

ARMOR
OF GOD**WEEK 7: SWORD OF THE SPIRIT**

We live in a world where movies, tv shows, music and other people tell us things that sound really good and like they must be true. However, when we compare these things with what the Bible says, these things aren't really good for us at all.

For example, sometimes we hear the message that happiness is found when you have a lot of money or things. Satan, our enemy, tries to convince us that this lie is the truth. Yet in fact, God is the only one who can give us true happiness. Happiness is found in God's love for us.

What do you think of when you call someone a soldier or warrior? Do you think of armor? How about a shield or helmet? These are all things that soldiers use to defend themselves, but they also carry a weapon so that they can fight back against their enemy.

In the Bible, we learn that during Jesus' life, soldiers used a sword to protect themselves in battle. Unlike the other pieces of armor, this piece was kept sharp and ready to use at any time. The Bible tells us to take on the Sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. If we believe in Jesus, then we are also given the Holy Spirit, who lives with us daily and reminds us of God's truths. The Holy Spirit gives us instructions on how to use the Sword of the Spirit, the word of God. Think of the Holy Spirit as an inner voice from God telling you what is the truth and what is a lie.

PUT IT IN ACTION**Parents/Guardians:**

Talk about the Sword of the Spirit and what truth means with your kids this week.

- Remind kids that the Sword of the Spirit is the word of God, which can only be found in the Bible. When we use our Bible as a sword, we are able to "cut through" the deceiving lies that the world tells us, and can get to the truth.
- Remind kids of God's truth that they are loved and special. When they are frustrated or angry during the season, remind them of God's truth and take your Sword of the Spirit to fight off the enemy's lies.
- Play the Truth and a Lie Game. Someone says either a truth or a lie and the other person has to guess which one it is. For example, "I should never look both ways to cross the street." (Lie) or "I should tie my shoes so I do not trip over anything." (Truth)

MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK

"But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

— John 14:26