

WEEK 5: THE SHIELD OF FAITH

ARMOR OF GOD

The Shield Of Faith Protects Us From The Enemy When We Trust In God And His Word

In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. (Ephesians 6:16)

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The first thing that may come to mind when you hear the word “**shield**” is Captain America. He is known for the small, round, patriotic shield he uses to deflect the weapons of his enemies. But when you think of shields used by Roman soldiers, try to envision something more like a door – heavy, rectangular and large enough for a **soldier** to hide his whole body behind. Shield even comes from the root word “*thura*,” meaning “door.” This large shield was able to entirely protect the soldier from incoming spears, arrows or swords coming at them from the enemy.

The Shield of Faith is much like this early shield. It is our trust and confidence in God and His Word, **acting** as a door to cover and protect us from our enemy, Satan, who sets out to **destroy** us with his weapons.

Faith is the constant assurance that God is who He says He is and that He will do the things He says He will do. When Satan launches **blazing** arrows of fear, doubt, worry or temptation, Christ-followers can **raise** their Shield of Faith – their confident assurance and hope in Christ – and deflect the enemy’s attempts to destroy them.

Questions with space for them to respond in the book:

1. In what ways do you feel the enemy attacking you? Temptations, doubts, worries, etc.
2. How can you use your trust and confidence in Christ to ward off these attacks?
3. What are some words, phrases or Bible verses you can repeat to yourself when you feel the enemy’s arrows coming toward you?