

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEACHER'S PACKET

2nd Grade

## Sunday Morning

Study 12

*The Sword of the Spirit*

# The Sword of the Spirit

The Objective is the key concept for this weeks lesson. It should be the main focus of the study

These are the key verses that you will find helpful in teaching your study this week. The “Main passage” is the basis of the study, where the other verse support the objective of the lesson.

These are the books of the Bible we will be memorizing. New books for this month are in bold. If a student can memorize all the books up to this month’s books, you may give them a prize from the “reward box” found on your cart.

An introductory activity or question that will settle the class, draw their attention to the study and prepare their hearts for God’s Word.

**Objective** This lesson will look at examples of Jesus and believers using the Scriptures to teach the students about the Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God.

## Key Verses

Ephesians 6:17—Main Teaching Passage

Matthew 4:1-11

Luke 24:13-32

Acts 1:20; 2:14-36; 7:1-53;15:16-17

Hebrews 5:13; 2 Timothy 2:15

## Books to Memorize

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings, **1&2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job**

## Hook

Draw a person without armor on the board. Ask the students to name the pieces of armor we’ve already studied and draw them on the person. Once the first five pieces of armor are on, ask, “Does our soldier look ready for battle? What’s missing?”

All the armor we’ve studied so far is important to prepare and protect us, but without a weapon, a soldier is pretty useless. Today, we are going to learn about our weapon in spiritual warfare, the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

What does the Bible say? This is where we will read a passage or series of passages that teach on the subject of the day.

## BOOK

The final piece of the Armor of God is the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. So far, all of the pieces of armor we have studied have been defensive. In a battle, a helmet or breastplate can protect you from enemy attacks, but they won't help much in fighting back against the enemy. A sword, on the other hand, is an offensive weapon. The Sword of the Spirit can be used to overcome the Devil and his attacks.

In the New Testament, we see the Word of God used in a variety of ways. Jesus used the Bible to defend against temptation. When we read in Matthew 4:1-11 about Satan tempting Him to sin, each time Jesus responded to Satan's attack by quoting Scripture. He was able to defeat Satan with nothing but the Word of God. We also see Jesus using Scripture to preach the Gospel. In Luke 24:13-32, Jesus appeared to two disciples after His resurrection who were sad that He was dead. They did not recognize Him, and so verse 27 tells us that He went through the Bible explaining who He was and why He had to die and rise again.

In the book of Acts, we see the disciples also using Scripture to preach to the Gospel, especially when they were speaking to Jews who had read the Old Testament. Peter's sermon in Acts 2 and Stephen's sermon in Acts 7 are filled with Scripture quotes and references to Old Testament stories. We also see the early Christians using the Bible to make decisions, such as in Acts 1:20 and 15:16-17.

## LOOK

The first five pieces of the armor of God were all defensive. A soldier would use his belt, breastplate, shoes, shield, and helmet to prepare himself for battle and keep himself alive, but without a weapon, the soldier wouldn't be much good. Imagine an army marching into battle with all their armor, but no weapons. They may be safe for a little while thanks to their armor, but they wouldn't last very long because they would have no way to defeat their enemy. They need a weapon. Spiritual warfare is no different. The pieces of armor we've studied are all very important for protecting ourselves from Satan's attacks, but our goal is not just to survive, but to defeat Satan. That's why we need the Sword of the Spirit, God's Word.

In battle, a sword could be used both for defense and offense. A soldier could use it to block the enemy's sword and then to strike back at the enemy. In the stories we read today, Jesus and His followers used the Bible the same way. Jesus used the Bible as defense against Satan's temptations. When Satan would tell one of his lies in an attempt to get

The interpretation/exegesis of the passage. What does this passage mean? How does this passage apply to my life?

## LOOK (Continued)

Jesus to sin, all Jesus needed to do was quote the truth of God's Word to overcome those attacks. Then, Jesus and His followers used the Bible on offense to defeat Satan by leading people to salvation. Satan's hold on unbelievers could not withstand the truth of the Gospel found in God's Word.

We as believers can and should also use the Bible in these ways. We can learn Scripture that will help us to overcome temptation and withstand Satan's attacks. One of the best ways to do this is by memorizing verses that will help in times of temptation. We can also use the Bible to lead other people to Jesus. We can tell unbelievers what God's Word says so that they can know Jesus and be saved.

Like a real sword, it takes time, practice, and training to know how to use the Word of God in this way. Hebrews 5:13 says that some are "unskilled in the Word," while 2 Timothy 2:15 calls others, "a worker... rightly dividing the Word of truth." How do we become skilled in God's Word? 2 Timothy 2:15 says to study it. We need to read, memorize, study, believe, and obey the Word of God so that we can use the Sword of the Spirit to defeat Satan.

## TOOK

As a class, review the books of the Bible Genesis-Job.

Review the lesson by asking the class how the Word of God is like a sword. In what ways can we use it to defeat Satan?

**Pray:** Thank the Lord for giving us His Word. Ask Him to help us all to be skilled in using God's Word to defeat Satan.

**Family Activity:** As a family, memorize Bible verses that will help you to overcome temptation. Try Romans 12:21 or 1 Corinthians 10:13.

What is my response to this passage of Scripture? How should my life change according to what this passage teaches me? What are the practical things I can do throughout the week to make this true in my life?

# FURTHER STUDY

## Commentary on Ephesians 6:17 by David Guzik

6. ([Eph 6:17](#)) The spiritual armor to *take*.

**And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;**

e. **The sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:** The idea is that the *Spirit provides a sword* for you, and that *sword is the word of God*. To effectively use the sword of the Spirit, we can't regard the Bible as a book of magic charms or tie one around our neck the way that garlic is said to drive away vampires.

i. To effectively use the sword, we must regard it **as the word of God - which is the word of God**. *If we are not confident in the inspiration of Scripture, that the sword really came from the Spirit, then we will not use it effectively at all.*

ii. But we must also take the sword of the Spirit in the sense of depending that He helps us to use it. Not only did the Spirit *give* us the Scriptures, but also He makes them alive to us (or us alive to them), and He equips us with the right thrust of the sword at the right time.

iii. Think of a soldier or a gladiator in training, practicing sword thrusts and moves and positions. Now, he must practice them ahead of time and if he is a superior fighter and has a great fighting instinct, at the time of battle he will instantly recall which thrust, which position suits the precise moment. He will never be able to use the thrust in the fight if he has not first practiced it; but he still needs to make the move at the moment.

iv. Therefore, effectively using the sword takes practice. The great example of this was Jesus combating the temptation of Satan in the wilderness.