

Kids

UNIT 33: THE GOD WHO CHANGES US

Description: Paul and other leaders began to write letters reminding the church of how the Holy Spirit changes a person's mind and heart, making it possible to love and serve Jesus and fulfill his mission.

Key Passage: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

Big Picture Question: Who changes us? The Holy Spirit changes us to be more like Jesus for God's glory.

<u>Unit 33, Session 3: The Armor of God</u> Key Passages: *Ephesians 6:10-19*

Paul knew that following Jesus is difficult. After Paul met Jesus on the road to Damascus, his life was turned upside down and he was never the same. Paul spent the rest of his life struggling and suffering to advance the very gospel that he had denied and fought against before his conversion.

Paul was in prison when he wrote his letter to the believers at the church in Ephesus. Paul knew firsthand that the life of a believer is a battle—an ongoing fight. But Paul didn't see life as a fight against the Romans, those who had thrown him in prison, or those who opposed the gospel. The battle is against evil.



At the conclusion of his letter, Paul used a Roman soldier's armor as a picture of how we are to prepare ourselves to fight the battle against evil. Believers are to carry God's truth, righteousness, and peace wherever we go. Likewise, we are to hold fast to our faith, salvation, and the Word of God. When we are fully protected by this armor of God, we are ready for any battle.

In addition to wearing the armor of God, Paul called on believers to pray at all times. Paul wanted to remind believers that even with the armor of God, we still need to rely on God to protect us and to win the fight against evil. Paul told believers to be ready to fight a spiritual battle each and every day. People and powers who are against God will be against us too. But Jesus died and rose from the dead. He had victory over evil. We can fight the battle against evil, knowing Jesus already won the war.

This week, show your kids all that God has given them to help them fight against evil. Emphasize that God never intends for us to fight in our own power. We are to rely on His power.

FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS		
What does God give us to stand strong against evil?	How can we remember what is true about God and ourselves?	How does the Armor of God protect us?
What do these passages teach us about God or the Gospel?	What do these passages teach us about ourselves?	What wonderings do you have about these passages?

NEXT WEEK: "A Cheerful Giver" (2 Corinthians 8:1-15; 9:6-15)