

Lesson 10: A Soldier's Faith in Jesus

Activities

Craft Project: Roman Centurion Sand Art

History Project: Make a Centurion's Helmet

Game Activity: Centurion, May I?

Memory Work: Review the Books of the New Testament

Coloring Page: A Roman Centurion and His Troops

Craft Project



Roman Centurion Sand Art

Materials

- Roman centurion head (Student Page 99)
- Colored sand or rice (at least three colors—purchase sand at a craft store, OR see recipe for colored rice below project)
- School glue (such as Elmer's)
- Water
- Spoon
- Disposable cup or bowl
- Disposable dinner plate
- Paintbrush
- Cardstock (8½" x11"—you can cut it from a cereal box)

Directions

- 1 Using some glue, mount the Roman centurion head (Student Page 99) on the cardstock.
- 2 Mix together a spoonful of glue and a spoonful of water in the cup.
- 3 Decide which colors you want each section of the picture to be. Paint glue on the sections you wish to be the same color.
- 4 Sprinkle the sand (or colored rice) on the paper and dump the excess off into the plate (then put the sand back in the container for another project).
- 5 Repeat steps 3 and 4 with the remaining colors of sand (or rice). You may need to mix more glue paint. Let the artwork dry.

OPTIONAL COLORED RICE RECIPE

Materials for each color

- 1 c. rice
- ½ c. rubbing alcohol
- Food coloring
- Container with lid (such as a Mason jar or an old peanut-butter jar)
- Newspaper

Directions

- 1 Put the alcohol into the jar and add drops of the food coloring to get the desired color.
- 2 Add the rice to the jar. Screw on the lid and shake!
- 3 Let the rice sit in the jar for 5 minutes.
- 4 Spread the rice on the newspaper. Move it around periodically so it all dries evenly. Pour the dried rice back in the container.

History Project

Make a Centurion's Helmet

The Roman centurion was an army officer, and his helmet had a special plume on top so he could be easily identified by his foot soldiers in battle. In this craft project, you'll make a centurion's helmet that a child can wear.

Materials

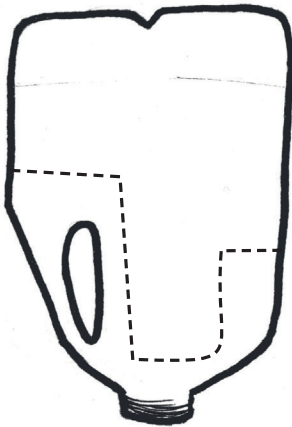
- Centurion helmet template (Student Pages 101 and 103)
- 1 gallon plastic milk jug, rinsed and dried
- Scissors
- Cardboard (we used a Capri-Sun box; a cereal box would also work)
- 2 sheets of red construction paper
- Glue stick
- Sharp knife or X-Acto knife
- OPTIONAL: Silver paint suitable for plastic*

*You have several options: (1) Use Paint for Plastic, available at craft stores, and apply with a brush. You must use the Paint for Plastic Primer as a base coat. (2) Use a spray paint such as Krylon Fusion for Plastic Metallic Shimmer, available at craft and home improvement stores. Wipe the plastic down with paint thinner first for best results. (3) You can skip the paint and cover the helmet with aluminum foil, but prepare yourself for some complicated wrapping. (4) Or you can leave the helmet unpainted. Pretend that it has been through many battles and that its original metallic sheen has faded to the color of a milk jug.

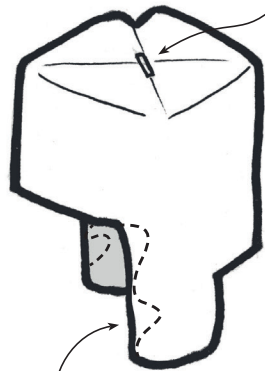
Directions

- 1 Cut out Plume Template A from Student Page 101. Trace the template onto the cardboard twice and cut out both pieces.
- 2 Cut out Plume Template B from Student Page 103. Trace the template onto each piece of construction paper and cut out both pieces. Cut the fringe into the paper plumes.
- 3 Fit the two cardboard plumes back to back so they match perfectly. Glue a red paper plume to the inside of each piece (so the red plume is sandwiched by the cardboard pieces and the fringe of the plume sticks up above the cardboard). Set aside.
- 4 Cut the opening off the milk jug with the scissors. Cut out the handle (this will be where the face opening will be). Looking at the drawing on Student Page 99, and at the diagrams below, cut the milk jug so it is shaped like a helmet.
- 5 Using the sharp knife or the X-Acto knife, cut a slit in the top of the helmet wide enough to stick in the stem of the cardboard plume.
- 6 Stick the cardboard plume into the helmet so 1 inch of the cardboard stem is on the inside of the helmet. Fold back each of the cardboard pieces inside the helmet so they lie flat against the helmet interior.
- 7 Paint the helmet silver or cover it with aluminum foil. The helmet will sit high up on the head, but the ear flaps will keep it in place. If you wish to widen the helmet, cut a slit up the back of the helmet to the crown.

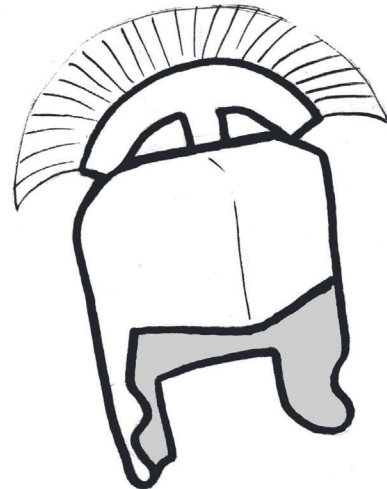
Remove handle and spout from milk jug by cutting along the dotted lines (creating two ear protectors).



Using the X-Acto knife, cut a slit in the top of helmet (this should run transversely across the head - from left to right - and be just big enough for the cardboard stem to fit in).



Cut decorative curves into the ear protectors.



Insert the cardboard stems (with plumes attached) into the slit. On the inside of the helmet, fold back each cardboard flap so that they lie flat and hold the plume in place.

Game Activity

Centurion, May I?

Directions

This game is best played outside, but a large room with some open space will suffice

- 1 Pick one player to be the Centurion. Like the Roman centurion in today's lesson, this player gets to have "authority." He should wear the centurion's helmet from this week's projects; additionally, he can carry a small stick, as many centurions did (but unlike real centurions, the player may NOT hit other players with the stick).
- 2 Everyone who is not the Centurion lines up, at least 30 feet away from the Centurion. Their goal is to reach the Centurion.
- 3 Have the players take turns asking, "Centurion, may I _____?" (Each player chooses some request that will get him or her closer to the Centurion's location, such as "Centurion, may I take three big steps toward you?" or "Centurion, may I take 2 sideways steps toward you?"). The requests MUST always begin with "Centurion, may I" or they do not count.
- 4 When each player makes his request, the Centurion decides whether to say "Yes" or "No." If the answer is yes, then the player may fulfill his request. If not, he has to wait until it is his turn again. The Centurion may only refuse the request of a particular player three times per game.
- 5 At any TWO times in the course of the game, the Centurion may order everyone to take two steps backward. All players must obey at once. But the Centurion can only make this order twice.
- 6 The first player to reach the Centurion becomes the new Centurion, and the game begins again.

Memory Work

Review the Books of the New Testament

Directions

Say to the student: "Let's review all the books of the New Testament that you've learned so far. Remember, the first five books you learned were Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts. Let's chant those together three times."

(Together, three times): Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts.

Say, "Then we learned about the letters that one of Jesus' messengers, named Paul, sent to different groups of Christians. There were nine of them: Romans, First and Second Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, First and Second Thessalonians. Let's chant those together three times."

(Together, three times): Romans, First and Second Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, First and Second Thessalonians.

Say, “Now let’s say all of those together.”

(Together): Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, First and Second Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, First and Second Thessalonians.

Coloring Page



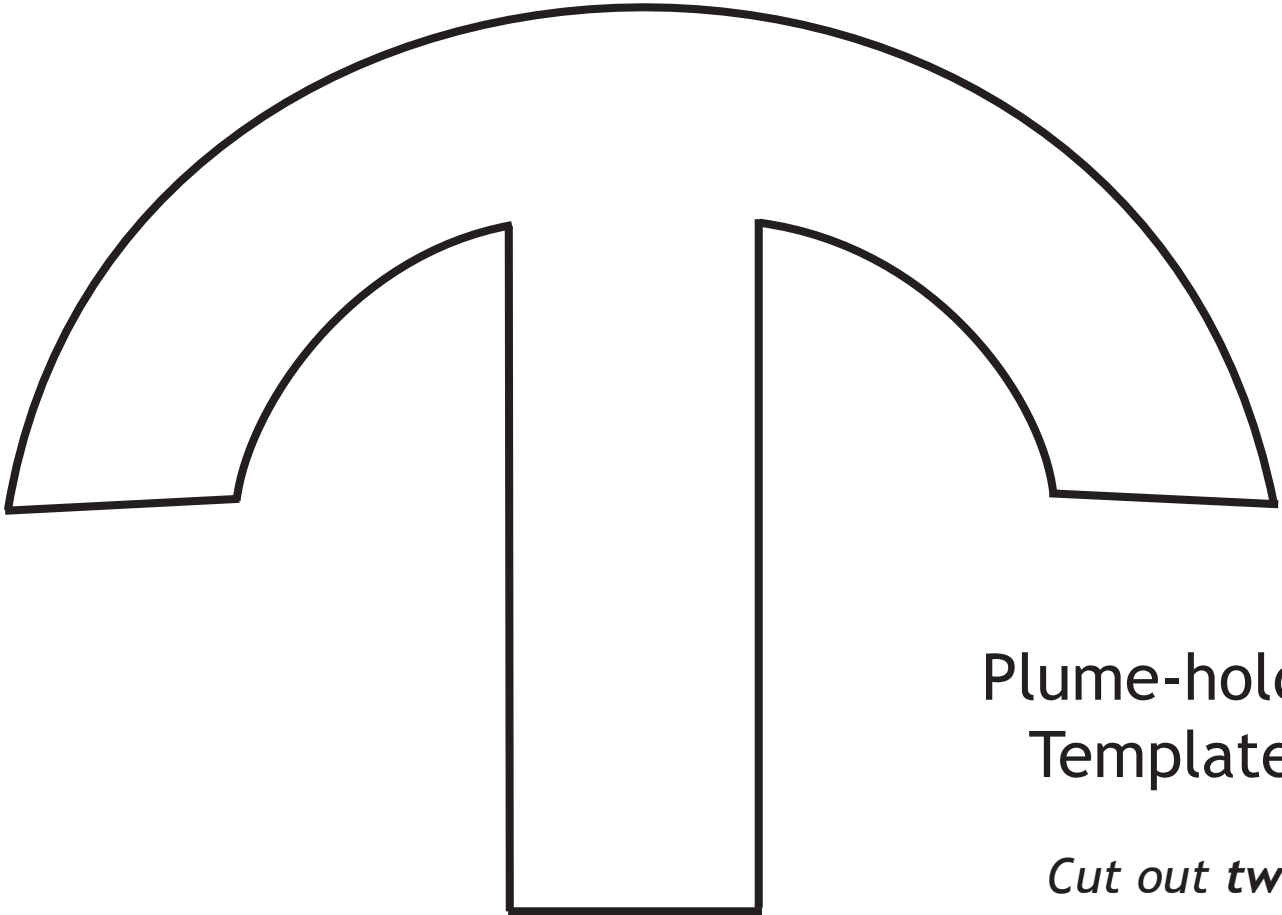
A Roman Centurion and His Troops

A centurion in the Roman army was in charge of 100 men. If he told them what to do, they did it right away. The centurion in today’s story knew that Jesus was even more powerful than that. He said to Jesus, “Whatever you say will happen, happens right away.” Notice how the centurion’s helmet and armor look different from what the soldiers wear. He also carries a stick, to show his authority (and to hit his soldiers if they don’t obey!). [The soldiers’ shields can be colored red with yellow designs, and the plume on the centurion’s helmet can be colored red too.]

Roman Centurion Sand Art



Plume Template A

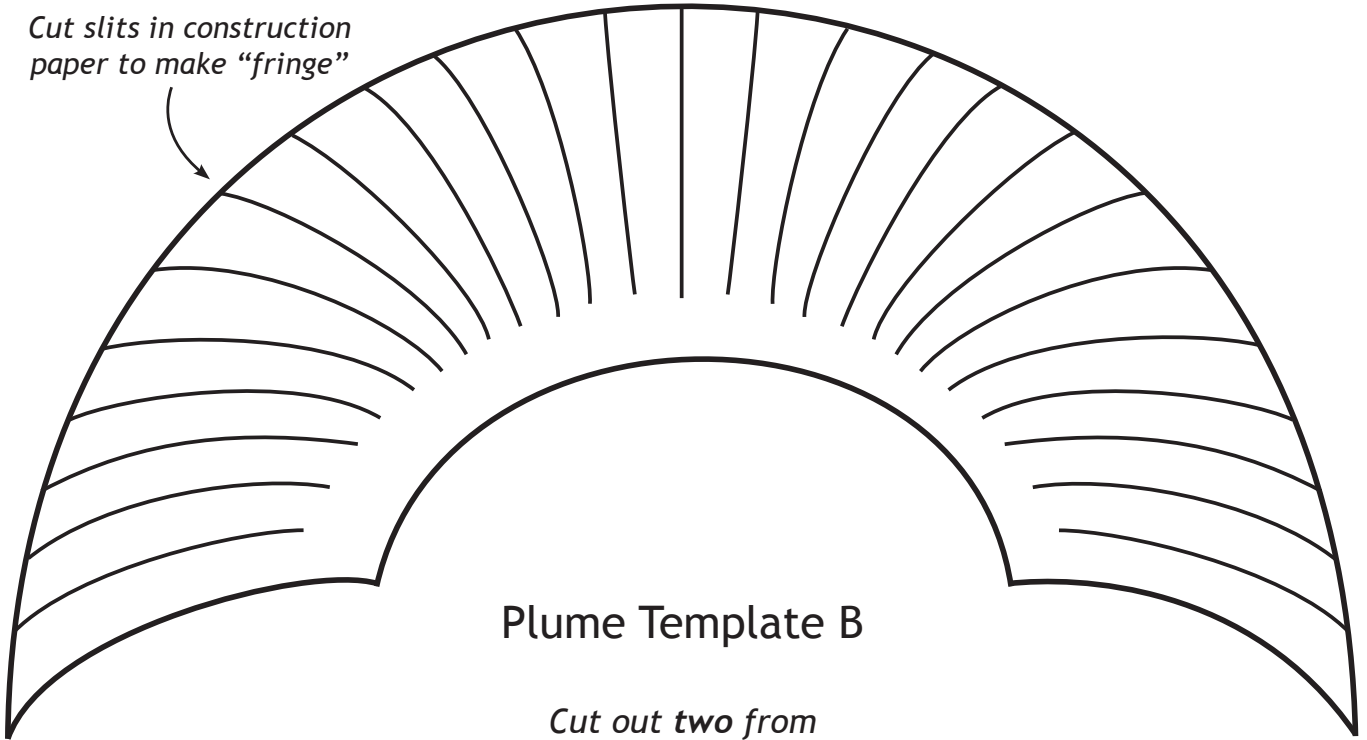


Plume-holder
Template A

*Cut out two
from cardboard*

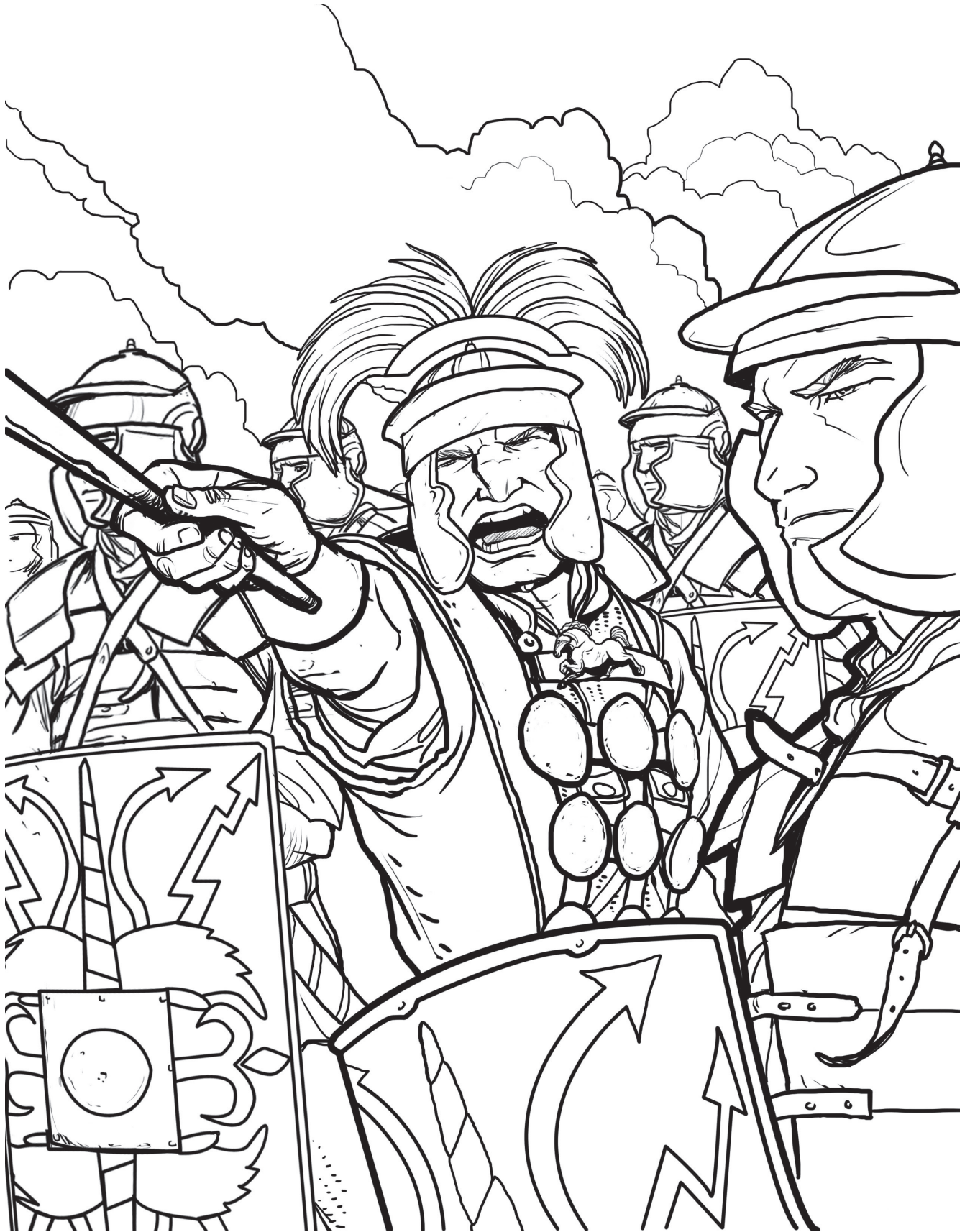
Plume Template B

Cut slits in construction paper to make "fringe"



Plume Template B

Cut out two from red construction paper



Matthew 8:5-13