



Pathway Kids Spring 2026

Leader Guide

March 30, 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 30- Matthew 23 We fight evil with righteousness.



At a Glance



The Code



Gospel Page



**Armor of God-
Leader Devos**

Group Schedule

Leaders Arrive: 6:15 PM
Snack: 6:30 PM – 6:45 PM
Outside Play: 6:45 PM- 7:15 PM
Small Group: 7:20 PM- 8:00 PM
Dismiss: 8:00 PM- 8:05 PM



Opening Game:

Supplies:

- Bibles
- “Knight” handout, printed on 11x17 paper (1 copy) Hang in Small Group Space- this will be used for the next 6 weeks
- aluminum foil- Tear a small piece of foil for each child so the sum of the pieces will make up the body armor on the knight.
- double-sided tape

Welcome

- Thank kids for coming.
- Introduce new kids.

Introduce the Lesson

Say: Today we'll find out we fight evil with righteousness. Point to the knight. Righteousness means we have good hearts and we make right choices. God has an evil enemy, but he can never beat God. To fight God's evil enemy, God gives us armor—like a knight has. God's armor for us isn't made of metal; it's armor we can't really see.

- Give each child a small piece of foil. Say: Today we'll learn about the body armor of righteousness. Let's put armor on this knight to remind us that we fight evil with righteousness.
- Lead kids to use their pieces of foil to make body armor and attach it to the knight's chest using the double-sided tape. Kids can layer their foil on top of others' foil if needed.

Share

Say: Evil is yucky. It reminds me of when I eat a really yucky food that I just want to spit out. Let's start by talking about foods we think are yucky.

Share about a food you think is yucky.

- Have kids share about foods they think are yucky.
- After small groups have discussed, have adult or teen helpers share with the whole group what they talked about in their small groups.

Summarize

Open a Bible, and say: No one wants to eat foods they think are yucky. In the Bible, Jesus talked about yuckiness inside people's hearts. And he said we can fight yuckiness with goodness, or righteousness. We'll find out more about that today.

Pray, thanking God for teaching us that we fight evil with righteousness.

Talk About Video:

Discuss and Watch “Andy’s Armor”

Say: We’re learning that we fight evil with the righteousness.

Ask: • What does that mean to you?

Say: If you’re not quite sure what it means to fight evil with righteousness, you’re not alone. Let’s join our friend Andy to see what he thinks it means.

Watch “Andy’s Armor.”

Ask: • What would you like—or not like—about wearing actual body armor around all the time?

• Genesis said putting on the body armor of righteousness means “covering our hearts in God’s goodness.” How do we do that?

Say: Luckily we don’t have to wear heavy armor around like Andy tried to do. We fight evil with righteousness when we ask God to shine his goodness through our hearts.

Deeper Bible:

Supplies

- Bibles
- large paper plates (1 for every 5 or 6 kids)
- cornstarch
- wet wipes
- pleasant-smelling hand lotion

Easy Prep

- Cover the top of each plate with a thin layer of cornstarch.

Talk About Getting Clean

Say: Some things are hard to get clean.

- Share about something you had a hard time getting clean. Maybe you had a hard time getting a grease stain out of your favorite shirt, tree sap off your car, or burnt food off a pan.

Ask: • Tell me about something that was hard for you or a grown-up to clean. Kids may say it’s hard to get sand off their feet at a beach, clay out of the carpet, or fruit juice off the couch.

Deeper Bible: cont

Get Our Hands Clean

Pass the plates of cornstarch. Encourage kids to press the palm of a hand in the cornstarch so it's covered. Press your palm in the cornstarch as well.

Say: The Bible calls the wrong things we do sin. Sin sticks to our hearts like this cornstarch is sticking to our hands. Let's try to shake it off. Encourage kids to shake their hands along with you. Shake really hard! Is it working? Continue shaking your hand for a moment.

Say: Maybe we got some of the cornstarch off, but our hands are still pretty messy. Let's try blowing it off. Try blowing really hard. Let's see if we can get our hands clean. Encourage kids to try blowing the cornstarch off their hands along with you.

Say: That still didn't get it all off. Maybe we can try brushing it off. Let's see if that will work. Show kids how to brush the cornstarch off their hands using the other hand.

Say: Now our hands may look clean from far away, but they still aren't completely clean. I don't think we can get them clean on our own. We have the same problem with our hearts—we can't get the sin out of our hearts by ourselves. We need Jesus to make our hearts truly clean. Give each child a wet wipe, and encourage kids to wipe their hands clean as you do the same. Lead kids in saying "Jesus makes my heart clean" as they wipe their hands.

Say: Some of the leaders around Jesus thought that if they just did good things, their hearts would be clean. But Jesus could see that there was still sin sticking to their hearts. We all need Jesus to get our hearts clean. We can't do it on our own. The Bible tells us that's why Jesus came. Read aloud Titus 2:14.

Put on Love

Give each child a small amount of hand lotion, and encourage kids to rub it into their hands. As you do the same, **say:** We cleaned off the sticky cornstarch and replaced it with this lotion. Jesus can take the sin from our hearts and replace it with his love. Then we can make right choices because of his love in our hearts. That's called righteousness, and it keeps the evil of sin away. We can fight evil with righteousness. Let's pray and thank Jesus that he came to take all the sin out of our hearts. Lead kids to fold their sweet-smelling hands and pray, thanking Jesus for cleaning away their sins.

Memory 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

Learn a Verse

Say: Today we’ve heard what Jesus told the Pharisees about only pretending to be righteous—pretending to have their hearts right with God.

Let’s learn a Bible verse that can help us understand that when we do the right thing out of love for God, we fight evil with righteousness. Even though God inspired people to write the Bible a long time ago, it still matters for us today. We can always learn from the Bible!

In the Bible book of Ephesians, chapter 6, verse 13, it says, “Therefore, put on every piece of God’s armor so that you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm.” Guide kids in repeating the Bible verse once more, in shorter phrases at a time.

Say: Let’s see why having every piece of the armor helps us stand firm.

Have kids form mixed-age trios. Invite trios to work together to build a sturdy tower with the blocks, having at least three blocks on each row of the tower. Alternate the direction of the blocks in each row so they lay perpendicular across each other. (This should resemble the game Jenga.)

Ask: • How strong would you say your tower is?

Say: These towers are pretty strong with every block in place. But let’s see what happens when we don’t have every block.

- Allow kids to take turns removing one block at a time.
- After each block is removed, lead everyone in repeating the Bible verse.
- Continue until the block towers fall.
- If time allows, let the kids rebuild and then repeat removing blocks one at a time.

Talk About It

Ask: • What did you notice as you started taking blocks out of the tower?

- Why was each block important to help the tower stand strong?
- Our Bible verse says to wear every piece of God’s armor. Why is that important?

Say: Putting on every piece of God’s armor helps us stand strong so we’re not like a crumbling tower that has a piece missing. We need each piece of the armor, including the body armor of God’s righteousness, so we can fight evil with righteousness. When our hearts are right with God, his body armor protects our hearts!

Activity Page with a Purpose

Supplies Needed:

- Activity/Color Page
- colored pencils
- crayons

Pass out the coloring pages and supplies.

SAY: The Bible talks about wearing the armor of God—special things Christians can wear on their hearts, like a soldier would wear armor. We wear righteousness like body armor. It protects us! Righteousness is when we do the right thing because we love God—not to show off like the Pharisees in the Bible. We fight evil with righteousness, so let's color Jesus telling the Pharisees how to love God.

Allow time for kids to color.