



# GEEKS UNDER GRACE

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## WONDER WOMAN (2017) | ARMOR OF GOD | BIBLE STUDY

Facilitator Note: We encourage facilitators to take this Bible study and expound on it throughout the week, allowing it to be a springboard for deeper conversations and personal meditation.

### PRESS START

Wonder Woman has been an iconic figure since 1941. While we have become familiar with the character through comics, cartoons, and television over the last several decades, only now are we finally getting to see her on the big screen. **How does everyone feel about the fact that it took so long for this iconic figure to get a feature-length film?** Regarding the villains in this film, **what are everyone's thoughts on Dr. Maru (Dr. Poison) and Ares? In your opinion, how effective are these characters as villains?**

### EQUIP

Did anyone else notice how, even as a child, Diana always wore her armor? As she left Themyscira, she upgraded her armor into something stronger and more iconic. Even when she was dressed as her alternate identity, Diana Prince, she secretly wore her protective armor. Unlike other caped crusaders we know and love, she does not need to slide down a pole into a hidden cave to change. She's always ready.

As Christians, we have our own set of armor that the Word tells us we should clothe ourselves in. **Ephesians 6:10-18** tells us to put on "*the full armor of God*": the "*Belt of Truth*," "*Breastplate of Righteousness*," "*Shoes of Peace*," "*Shield of Faith*," "*Helmet of Salvation*," and the "*Sword of the Spirit*." With all this equipment, we are better outfitted than Diana could ever be and, unlike Diana's sword in the film, what we have will never fail us.

## LEVEL UP

Let's look at some Scriptures about the armor of God. As we go through the passage, underline each piece in your Bible.

**Ephesians 6:13-18(NKJV)** <sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup> and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; <sup>16</sup> above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. <sup>17</sup> And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; <sup>18</sup> praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.

Paul writes this Scripture to a group of believers. At the time, the Romans ruled pretty much "the whole block." Roman ideology was everywhere Christians looked. One belief the Romans held is that the god Vulcan would give out armor to the people whom he deemed worthy of being heroes. Paul took images from this fable to give the people a spiritual picture they could understand. (Side note: Since Wonder Woman is Greek, the counterpart of Vulcan in the Greek belief system is Hephaestus, who has a similar legend surrounding him.) Also, the Roman soldiers wore their armor proudly in public, so this was an everyday sight and easily-identifiable symbol for the believers of that time.

Armor is most effective when all its pieces are put together; it simply protects its user better as a whole. To further that point and apply it to ourselves, we must put on the full armor because we cannot afford to leave any part of ourselves open to attacks from the enemy. Think about it: if we do not wear the "*helmet of salvation*," our minds are open to the "fiery darts" of evil. These are all very practical concepts with a very spiritual purpose. Putting the armor on daily is something we must do, and prayer is one of the ways we can put it all on. God is willing to help dress us for our protection; we just need to ask Him.

## MOD

**Ask: What are some ways we can show that we are indeed wearing the full armor of God?**

Let's break down each individual piece. (*Example: The Sword of the Spirit would be knowing/memorizing the Scriptures.*)

*Try to draw out specifics from members of the group.)*

**Ask: What piece of armor do you personally need to work on wearing more regularly?**

**Ask:** Notice that v.18 leaves us with some details about how to operate with each piece of the armor. **How can we practically apply this verse to our everyday lives?**

## PRAY

**Does anyone have anything we need to pray about today?**

In addition to the individual needs of the group, let's pray, not just now, but beyond our meeting today that the chinks in our armor would be revealed as we go about our day/week/month. Let's also pray for help in fully putting on the armor of God for our daily protection and preparation.

## THE NEXT LEVEL

**Ephesians 6:12** <sup>12</sup> *"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, again spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places."*

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