

## Book of EPHESIANS

*DATE: December 15, 2019*

<p><b>Preparation:</b> <i>(What I need to do and items to gather before I begin to teach.)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bibles to use in class</li> <li>• Make this an “Active Learning” lesson by doing the <b>“Grace, Peace, Love Beads” activity</b> while you are teaching. (You will need pipe cleaners or pieces of string and 3 different colored beads.)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lesson Title:</b></p>	<p>The New Testament Book of Ephesians Continue <i>your NEW Testament Wall display by hanging the “Ephesians” wall card.</i></p>
<p><b>Scripture Reference(s):</b></p>	<p>Ephesians 4:25-32 Ephesians 6:10-18</p>
<p><b>Emphasis or Theme:</b></p>	<p><b>God’s Great Work in the Church</b> <b>Walk in a Manner Worthy of God’s Calling</b></p>
<p><b>Introducing the Story:</b> <i>(What you might say or do before the story to help create an interest or curiosity.)</i></p>	<p><i>(Hang your “Ephesians” wall card on your New Testament wall display.)</i> <b>SAY:</b> The Book of Ephesians was written by apostle Paul - the same apostle who wrote the Book of Romans, 1 &amp; 2 Corinthians, and Galatians. It is the 5<sup>th</sup> of his letters.</p>
<p>LESSON: Telling the Story Through the Bible: (Outline the story here. Then describe the method you will use to tell the story. Examples might include showing pictures, props, visuals, drawing as you tell, using puppets, costumed characters, dramatic story-telling or any number of other methods.)</p>	<p><b>SAY:</b> Ephesus is a city in the Roman Empire and the people who live in Ephesus are, you guessed it . . . Ephesians! Ephesians is the name of the next book in the New Testament. The book of Ephesians was written by apostle Paul. The church in the city of Ephesus had been established and the people started to worship there. The new Christians heard the call from the Lord, they believed in Jesus, and they turned all of their practices towards God. Now Paul needs to remind them <u>how to behave as members of God’s family</u>. Let’s discuss how members of God’s family behave.</p> <p><b>ASK:</b> Do members of God’s family act nicely to others? <i>(Pause)</i> Do members of God’s family share? <i>(Pause)</i> Do members of God’s family hurt others? <i>(Pause)</i> What are some other ways members of God’s family act? <i>(Allow students to share their responses).</i></p> <p><b>SAY:</b> In order to help the people understand, Paul calls attention to the 3 major ways that members of God’s family are asked to behave:</p> <p><i>(Write on board.)</i> <i>(Begin the “Grace, Peace, Love Beads” activity. Give each student a string or pipe cleaner; after you discuss each, have them put 1 colored bead on their string/pipe cleaner to represent that word.)</i></p> <p><b>1. GRACE:</b> Grace means being polite, generous, kind, and showing good will to others. We’re saved by God’s grace. Paul encourages the church to show <b>grace</b> to one another. How? The answer is found clearly and perfectly in Ephesians! <i>Read aloud Ephesians 4:25-32. Discuss.</i></p> <p><b>ASK:</b> Does anyone say “GRACE” before eating a meal? Why do you think we call saying a prayer before eating, “GRACE?” <i>(Pause for responses.)</i></p> <p><b>SAY:</b> Let’s place our first colored bead onto our strings to represent GRACE.</p> <p><b>2. PEACE:</b> Having peace in your life means your whole heart is happy and your spirit is calm. As children of God, we will naturally sometimes do things that go against what the Bible teaches us, but through Jesus we are always forgiven when we ask for forgiveness. <i>Read aloud Ephesians 1:5.</i> The church is to preserve <b>peace</b> and unite</p>

everyone together!

**ASK:** How can we keep our lives peaceful? How can we show peace to one another? (*Discuss.*)

**SAY:** Let's place our second colored bead onto our strings to represent PEACE.

**3. LOVE:** This one is easy! After all, God has given us many examples of love in our lives when he gave us our families, friends, and this church. Paul is very happy with the way the Ephesians show love to one another. He prays that their love is strong and encourages them to let their love for Jesus continue to grow.

**ASK:** Is it easy to show love to everyone we meet? (*Discuss.*)

**SAY:** Let's place our third colored bead onto our strings to represent LOVE.

**SAY:** God has shown **grace, peace, and love** to the Ephesians and Paul asks his readers imitate and copy God's **grace, peace, and love** to others.

**SAY:** The call of Christ is a call to action! This means that as Christians, we are asked to remember the teachings of how Christ asks that we live at all times, showing **grace, peace, and love**. Paul encourages the Ephesians to walk in a manner worthy of being part of God's family. We should always "*walk the walk*" as taught to us by God, meaning we should walk in a way that shows that we are good and loving Christians. Paul calls this our "**spiritual walk**," and Ephesians lays out God's desire for your "spiritual walk" like no other book of the Bible!

**ASK:** What do you think it means to take a **Spiritual Walk** with God? (*Pause for student responses.*)

**SAY:** Are you ready to take a **Spiritual Walk** with God?

**OPTION:** Begin "**Spiritual Walk with God**" activity. (*Adapt as needed for your age group.*)

**DISCUSS:** **Ephesians 6:10-18** - Using the "**Armor of God Active Learning worksheet**," read and discuss the "Armor of God"

Learning Activities:  
(Games, crafts artwork, songs, memory verses, or other activities that bring fuller meaning to the scripture or make application to the lives of the students.)

- ACTIVITY:**
1. **Armor of God Breastplate of Righteousness craft**
  2. **Armor of God Belt of Truth craft**
  3. **Spiritual Walk with God - take the walk together as a class**
  4. **Grace, Peace, Love beads**
  5. **Armor of God Active Learning worksheet - give each student a copy to use during instruction**

Review:  
(Solidify learning by repeating facts, themes, or even the story itself through games, crafts, activities, or visual aides.)

1. The Book of Ephesians was written by which apostle? **PAUL**
2. What are the 3 themes in the Book of Ephesians? **Grace, Peace, Love**
3. How many pieces are there in the Armor of God? **6**
4. **Name the pieces of the Armor of God.**
  - 1) **belt of truth**
  - 2) **breastplate of righteousness**
  - 3) **shoes of peace**
  - 4) **shield of faith**
  - 5) **helmet of salvation**
  - 6) **sword of the Spirit**

Closing:  
(Prayer, last song, . . .)

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” Ephesians 6:10-11

**Recite:** *Hayr Mer*