



# RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

May 13, 2018

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## What We're Learning This Week

### **"THE ARMOR OF GOD" EPHESIANS 6:10-19**

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.

## Questions to Ask, Conversation Starters, and Helping to Apply The Truths to Our Kids' Lives

*Remember: this guide is meant to help facilitate conversations and engagement with Jesus throughout the week, so don't feel like you need to do this all in one day!*

### **BEFORE WE MEET TOGETHER ON SUNDAY**

- Continue conversations as a family regarding the lesson from last Sunday, when Paul reminded believers that it is the Holy Spirit who gives us power to say no to sin and live in a way that pleases God. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Ephesians 6: 10-19, pray and ask God to reveal himself to you and for wisdom in how to best shepherd and disciple your kids through this Scripture in the next week

### **AFTER WE MEET TOGETHER ON SUNDAY**

#### **Discipleship Through Scripture and Conversation**

- Talk to your kids about the Bible story that they learned at church. Ask them to explain what they learned/what stuck out to them in the story, and expand upon the truths of the Bible that they are bringing up.
- Continue the conversation with your kids on Sunday and throughout the week. Some helpful conversations this week could be:
  1. Paul was in prison when he wrote this letter to believers in a city called Ephesus. Paul knew that life as a believer was difficult. In fact, the Christian life is a battle. Who does Paul tell us that we are fighting against? Why is this important to know and how does know who we are fighting against help us live as believers? Allow your kids to engage in responding to this.

2. While Paul tells us that life as a believer is a battle, he also encourages us to stand firm and teaches us how to fight. How does Paul teach us in this passage to fight? What are some of the battle weapons that we have been given? What does it say about the character of God that he has given us all the tools we need to fight against the enemy? Are any of the things listed dependent on us or our strength? What should this tell us about our role in the fight?
3. Go through the list of things in God's armour, namely: truth, righteousness, the Gospel, faith, salvation, the word of God and prayer, ask your kids if they know what all of these are, explain to them if there are some they don't understand. As a family, give examples of how each of these can be applied to fight against evil.
  - For example, truth: We know what is true because God is true, and he has told us what is true in the scriptures, so whenever we are fighting against the lies of the enemy, we can look to God and His Word to remind us of what is true.
4. All the tools that God has given us to fight the battle against the devil are great tools! Emphasise to your kids that even though life as a Christian will be a battle, we celebrate because we know that Jesus has already won the victory! How did Jesus win? What does that mean for us?

#### Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
  - Thank God that he has not left us to our own devices, to use our own weapons in the fight, but he has given us all we need to fight and consistently walk with Him. Thank him for giving us himself. Pray that God teaches your family to fully rely on him and his strength in your daily walk with him. Pray that He teaches you to take up his armour and to keep it on always. Pray for believers in the church and around the world, that they will be empowered by God to boldly proclaim the Gospel.
- Ask each member of your family – adults included – to share one thing they would like prayer over. Have someone to pray for that person's request. Encourage your family to pray for that person for the entire week.
- Take time to pray independently for your children, for God to do his mighty work in their hearts through the power of the Holy Spirit.

#### **Discipleship through modeling/action**

- Follow up throughout the week about the things you discussed
  - This week show your kids what it looks like to fight with God's armour and strength. Intentionally model how we use faith, the gospel of peace, truth, righteousness, salvation, the word of God and Prayer in our battle against the enemy. Emphasize that God does not want us to rely on our own strength.

- Pursue discipleship in your own life. Read Scripture, pray fervently, invest into community, and more. Model the ways of Christ as an example to your kids.

## Our Memory Verse for This Unit

### **OUR MEMORY VERSE FOR THIS UNIT (ENTITLED “THE GOD WHO CHANGES US”) IS 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17**

- *For our older kids, we are doing the full verse:*
  - “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come”.
- *For our younger kids, we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:*
  - “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come”.

While we are helping the kids engage with this Scripture on Sundays through fun activities and time together, we really encourage you to take time to continue to engage with the memorization of this Scripture at home. As always, the hope is not to have our kids simply know a lot of Scripture, but to engage in God’s Word and allow Him to use it to transform the hearts of our kids!

## What’s Coming Up?

- Check out the changes to our schedule [here](#) and ask RLA Kids leaders about it on Sunday.
- Want weekly updates and occasional texts about special announcements? Text the word “Kids” to 323.859.1122. It really helps in preparing for Sunday and the rest of the week!

## We Want to Know and Serve You Better!

We love hearing from you! You can email [kids@realityla.com](mailto:kids@realityla.com) at any time with any thoughts, questions, or concerns. We also love to be praying with and alongside you, so please send those over as well.