

The Israelites Fight the Amalekites

Exodus 17:8-16

The Big Idea: Put on God's armor so you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Read the passage

Story Summary for Children:

As the Israelites travelled toward Mt. Sinai, the Amalekites formed an army to attack them. Moses told Joshua to choose men of Israel to fight the Amalekites. When the time of the battle came, Moses went up to a hill above the battlefield and stretched out his arms toward the sky. Whenever Moses' arms were up, the Israelites were winning. But whenever his arms fell, the Amalekites were winning. So Aaron and Hur, Moses' helpers, put a big rock under him to sit on and they held up his arms – one on each side – until sunset, when the Israelites won the war.

God told Moses to write down this story for generations to come. So, Moses obeyed and worshipped God for the winning the battle for Israel.

Family Bible Discussion Questions:

1. Who did the Israelites fight? (the Amalekites)
2. What did Moses do during the battle? (he held his hands up toward the sky)
3. What happened when Moses' arms fell? (the Israelites were losing)
4. Why did Moses have to hold up his arms? (to demonstrate that it was God who fought for Israel)
5. Who eventually won the battle? (God did – for the Israelites)

Family Lesson Discussion Questions:

1. Are we involved in a war?
2. Who do we fight against?
3. How does God fight for us?
4. How do we fight alongside God?

Memory Verse: "Put on the full of armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." (Ephesians 6:11)

Parents: Talk with your family about the war that we are in and how God fights for us. Tell your children about the challenges you face.

A Look Ahead: Next week the passage is Exodus 18:1-27 and the Big Idea will be, "We are ambassadors for Christ." Ask your family, "What do we mean by the word, 'church'?" You may also want to read next week's passage with your child and start explaining the story.