



LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

Share the good news of Jesus with others.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will think of ways they can share peace and Jesus with others this week.

KEY PASSAGE:

Acts 13:1-5, The Church Sends Barnabas and Saul

MEMORY VERSE:

"So put on all of God's armor. Evil days will come. But you will be able to stand up to anything. And after you have done everything you can, you will still be standing."

Ephesians 6:13 (NirV)

Go around the group in a circle and have each person read one word of the verse until the whole verse has been read. Do it two or three times, see how fast you can go.

SUMMARY:

Every step we take, we should help bring peace and be ready to share the good news with others, just like Barnabas and Saul did on all their missionary journeys.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to bring Jesus to everyone we meet.

In Jesus' name,

Amen



EASY AT HOME OBJECT LESSON

ITEMS NEEDED:

A specialty pair of sports shoes

Bring in a pair of cleats, or running shoes, or basketball shoes. Ask the kids what the shoes you brought in are for. Ask them what special features make that shoe specially suited for that sport. You might bring in two different pairs of shoes to help the kids spot differences in the two.

Every sport requires different shoes, down to the equipment. From bowling to curling, from track and field to soccer, from basketball to even rowing, there's a shoe for every sport, designed to help you move quickly on your feet in that playing environment.

God wants us fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. That's a big wordy way of saying God wants us ready to move into action and share Jesus with everyone. When we see someone who needs help, we move. When we see someone in turmoil, we rush in to bring peace. When we see someone who needs Jesus, we take Jesus to them.

God wants his people to be quick to serve and show love to the world. Let's ask God to fit our feet with that readiness, and let's prepare to share the gospel with everyone we meet.



FAMILY GAME TIME

SHOELACE NOODLES

ITEMS NEEDED:

A pair of sneakers
Chop sticks

INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose two players for this game. Hand each player a fully laced and tied sneaker. Tell the players they will race to see who can untie and completely remove the shoelace from their sneaker the quickest. Then give them the twist. They cannot use their fingers. They must untie and unlace the shoes using a pair of chopsticks.

VARIATION:

For younger kids, give them a head start by untying the shoe or just doing away with the chopsticks.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

Ask God to fit your feet with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.



FAMILY BIBLE LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

Share the good news of Jesus with others.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will think of ways they can share peace and Jesus with others this week.

KEY PASSAGE:

Acts 13:1-5, The Church Sends Barnabas and Saul

INTRO:

How important is the right footwear for a soldier? The modern army has created helicopters and ground vehicles for the transportation of soldiers, but when it comes to actual combat situations, soldiers need a good pair of shoes just like any athlete. Those shoes need to be capable of protecting a soldier's feet in all sorts of conditions - hot and cold, rain or snow, sandy desert and rocky terrain. Without a good pair of shoes, a soldier could find themselves in all sorts of trouble.

The U.S. Army issues boots to all its soldiers, but unlike all the other gear a soldier wears, they do not have to use that boot! Soldiers who find the army boots uncomfortable can purchase a set of boots on their own, so long as those boots are compliant with Army regulations.

Boots must be made of cow hide leather with the softer flesh side facing out.

The sole of the boot must be made of rubber or polyether polyurethane, and it must be the same color as the rest of the boot.

The sole must be 2" or less and may not curl up over the toe or the heel.

The upper part of the boot must also be leather and between 8" and 10" tall.

(Source: <https://authorizedboots.com/list-of-authorized-army-combat-boots/>)

The Army takes boots seriously. They want their soldiers to be comfortable, but they also want them in the best footwear possible because they know how important healthy feet are in combat.

FAMILY BIBLE LESSON

Paul said we need to fit our feet with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. That doesn't mean we need special shoes. It means we need to be ready to put whatever shoes we wear into action when we are needed. God is counting on us to take the peace of Christ to the world, and he wants us to go forward and spread the gospel, just like Paul and his friend Barnabas.

READ ACTS 13:1-5

MAIN POINT:

Saul was Paul's name before he became a Christian. He was still known as Saul when God called him and Barnabas to set forth on their first missionary journey. For Saul, the trip to Seleucia and Cyprus was only the first step in a life-long journey, carrying the gospel throughout the Roman Empire and even to Rome itself.

Paul was always ready to go wherever God led him. So was Peter. So was Barnabas. So was Paul's student Timothy. God wants us to have the same willing and able hearts. He wants us to be ready to respond at a moment's notice. Like a good soldier, we need our feet fitted so that we will always be ready to spread the gospel of peace.

DRIVE IT HOME:

As exciting as the idea of the "armor of God" is when you first read about it, the shoes are the one part most people seem to overlook. Shoes aren't as flashy as the breastplate or the helmet. They're not as exciting as a shield or a sword. And their purpose is one that scares many believers.

Jesus gave his followers one final command before he went back to Heaven: go and teach the gospel to every nation. Teaching the gospel means telling the story of Jesus, but it also means bringing the peace and love of Jesus to others. When someone is hurting, we bring them comfort and prayer. When someone needs a hand, we move quickly to lend that hand. When someone needs food, shelter, or clothing, we are quick to respond.

Just like the Marines, who are often called upon to leave home and serve on a moment's notice. God needs his soldiers to be ready to move at any time. God is counting on us to not only be his hands, but his feet in times of crisis.

A soldier knows that a good pair of boots can mean life or death. At the very least, they can be the difference between coming home with two feet or coming home with less. If we want to be true servants for Jesus, we will make ourselves ready, willing, and able to put boots on the ground at a moment's notice and take the gospel to those who need it.

Are you ready to mobilize?

FAMILY BIBLE LESSON

Are you ready to hit the ground running when someone needs Jesus? It's time to fit our feet with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace so we can carry God's message to the world.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to bring peace to everyone we meet.

In Jesus' name,

Amen



FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

ICEBREAKER:

What is your favorite pair of shoes and why?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Acts 13:1-5

Who was Saul?

Who chose Saul to be a missionary?

Where did Saul and Barnabas go?

Why do we need to take the gospel to others?

What are some ways we can share the peace of Christ with our friends this week?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to share Jesus with someone this week.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



LESSON REVIEW GAME

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Paul said to fit our feet with the readiness that comes from _____.
A. the gospel of peace*
B. righteousness
C. salvation
2. Who chose Saul and Barnabas to go on their journey?
A. Peter
B. The church leaders
C. God*
3. Saul would later change his name to _____.
A. John
B. Paul*
C. Silas
4. Saul and Barnabas were led on their journey by _____.
A. a local guide
B. John
C. the Holy Spirit*
5. God wants us to be quick to _____.
A. help those in need
B. share Jesus with others
C. both A and B*



CRAFT ACTIVITY

For this lesson, create a template for the shoes or boots that the kids will cut out for their soldier. Have the kids trace and cut out their shoes and write “peace” on them. You can also use the included template.



ARMOR OF GOD

