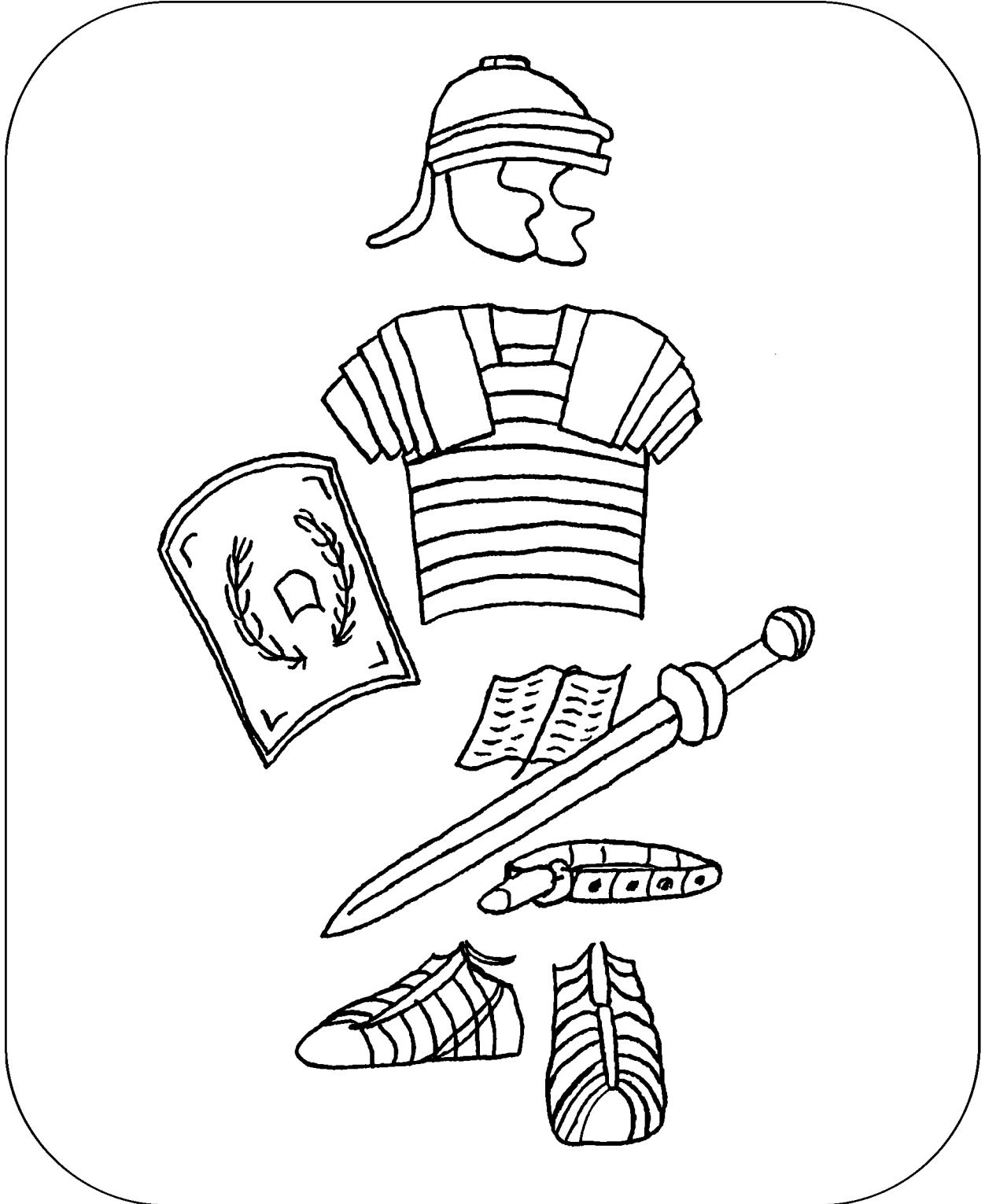


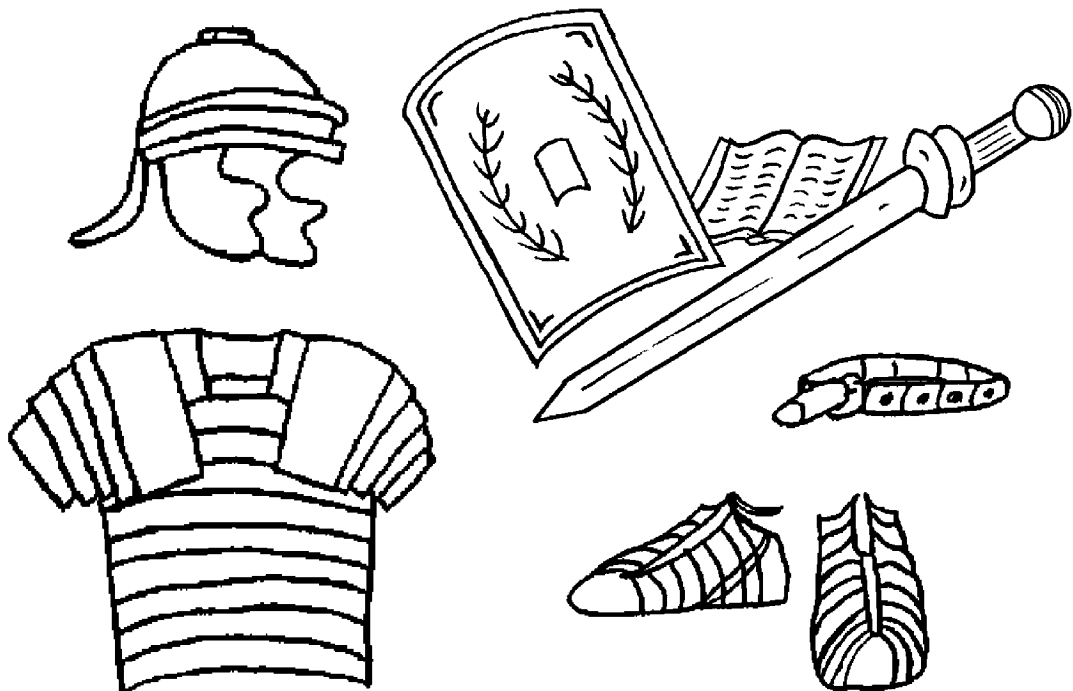
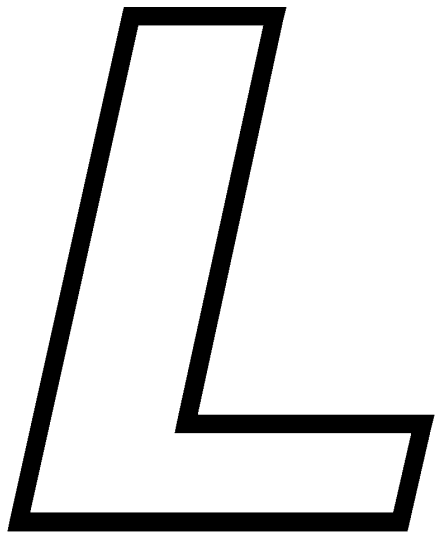
Be Strong in the Lord



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

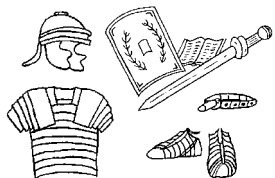
Be Strong in the Lord



Lord

Story 47: Ephesians 5-6

Be Strong in the Lord



You 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 those who are asleep should wake up. Be alive. 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. 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 loved 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 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 discipline 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. There is no partiality with Him

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 armor 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.

Continued on page 57

QUESTIONS:	Why should we walk in love? What does walking in love look like?
PRAYER:	Father, thank you for armor that helps us stand in the evil day.

ACTIVITY PAGE

Lesson 47

Be Strong in the Lord

PASSAGE:	Ephesians 5-6
VERSE:	Ephesians 6:10-12 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 <i>places</i> .
SONGS:	"He Keeps Me Singing," "The Light of the World Is Jesus," "Jesus, Name Above All Names"
ACTIVITIES:	<p>Armor: Provide armor for touching and interaction with the children. SAY: Talk about what the armor does.</p> <p>Exercising Soldiers: Instruct the children in exercises that would be fitting for soldiers. SAY: Paul says we need to use God's armor because we are in a spiritual warfare.</p> <p>Children: Do things that boys and girls like to do such as have a beanbag toss, or use stickers to make a collage. List things that boys and girls like to do. SAY: God made some to be boys and others to be girls.</p> <p>Families: Talk about things we can appreciate about one of our family members. SAY: God established the first family of Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden in the first book of the Bible named Genesis. Help them find this story in Genesis.</p> <p>Salvation Review: Talk about the essentials of salvation with the children. SAY: Try to help them understand a little more each time you talk with them.</p> <p>Dark and Light: Make an area that can be dark. Give the children flashlights to light up the darkness. SAY: Jesus is the light of the world.</p> <p>Matching Game: Place three picture cards of lessons for Paul's letters where the children can see them. Include a few important words from Ephesians such as "God," "Jesus Christ," and "Ephesus." Give each child one picture to match to one of the three they can see. Continue until all three are matched. Then use three more pictures and begin again until all the children have a turn. Talk about the importance of each.</p> <p>Snack: Fruit; water. God gave Adam and Eve many good things to eat in the garden of Eden. What is a feast? What is a famine?</p> <p>Rest and Think: Think about how God put us in families. He loves us so much He gave His Son to die on the cross for us.</p>