



The Victorious Church

MAIN IDEAS

- The gospel is like a small seed that is planted and matures into a strong and beautiful tree producing much fruit.
- Jesus has promised that His church will prevail over all difficulties.

MEMORY WORK

...I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.—Matthew 16:18b

SCRIPTURE FOR THE LESSON

1) Matthew 13:31-32

2) Matthew 16:18

3) 1 Corinthians 15:57-58

AS YOU WALK BY THE WAY

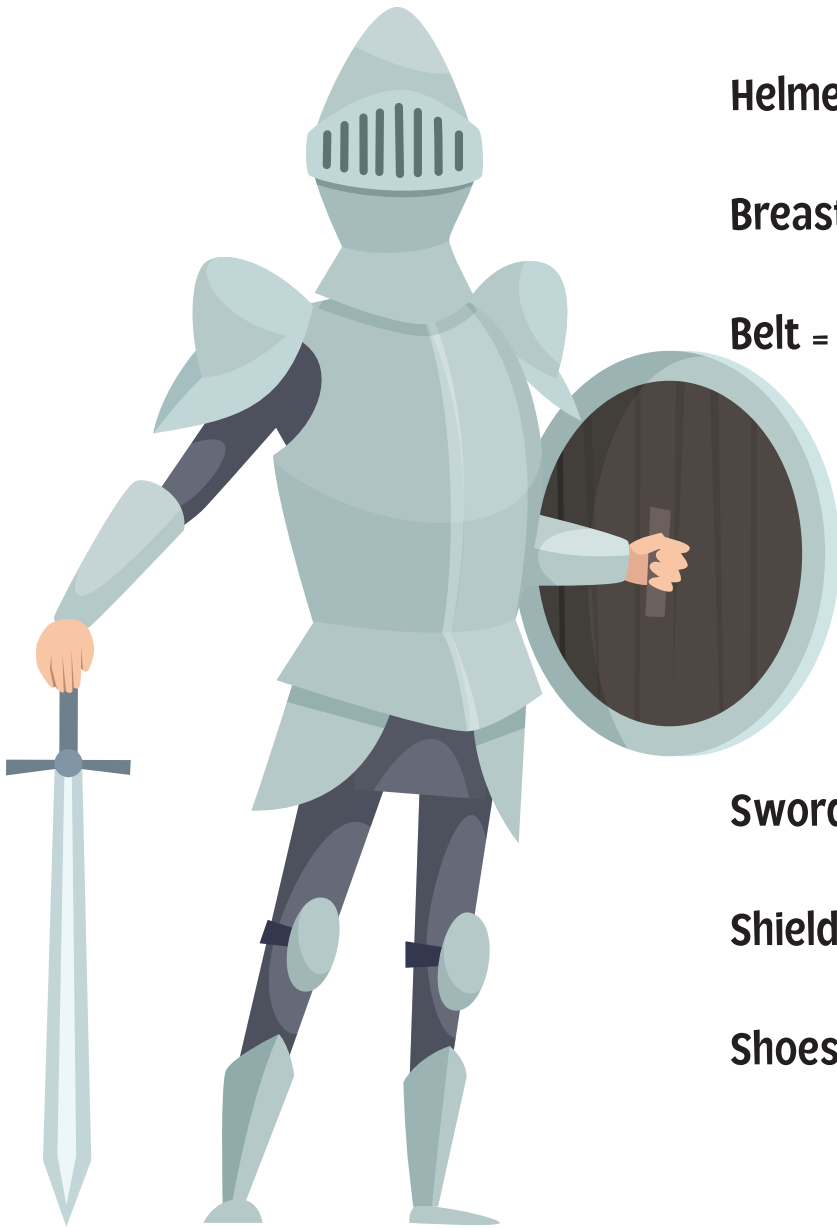
This lesson recalled the story of Adoniram Judson who, in the year 1813, went to Burma (now called Myanmar) with his wife. At that time, there were no churches or any known Christians in Burma. Adoniram's goal was to translate the Bible into the Burmese language so the people of Burma could read and hear the gospel in their own language. Through many trials, hardships, suffering, and persecution, the gospel took root in the hearts of many Burmese, and Jesus' church grew strong. There are now more than two million Christians in Myanmar!

Point out that Jesus said something very important before He gave the Great Commission. Read Matthew 28:18 and ask: *Why is this important to know? Why should this give the church confidence?* Now read verses 19-20. *What promise is at the end of the Great Commission? Why is this important for the church to know? Do you sometimes feel as if the church is weak or insignificant compared to the rest of the world? Why might we be tempted to think that way? But is that the way things really are?* Read and talk about portions of Ephesians 1:18-23. *What is God doing right now—unseen to the eyes of the world? Who is ruling over every nation and power? Who will bring His church to completion? How should these verses give Christians confidence and hope? Do you have this hope?*

ACTIVITY

Look up Ephesians 6:10-18 and write about the "armor" that Jesus has given so that His church might be victorious in its mission. Then, look up the words and music to the hymn, "O Church, Arise" (by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend). How does this song point to the final victory of Jesus and His church?

The Armor of the Church



Helmet = _____

Breastplate = _____

Belt = _____

Sword = _____

Shield = _____

Shoes = _____

The mission of the church...

1. Worship God

2. Love One Another

3. Proclaim the Gospel to the Lost