

## *Put on the Armor of God*



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Look at the picture on the front of this page. This is a group of Roman soldiers using the tortoise (or turtle) formation. Why do you think it's called that? How would using this formation protect the soldiers inside?

Ephesians 6:16 is part of a larger passage we are memorizing. (Go back and add it to Ephesians 6:10-15.) This passage describes the armor we must put on, as Christians, as we stand against the devil and his allies. What piece of armor is highlighted in this verse? Why is it necessary?

- ***Shield of Faith...*** Roman soldiers used large leather-covered shields for protection in battle. When flaming arrows hit the shield they would sink deep into the leather, putting out the flame. If you are a Christian, your faith in Jesus is like that mighty Roman shield. But how?
- ***Darts of the evil one...*** Your enemy, the devil, loves to attack your faith. He whispers his accusations against you. *"See, you've sinned again. How can you even call yourself a Christian? God will punish you!"* In these moments, you must use your faith like a shield. You must say to yourself and the devil... *"Yes, I am a sinner, but I've been saved by God's grace. Jesus has taken all my punishment. I am trusting in him!"*

How does the devil try to get you to doubt your faith? How can reminding yourself of the gospel help you? Talk to your Dad or Mom. Tell them about any struggles you are having and ask them to pray with you. Ask God to help you use the shield of faith and trust him to do it.