# 10

# Wearing God's Armor

Key References: Ephesians 6:10-18; *The Acts of the Apostles*, chap. 49, pp. 498-508; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 10, pp. 135-138; Our Beliefs nos. 1, 10, 11.



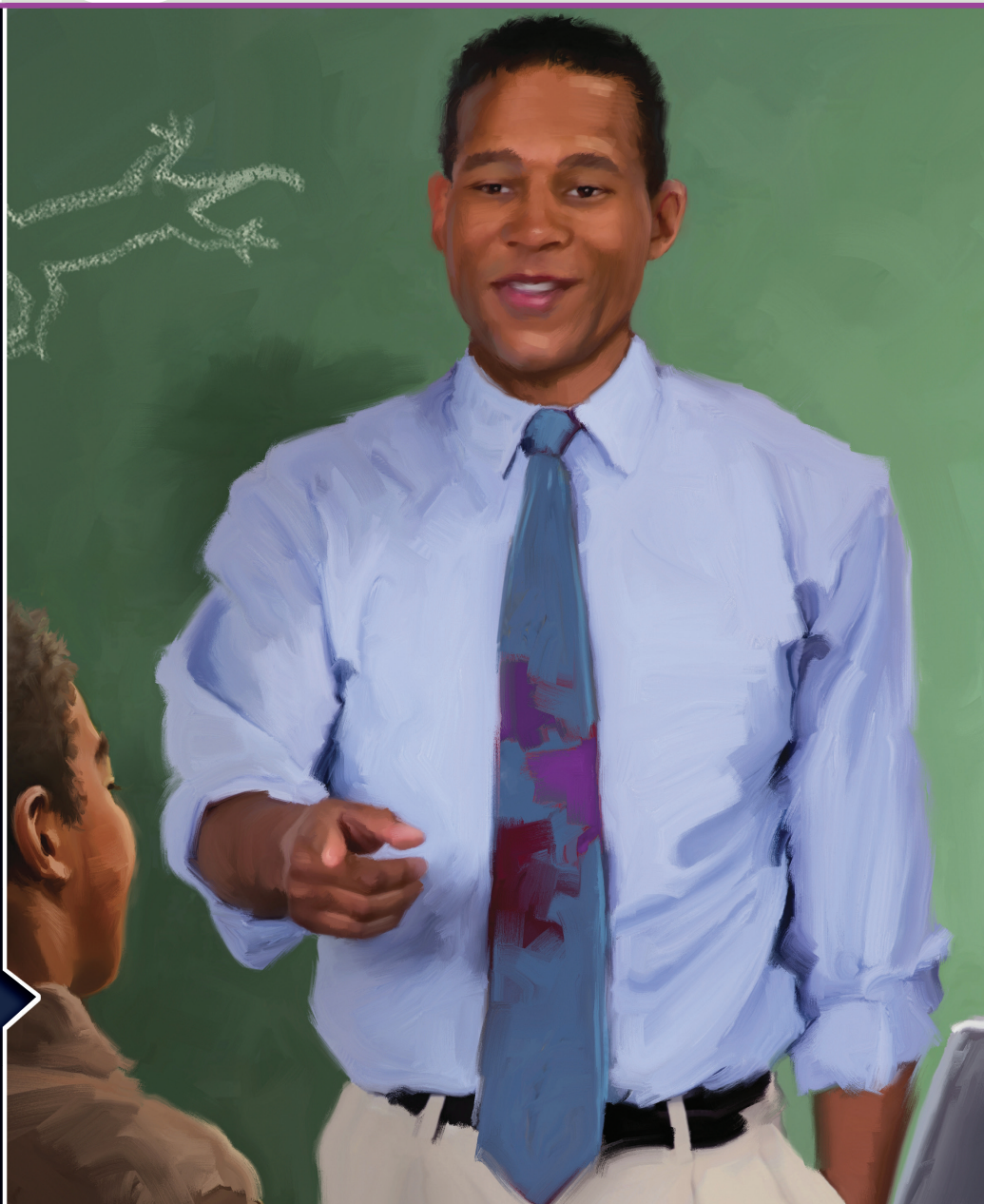












Sabbath

DO Do the activity on page 75.

## power**text**

"Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand" (Ephesians 6:13).

power**point**

We worship God when we "wear" His "armor."

*Have you ever felt as though Satan is finding just the right temptation to separate you from God? How can you stand up against this constant attack? Let's listen in on Mr. Andrews's Bible class and hear what he has to say on the subject.*

"What's that?" Trevor asked.

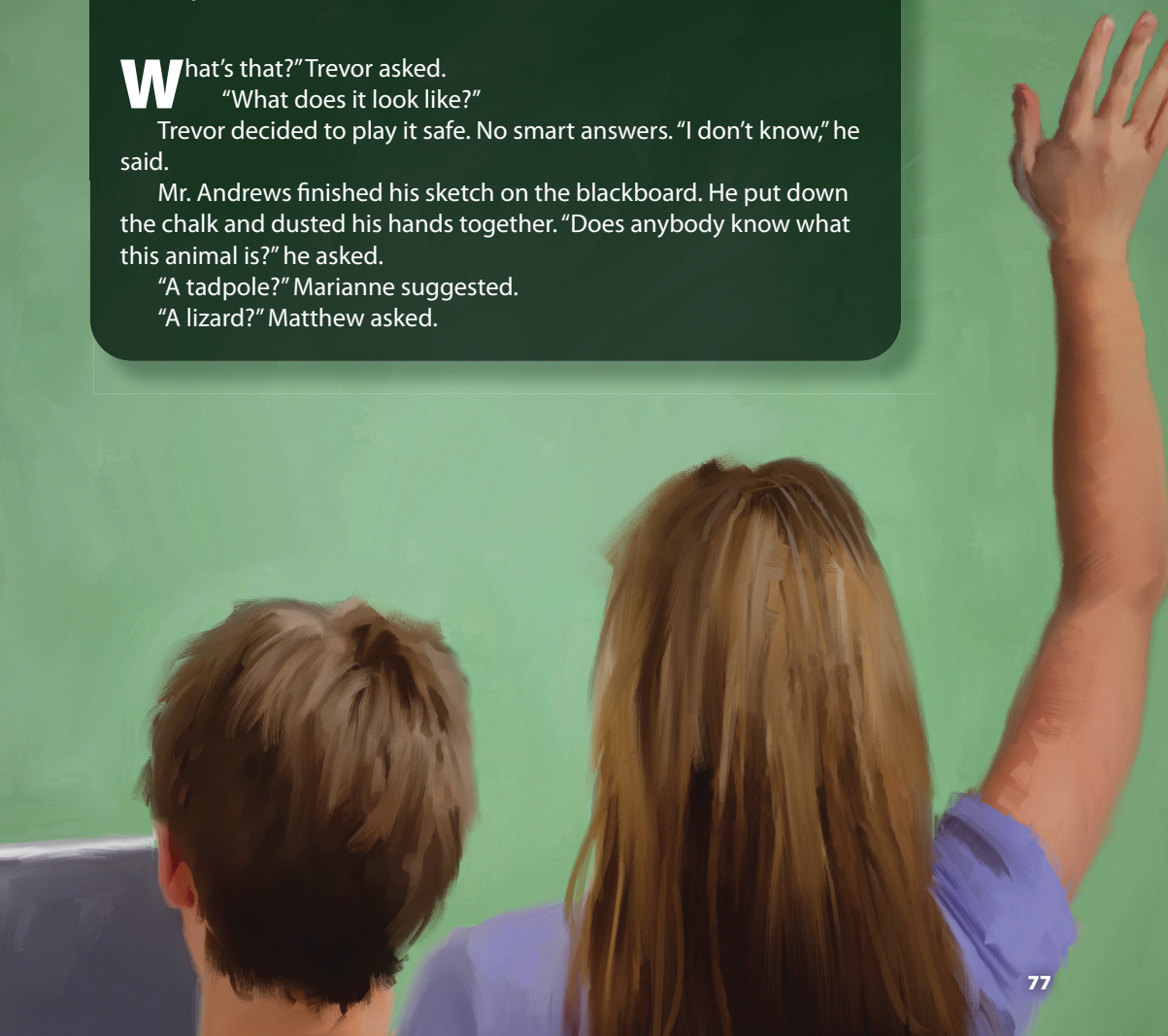
"What does it look like?"

Trevor decided to play it safe. No smart answers. "I don't know," he said.

Mr. Andrews finished his sketch on the blackboard. He put down the chalk and dusted his hands together. "Does anybody know what this animal is?" he asked.

"A tadpole?" Marianne suggested.

"A lizard?" Matthew asked.



# 10

**Sunday**

READ Read Ephesians 6:10-12 and this week's story, "Wearing God's Armor."

REVIEW Review the power text.

THINK How does wearing God's armor enable you to participate in a dynamic worship experience?

PRAY Thank God for His armor's spiritual protection.

**Monday**

READ Read Ephesians 6:13-18.

THINK What piece of the armor do you need most?

TALK With an adult discuss which pieces of armor are defensive? Which are offensive?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God for spiritual protection in all situations.

**Tuesday**

READ Read Psalm 119:11.

LIST List three everyday kinds of protection that could serve as symbols for God's care for you.

REFLECT What parts of God's armor are you claiming? What do you need to do to get ready for battle?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray that God will make you willing to stay strong with His armor.

"I might as well put you out of your misery," Mr. Andrews responded. "You already know that I'm not the world's greatest artist. It's an animal you've never seen before." He grinned at the class. "It's a turtle without its shell."

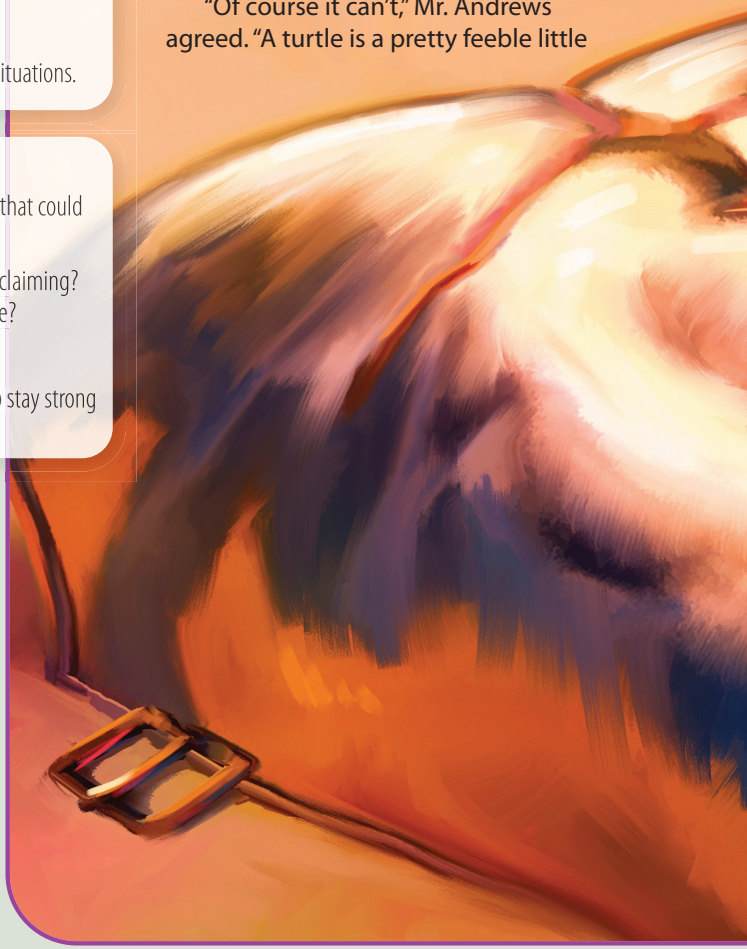
"I wonder why I didn't think of that," Trevor mused out loud.

The class laughed.

"OK," Mr. Andrews said, getting down to business, "so you've never seen a turtle without a shell. Why not?"

"A turtle can't live without a shell!" Marianne exclaimed.

"Of course it can't," Mr. Andrews agreed. "A turtle is a pretty feeble little



animal. It's slow. It's defenseless. It completely depends on its shell to protect it and preserve it."

Mr. Andrews paused and looked around the room. "And that brings me to the Bible lesson for today," he said. "Christians are a lot like turtles."

Trevor and Matthew looked at one another.

Mr. Andrews opened his Bible. He began to read. "'Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes' " (Ephesians 6:11).

Mr. Andrews looked up. "Does anyone remember what the Bible says about the devil? He is going around like a . . ."



10

**Wednesday**

**READ** Read 2 Corinthians 10:3, 4. What kind of weapons is this verse talking about?

**SING** Find "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" in a hymnal and sing it or listen to it performed and think about how this hymn makes you feel about God's care for you.

**REVIEW** Review the power text.

**WRITE** In your Bible study journal, write what you think your "battle" is right now from which you most need God's spiritual protection.

**PRAY** Ask God to give you victory in your "battle."

**Thursday**

**READ** Read Matthew 6:9-13; Matthew 26:36-44; and Mark 1:35.

**THINK** What was Jesus' best protection against the devil? What did God promise that will strengthen our defenses? How will you follow Jesus' example?

**ASK** Ask an adult about a time they felt God was especially protecting them spiritually.

**REVIEW** Review the power text.

**PRAY** Ask God to help you accept His protection.

**Friday**

**READ** Read Ephesians 6:10-18.

**ACT** For family worship, act out Ephesians 6:10-18 by having someone read the verses while you pantomime putting the armor on. Afterward, talk about each item and how it protects us.

**MAKE** Using whatever medium you wish (clay, plaster, wire hangers, papier-mâché, etc.), sculpt an object that for you best symbolizes God's protection in your life.

**REPEAT** Say the power text from memory.

**PRAY** Ask God to cover you with His armor today.

"I know! I know!" Matthew waved his hand in the air. "Like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour!"

"That's what the Bible tells us," Mr. Andrews said. "It tells us that we are no match at all for the devil. We are like little turtles without shells."

"But God gives us armor!" Marianne put in. "He gives us protection."

"That's right!" Mr. Andrews agreed. "And God's armor covers all of us. He gives us salvation for a helmet to cover our heads. He gives us His righteousness as a body armor. He gives us truth as a sturdy belt. He even protects our feet with the peace of His good news. He doesn't leave any part of us out there exposed to danger.

"Look in Ephesians 6 and find out what He gives us for a shield."

"I've got it!" Trevor said. " 'In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one,' " he read (verse 16).

"That tells us that Satan is shooting fiery arrows at us," Mr. Andrews pointed out. "It doesn't say that he might; it says that he is. But God gives us a shield to protect us. A kind of double protection between us and our enemy. A shield and armor. Think how hopeless life would be if we didn't have God's armor!"

"This is what I want you to remember," Mr. Andrews continued. "We are in a war. On our own, with our own strength and power, we would be absolute losers in a battle with the devil. There's no question about it. But when we are protected by the armor that God provides, we will be absolute winners. Every time. No question about it. Because He has already won the war."

"Notice the next part," Matthew added in. "It says, 'And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people' " (verse 18).

Mr. Andrews beamed at Matthew in delight. "That's it! You've got it!" He looked at the whole class. He spread his arms dramatically. "That's the key, my little turtles," he said. "Pray, pray, pray! And constantly wear God's armor, the true source of protection in the spiritual battle against the enemy."

