

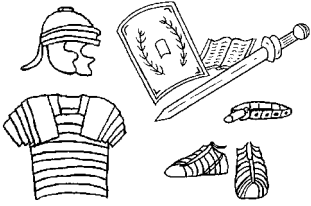
Be Strong in the Lord



*Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.
Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand
against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood,
but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers
of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
Ephesians 6:10-12*

Story 47: Ephesians 5-6

Be Strong in the Lord



Therefore imitate God as beloved children. Walk in love as Christ has loved you. He has given Himself for us as an offering and a sweet smelling savour (fragrant aroma).

It is not fitting for immorality, impurity or greed to be named among the saints. Give thanks.

Immoral, impure, covetous and idolatrous people have no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Do not be deceived by empty words. The wrath of God comes on the sons of disobedience because of these things. Do not do these things.

You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of **light**. The fruit of the light is in goodness, righteousness and truth. Prove (find out) what pleases the Lord.

Instead of joining with unfruitful deeds of darkness, expose them. It is disgraceful even to talk about these things done in secret. Light exposes these things. Therefore wake up. Christ will give you light.

Be wise people, not fools. Make the most of your time because the days are evil. Understand what the will of the Lord is. Be filled with the Spirit, not drunk with wine. Speak to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual **songs**. Sing and make **melody** in your heart to the Lord. Always give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Submit to one another in the fear of God.

Wives, submit to your own husbands as if to the Lord. The husband is the head of the wife. This is like Christ being the head of the church. He is the Savior of the body. Wives should be subject to their own husbands like the church is subject to Christ.

Husbands, love your wives the way Christ loves the church and gave Himself for her. Christ gave Himself for the church to sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the Word. He wants to present her holy and blameless as a glorious church without spot or wrinkle.

A husband should love his wife like he loves his own body. A man who loves his **wife** loves himself. No one hates his own flesh. Everyone nourishes and cares for it the same way the Lord cares for the church. We are part of this body.

Because of this a man should leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife. The two shall be one flesh. This great mystery is about Christ and the church. A wife should respect her **husband**.

Children, **obey** your parents in the Lord because this is right. Honoring your father and mother is the first commandment with promise. The promise says "that it may be well with you and that you may live long on the earth."

Fathers, do not provoke your **children** to wrath (anger). Bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Servants, obey your masters in the flesh with fear and trembling. Have sincere hearts for Christ. Do not do eyeservice to please men. Be slaves of Christ. Do the will of God from the heart. Serve with good will to the Lord, not to men. Good things you do will be rewarded by the Lord whether you are a slave or a free man.

Masters, treat your servants the same way Christ treats you. Stop threatening them. Think about your own **Master** in heaven where there is no partiality.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armour of God to be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. Our struggle is not against flesh and blood. It is against rulers, powers, world forces of this darkness and spiritual forces of wickedness in heavenly places.

Take up the full armour of God to resist and stand in the evil day, having done everything. Stand firm with your loins girded with truth, wearing the breastplate of righteousness and the preparation of the gospel of peace on your feet.

Take up the shield of faith to put out the flaming missiles of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. Always pray with petitions in the Spirit. Persevere and petition for all the saints.

Paul asked them to pray that he would have the words to say and would open his mouth boldly to make the mystery of the gospel known. Paul was in chains because he was an ambassador of the gospel. He wanted to be bold as he should be.

Faithful Tychicus would comfort their hearts by telling them more about Paul. Paul sent greetings to all the brothers with peace and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS: Why should we walk in love? What does walking in love look like?

Lesson 47: Be Strong in the Lord

DAY 1  **PASSAGE for STUDY & ACTIVITY:** *Ephesians 5-6*

1. What should we not be? (Ep. 5:17)
2. What should we understand? (Ep. 5:17)
3. What should we make with our hearts? (Ep. 5:19)
4. To whom is the church subject, and what does that mean? (5:24)
5. Of whom should we be imitators? Trace the words.

--- *imitators of God* ---

DAY 2  **BIBLE VERSE TRACE & ANSWER:** *Ephesians 6:10-12*

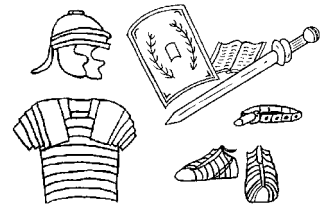
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1. Why do we need the full armor of God? (Ep. 6:10)
2. Who can help you understand what these verses mean? (6:10-12)

DAY 3  **BIBLE ACTIVITY:** *Answer and do.*

Put a red **O** around things to put on.

Put a green **X** on things to put off. See Ephesians 5.



uncleanness

greed

giving thanks

filthiness

foolish talk

psalms

covetousness

hymns

idolatry

spiritual songs

being unwise


singing

not unwise

making melody

DAY 4  **SEARCH and REMEMBER:** *Answer and do.*

1. How should we be strong? (Ep. 6:10)
2. How can we resist and stand firm? (Ep. 6:13)
3. What are the parts of God's armor? (Ep. 6:14-17)
4. What are some of the things God's armor does for us? (Ep. 6:14-17)
5. What does Ephesians 6:23 say about peace, love and faith?
6. What does Paul pray for all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ? (Ep. 6:24)

DAY 5  **THINK, TALK, DO:** *What do you think; who can you talk with; what will you do?*

1. What parts of Ephesians have you begun memorizing?
2. What is most challenging and encouraging to you from Ephesians?
3. How is Ephesians making a difference in your life?
4. How should this book affect your prayers?
5. What questions does Ephesians 5-6 bring to your mind?
6. How have your sins been cleansed?