our sins, then came back to life!

**Ask:** · What's something from the Bible you know is true?

**Say:** We fight evil with the truth. Like Jesus' friends, we share the truth about him wherever we go! And if you're ever not sure about what's true, just turn to the Bible for help!

**ANSWER KEY:** 1 - F; 2 - T; 3 - F; 4 - T; 5 - T; 6 - F; 7 - T; 8 - T; 9 - F; 10 -F