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## *Ephesians 6:10-20* (NIV and *The Message*)

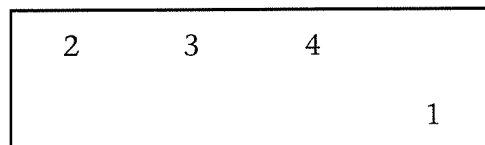
**Summary:** This piece has a serious message but it is delivered in a humorous way. It urges us to put on the full armor of God in prayer in order to stop the enemy and keep each other strong.

**Actor Requirements:** Minimum of four actors, no maximum. No gender requirements. Lines can be broken up differently depending on the number of actors you choose to work with.

**Characters:** Number 1 is the drill sergeant and is to take on the stereo-typical vocalizations and movements of a drill sergeant. 2, 3, and 4 are soldiers who stand tall and strong and keep their eyes straight ahead at all times.

**Note:** The blocking is just a suggestion and not a requirement. Feel free to change the blocking completely to suit your needs.

March onto stage from stage left in a line (2, 3, 4, then 1). 1 will land slightly downstage of 2 – 4.



The text before “Ephesians 6:10–20. NIV and...” is an optional marching call and answer cadence between the drill sergeant and the soldiers to get the group on and off stage.

1: Left, left, left, right, left.

We claim Jesus as our only guide.

2 – 4: *(repeat with same pitch)* We claim Jesus as our only guide.

1: Put Him first and put all else aside.

2 – 4: *(repeat with same pitch)* Put Him first and put all else aside.

1: If you want to be victorious

2 – 4: *(repeat with same pitch)* If you want to be victorious

1: You'll live by the words in Ephe-si-ans.

2 – 4: *(repeat with same pitch)* You'll live by the words in Ephe-si-ans.

1: *(Like a drill sergeant—ending words will go up in pitch.)* Ephesians 6:10-20.  
NIV and...

2 – 4: The Message.

1: God is...

2 – 4: strong!

1: and he wants you...

2 – 4: strong!

1: Therefore, put on the full armor of God, *(1 saunters behind the line)* well-made weapons of the best materials, and put them to use so you will be able to stand up to everything the Devil throws your way.

*(1 walks to the front and confronts each number.)*

*(Confronting 2)* For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, *(confronting 3)* but against the rulers, against the author-i-TIES, *(confronting 4)* against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

*(1 stands straight out)* Armor... on...

2: *(one step downstage)* This is no afternoon athletic contest that we'll walk away from and forget about in a couple of hours. This is for keeps, a life-or-death fight to the finish against the Devil and all his angels.

1: Therefore put on...

ALL: the full armor of God!

- 1: Armor... on...
- 3: *(one step downstage)* You're up against far more than you can handle on your own. Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when it's all over but the shouting you'll still be on your feet.
- 1: Armor... on...
- ALL: Stand firm then!
- 1: with the...
- 4: *(one step downstage)* belt of truth buckled around your waist *(in a strong, together motion, 2-4 put on the belt),*
- 1: with the...
- 3: breastplate of righteousness in place *(in a strong, together motion, 2-4 put on the breastplate),*
- 1: and with your...
- 2: feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace! *(in a together motion, 2-4 step into the shoes)*
- 1: In addition to all this, take up the...
- 2 – 4: shield of faith! *(in a together motion, 2-4 hold up the shield)*
- 4: with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.
- 1: Take the helmet of salvation *(2-4 put on helmets)* and the sword of the Spirit, which is...
- 2 – 4: the word of God! *(2-4 lunge out with Bibles)*
- 1: Truth *(4 sheaths sword by putting it in the left hand),* righteousness *(3 sheaths*

sword), peace (*2 sheaths sword*), faith (*2–4 arms down*), and salvation (*2–4 finger salute*) are more than words. Learn how to apply them. You'll need them throughout your life. God's Word is...

2 – 4: an indispensable weapon! (*2–4 snap into standing head bowed prayer posture*)

1: In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare.

Armor... on...

2: (*Head snaps up*) Pray hard and long.

3: (*Head snaps up*) Pray for your brothers and sisters.

4: (*Head snaps up*) Keep your eyes open. Keep each other's spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out.

1: Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, (*all hands behind back*)

ALL: as I should!

**Option:** *You can end the sketch here or you can use the call and answer cadence to exit the stage.*

1: Left, left, left, right, left.  
We claim Jesus as our only guide.

2 – 4: We claim Jesus as our only guide.

1: Put Him first and put all else aside.

2 – 4: Put Him first and put all else aside.

1: If you want to be victorious

2 – 4: If you want to be victorious

1: You'll live by the words in Ephe-si-ans.

2 – 4: You'll live by the words in Ephe-si-ans.

*The end.*