



| A Devotional Resource *for* Families

The Ten Commandments



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How to Use This Book

The book you now have in your hands has been a labor of love. It began with a realization that no matter how excellent and effective our teaching may be, it cannot compete with the influence of you as parents. God has called you specifically and gifted you uniquely to lead your kids “in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” Plainly said, you are the greatest spiritual influence in the lives of your kids. To some of you that is a very intimidating and overwhelming thought (I know I feel that way).

Therefore, we as the church want to help encourage and equip you in your role as the primary discipler of your children, and that is why this book exists. Our goal is to set you up in the best way that we can to have spiritual conversations as a family. Our hope is that you will have opportunities on Sundays, perhaps at lunch after Sunday school, as well as a couple of times a week with the Family Devotionals provided, to talk about God and His importance in our everyday lives.

To help accomplish this, we have standardized the Sunday school curriculum so that everyone from JK-12th grade will be learning the same things each week (age appropriately, of course). This allows you as parents to know exactly what all of your kids are learning without having to keep track of multiple emails or schedules. Below you will find exactly what is included and how best to use it.

Outline

We provide you with the main points that your students will be learning each week. We do this so you can be best prepared to discuss what they learned and answer any questions that might come up. We also have included a lengthy section of context for each lesson. We believe it is important for all of us to see how each story in the Bible does not stand alone, but instead fits into the larger drama that God has unfolded.

Follow-up Questions

The point of these questions is to be conversation starters for you as a family. They are not exhaustive as to the content of what your children have learned that Sunday, but should just get things started for your family. Our hope is that your children will come to expect a conversation about what they learned in Sunday school for two main reasons. First, we want them to see spiritual conversations as a normal and important part of life and second, we hope this expectation will make them more attentive to what they are learning.

Family Devos

We have provided two days worth of Family Devotionals for you to do as a family at home. We chose this number so as to not overwhelm families, and our hope is that the two provided will be a springboard for even more times of family worship during the week. The two we have included will help build a foundation for the Bible character that they will study on Sunday. You will also see a page on “How to Do Family Devotions” which is there only as a resource for you and not a concrete model that must be followed. In the end, the most important thing is for families to spend time together focused on God’s Word and prayer; how that is accomplished is secondary.

Andrew Keasling

Teaching Schedule

This curriculum was originally derived as an 11-week summer devotional Bible study for families. The following dates apply to summer of 2018, but please study as you like.

WEEK	PASSAGE	THEME
May 27	Exodus 19:1-6, 20:1,2	Introduction
June 3	Exodus 20:3	1st Commandment
June 10	Exodus 20:4-6	2nd Commandment
June 17	Exodus 20:7	3rd Commandment
June 24	Exodus 20:8-11	4th Commandment
July 1	Exodus 20:12	5th Commandment
July 8	Exodus 20:13	6th Commandment
July 15	Exodus 20:14	7th Commandment
July 22	Exodus 20:15	8th Commandment
July 29	Exodus 20:16	9th Commandment
August 5	Exodus 20:17	10th Commandment

How To Do Family Devotions

When discussing family devotions, the first thing you must know is that there is not just one correct way to do them. Each family is made up of distinct individuals, each with a different personality. Therefore, trying to create a “one-size-fits-all” approach to family devotions is foolish. Below are some helpful hints and guidelines as you lead your devotions. Some of them will be very helpful, while some you will realize do not work for your family. In the end, the point is for you as a family to take time together reading God’s Word and praying. However you accomplish this is truly a secondary concern.

PLACE MATTERS

- It will be important to find a consistent place where you always do family devotions. Changing the location can drastically change the dynamics.
- Everyone should be at the same eye level. You don’t want some on the floor and some in chairs or on the couch. This will encourage participation by all members because they will feel as if they are a part of the group.
- Minimize the distractions. Honestly, doing family devotions is hard enough! Only you know what might distract your kids so be sure you eliminate as many interruptions as possible.

PRAYER MATTERS

- It is important for your children to see the importance of prayer. Therefore, be sure that you pray to begin and end your time together. Often it works best to choose one family member to open the time in prayer (which also helps settle busy hearts). At the end is an opportunity to let everyone pray.
- Give your children a role in prayer. One of the things that my family does that has been successful is that we have four prayer categories: 1–Zachary’s class, 2–Bryson’s Class, 3–Our extended family and friends, and 4–Missions. Each time we give someone in the house one of these prayer categories. To minimize the “I want...” of our children, we rotate who assigns who to prayer. That way, everyone gets a chance to decide who prays for what. It has saved a lot of disagreements. For our missions category, we alternate between a local partner and an international partner and it has been such a blessing to watch and hear our kids pick up on and pray for those ministries. We also switch it up some nights and just have a time of confession or adoration or thanksgiving so they don’t think of God as just someone from whom you ask things.

THE WORD MATTERS

- God’s Word is the only thing He promises will bear fruit. It is so important to not only expose them to God’s Word but also to teach them how to think about it. One of the best ways to start doing this is to continually remind them that these stories are REAL – Isaiah 55:11.
- Get them to interact with the Bible for themselves. It is a huge temptation to just provide the answers for them (since we know everything) but they will get so much more out of it if they think about it for themselves. The hardest part for me in this is that I lose the control. I have to constantly remind myself that I want them to get something out of God’s Word and not get frustrated when they don’t get out what I want them to.

HOW TO DO FAMILY DEVOTIONS

- Encourage every little step. It will be very important to encourage every interaction they have with God's Word. They will be more willing to share when they know it is a safe place for them to come with their thoughts. At times, that will mean you are going to go down some rabbit trails, but it will be worth the journey. As a part of that, you need to make sure that they get the truth; this means gently correcting when their theology gets out of whack.

TIME MATTERS

- One of the most important things you are teaching your children is that being together is very important. Just the simple act of carving out time every week that does not involve the TV or a meal out will bear fruit. The intentional act of studying the Word and prayer together will bear fruit even if it is down the line.
- Have fun! I know it sounds silly but if your kids have fun doing family devotions, they will want to keep doing them. For us, that is a short game or a role playing moment at the beginning but for you, it can be whatever. Sometimes I think we are afraid that we will be irreverent when we attempt to have fun, but we must remember that God created fun and laughter, so participating in those activities pleases Him.

D6 Driving Values

At Second, we believe in three guiding principles, known as the D6 Driving Values. We hope that as you and your family go through these devotions together, you will be further encouraged in your relationship with the Lord, your church community, and in your Kingdom mission.

The Lord is My Primary Devotion

- Confronted by the holiness of Christ, I seek Him in daily worship, prayer, and repentance. *Isaiah 6:1-8*
- Compelled by the love of Christ, I strive to be obedient to Him in my thoughts, words, and deeds. *II Corinthians 5:14*
- Created new in Christ, my identity is no longer in the things of this world. *II Corinthians 5:17*
- Confident of the eternity secured for me in Christ, I have peace in the midst of the troubles of this life. *Philippians 4:6-7*

The Church is My Primary Community

- Knowing that the Gospel liberates me from idols, I cannot imagine not joyfully worshipping God every week with my brothers and sisters in Christ. *Thessalonians 1:9b*
- Knowing that the Church is called to be a holy nation, set apart from the things of the world, I will embrace this calling by seeking to be Christ-like in all aspects of my life. *I Peter 2:9-12*
- Knowing that I am a steward of my resources and not an owner, I cheerfully release my resources to build His Kingdom and not my own. *Matthew 25:14-30*
- Knowing that the Body of Christ is essential to my sanctification, I actively seek relationship and accountability within the church in order to grow in Christ. *Ephesians 4:11-16*
- Knowing that God has given me spiritual gifts to use in the church, I willingly serve. *I Corinthians 12:4-7*
- Knowing that Jesus is present where two or more are gathered in His name, I happily pray with and for my brothers and sisters in Christ. *Matthew 18:20*

Building Christ's Kingdom is My Primary Mission

- Belonging to Christ's Kingdom causes us to live as a distinct people who are called to be about applying Christ's work of redemption as far as the curse is found as we eagerly await His imminent return and the renewal of all things. *Romans 8:19-21*
- Building Christ's Kingdom in all of life is an act of worship, and the reason I am alive is to multiply worshippers and redeem culture. *II Corinthians 5:16-21*
- Building Christ's Kingdom begins in multiplying worshippers of Christ in my own household. *Joshua 24:15*
- Building Christ's Kingdom is the lens through which I filter every decision as I further the work of redemption. *Romans 12:1-2*
- Building Christ's Kingdom prioritizes Christ's work of redemption to the extent of intentionally sacrificing our time, money, and talents in furthering the application of the redemption of Christ. *I Corinthians 10:31-33*

WEEK

1

Overview of the 10 Commandments

PURPOSE

God reveals His desire to have relationship with His people
and what the relationship should look like

WEEKLY FOCUS

To understand that God's commands come after His provision
for His people rather than because of their obedience

Exodus 19:1-6, 20:1-2

Context

- God created the Earth and all that is in it in order for man to live and then created man in His own image to reflect, represent and multiply Him
- All creation exists to spread His Glorious Kingdom to the ends of the Earth
- Sin enters the world and cuts off relationship with God but God has a plan to take away our sin both now (skins) and forever (Redeemer) and even as sin increases it can't thwart God's plan
- While in Egypt God's people become slaves and He hears their cries and raises up Moses to deliver His people from Pharaoh
- God frees His people by killing the firstborn of Egypt and sparing those who put the blood of the lambs on their doorposts
- God then leads His people out of Egypt and protects them from Pharaoh and his armies by leading them through the Red Sea

Outline

- I. **God reminds the people who He is**
 - A. I am the LORD
 1. Yahweh
 - a. Sets Him apart as the only true God
 - b. Special name given to Moses for the people to know God
 - B. Your God
 1. Not just a god but their God
 2. Has been with the people and will continue to do so
- II. **God reminds the people what He did**
 - A. Brought you up out of Egypt and to Myself
 1. Bible says 91 times that God brought the people out of Egypt
 2. Was a sign of God's power and love for His people

- B. Freed you from slavery
 - 1. More than just moved them from one place to another
 - 2. Heard of their misery and came down to free them
 - a. Passover

III. God then gives the Law to the people

- A. The Law comes after God's grace and mercy have been revealed
 - 1. God doesn't save them because they kept the Law
 - 2. He saves them from Egypt and then asks them to obey
- B. To show His heart for His people
 - 1. You will be my treasured possession among all peoples—19:5
- C. To show His plan for the whole world
 - 1. They shall be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation—19:6
 - a. Will be used by Him so others may know Him
 - 2. Fulfilling their ultimate calling
 - a. Spread His Glorious Kingdom to ends of the Earth

IV. God expects obedience

- A. Obey His voice and keep His Covenant
 - 1. Not enough just to know the Law but to keep it
 - 2. What makes them different from the rest of the world
 - Personal relationship with God
- B. Jesus reinforces this idea—Matthew 19:17
 - Life comes from keeping the commandments

V. Jesus fulfills the Law on our behalf

- A. We are unable to perfectly obey no matter how hard we try
 - 1. He kept up our end of the bargain in our relationship with God
 - 2. The Law helps to reveal to us that we cannot earn God's favor because we cannot perfectly obey Him

- B. Jesus' fulfillment does not mean we no longer need to obey—Matthew 5:17-20
 - 1. Called to obey because of what Jesus did for us not to earn what He did for us

VI. So What??!!

- A. God desires us to have relationship with Him
- B. God gives us the Law AFTER He has already saved us and doesn't save us because we have kept the Law
- C. God wants us to understand what our responsibilities are as His people
 - 1. Our call is to trust God and obey
- D. The Law shows us where we consistently fall short and thus points us to our need for a Savior

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from lesson this morning?
- How did God show the people how to have a relationship with Him?
- What did God do before He gave the commandments? Why is that important?
- What has God done for you that you need to remember?
- Why is obedience so important?
- What did Jesus do to the Law?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the talk?
- What is the point of God's Law for His people?
- How has God saved you and freed you? What should your response to that be?
- Why is obedience so important to God?
- What are ways that you are obeying what God wants you to do?

WEEK

2

First Commandment

PURPOSE

God reveals His desire to have relationship with His people
and what the relationship should look like

WEEKLY FOCUS

To understand the importance of worshipping God only

Exodus 20:3

Context

- God created the Earth and all that is in it in order for man to live and then created man in His own image to reflect, represent and multiply Him
- All creation exists to spread His Glorious Kingdom to the ends of the Earth
- Sin enters the world and cuts off relationship with God but God has a plan to take away our sin both now (skins) and forever (Redeemer) and even as sin increases it can't thwart God's plan
- While in Egypt God's people become slaves and He hears their cries and raises up Moses to deliver His people from Pharaoh
- God frees His people by killing the firstborn of Egypt and sparing those who put the blood of the lambs on their doorposts
- God then leads His people out of Egypt and protects them from Pharaoh and his armies by leading them through the Red Sea
- God gives His Law to His people for them to obey in order to have a relationship with Him and be a witness to the nations

Outline

- I. God gives the people His place among them
 - A. First and only
 - The people had lived in Egypt where there were many gods
 - B. Because I have brought you up out of Egypt
 - Proof that I am the one true God
 - o Where were all of Egypt's gods to stop me?
 - C. Knew their hearts were prone to wander towards other gods
- II. Jesus reiterates this for God's people- Matthew 22:37-38
 - A. Love the Lord your God
 - We will seek after what we love

- B. With all your heart, soul, mind and strength
 - With everything that is within us
 - C. Greatest commandment
 - 1. Sums up the entire Law
 - 2. If we obey this, then we will obey the rest
- III. What difference does the First Commandment make for us?
- A. God lets us know where we should put our trust
 - B. We will only lead ourselves into frustration trusting anything but Him
 - C. Reminds us that He is the One, True and Only God
- IV. So What??!
- A. God desires us to have relationship with Him
 - B. God gives us the Law AFTER He has already saved us and doesn't save us because we have kept the Law
 - C. God wants us to understand what our responsibilities are as His people
 - Our call is to trust God and obey

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from lesson this morning?
- What does the 1st Commandment tell us to do and not to do?
- What does this commandment tell us about what is important to God?
- What are ways that we typically disobey this commandment?
- How can we live this commandment out this week?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the talk?
- What does this Commandment tell us about God? About us?

First Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What is one way that you have felt very loved by someone else?

READ MATTHEW 22:34-38

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What was the question that the Pharisees asked Jesus?
- Why did they ask Him the question?
- What was Jesus' response to the question?
- How does this help us understand the 1ST Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are ways that you can love the Lord with all of your heart, soul and mind?
- How can you love your neighbor as yourself?
- How do the Law and prophets depend on these commandments?
- How does this help us understand the 1ST Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are specific ways you have loved God this past week?
- What are other ways you can be loving God?
- How does this help us understand the 1ST Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

First Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- If you had to describe God in a word or two what would you say?

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 8:4-6

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What do we learn about God here?
- What does Paul mean by “gods”?
- How is Jesus connected to God?
- How does this help us understand the 1ST Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What difference does it make that there is one God?
- What do these verses tell us about God?
- How does this help us understand the 1ST Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are some of the “gods” you find yourself most tempted to follow?
- How does the fact that there's one God affect you on a daily basis?
- How does this help us understand the 1ST Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

3

Second Commandment

PURPOSE

God reveals His desire to have relationship with His people
and what the relationship should look like

WEEKLY FOCUS

To understand the importance of not creating or worshipping idols

Exodus 20:4-6

Context

- God created the Earth and all that is in it in order for man to live and then created man in His own image to reflect, represent and multiply Him
- All creation exists to spread His Glorious Kingdom to the ends of the Earth
- Sin enters the world and cuts off relationship with God but God has a plan to take away our sin both now (skins) and forever (Redeemer) and even as sin increases it can't thwart God's plan
- While in Egypt God's people become slaves and He hears their cries and raises up Moses to deliver His people from Pharaoh
- God frees His people by killing the firstborn of Egypt and sparing those who put the blood of the lambs on their doorposts
- God then leads His people out of Egypt and protects them from Pharaoh and his armies by leading them through the Red Sea
- God gives His Law to His people for them to obey in order to have a relationship with Him and be a witness to the nations

Outline

- I. **God tells them not to create idols for themselves**
 - A. In the form of anything the Lord has created
 1. Made to worship the Creator and not what He has created
 2. Other religions of this day worshipped animals as gods
 - a. Where they had been—Egypt
 - b. Where they were going—Canaan
 - B. God had showed them His power over creation as He brought them out of Egypt
 1. Plagues—Water turned to blood, Frogs, Gnats, Flies, Darkness, Hail, Locusts
 - Showed His command over sun, water and creatures
 2. Parting the Red Sea
 - C. He doesn't want His people imagining God as someone less than He is
 1. He is not like us

2. He is not like anything in all of creation
3. He is completely other
4. We want to make God small and easy to control
 - Affects what we truly think of Him

II. God reminds them who He is

- A. I am the Lord YOUR God
 1. I belong to you
 2. I am the only God
- B. I am a jealous God
 1. God longs to have His people worship Him
 2. Loves us deeply and wants the best for us
 3. God will respond to our actions
 - a. Our hate
 - b. Our love and obedience
- C. God will make for us an image of Himself
 1. He will come in flesh—Jesus
 - Jesus is God with skin on
 2. We will know Him by knowing Jesus

III. What difference does the 2nd Commandment make for us?

- A. Reminds us how easy it is for us to get caught up in manmade things
- B. Reminds us that those things ultimately can't satisfy us
- C. Lets us know that we were made to worship and we will worship something—God or something else

IV. SO WHAT??!!

- A. God shows His heart for us even with His jealousy
 1. Longs to have a relationship with us
 2. Wants us to see that our only satisfaction comes from Him

- B. Our hearts turn so quickly away from God to worship lesser things
 - 1. We need to evaluate what things have the most value in our lives
 - 2. We need to seek to turn our hearts and minds constantly to the Lord OUR God

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from lesson this morning?
- What does the 2nd Commandment tell us to do and not to do?
- What does this commandment tell us about what is important to God?
- What are ways that we typically disobey this commandment?
- How can we live this commandment out this week?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the talk?
- What does this Commandment tell us about God? About us?
- What are some specific things in your life that come before God?
- What are some of the gods that are pushed in our culture right now?
- What difference does it make that God says He is a jealous God?
- What is the biggest "idol" in your life right now?

Second Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What is a time that you got caught doing something you shouldn't and got in big trouble? How did you get punished?

READ EXODUS 32:1-35

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What did the people ask Aaron to do? Why?
- What did Aaron do?
- What does God tell Moses He will do? Why?
- What did Moses do before God?
- What did Moses do once he got back to the camp?
- What did Moses say to Aaron?
- How does this help us understand the 2nd Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What was so wrong about what Aaron did?
- What are things you might be tempted to worship other than God?
- What was so amazing about what Moses did for the people before the Lord?
- What excuses do you make when you get caught?
- How does this help us understand the 2nd Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- When is a time that you became impatient with God and tried to "fix" the situation yourself?
- What things of the world are you most drawn to worship?
- Who are the people you need to be interceding to the Lord for?
- Why did they need to purge the evil from amongst them?
- How does this help us understand the 2nd Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Second Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- Where is a place you would really like to visit? Why?

READ ACTS 17:16-34

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- Where was Paul?
- What did Paul realize about the city of Athens?
- What did Jesus do each day?
- What did Jesus say in the Aeropagus?
- How does this help us understand the 2nd Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- If Paul walked through Memphis what idols would he notice?
- What made the philosophers want to hear from Jesus?
- What are we told about them in verse 21?
- What did Jesus tell them about God?
- How did the people respond to that?
- How does this help us understand the 2nd Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What "new teachings" are out there in the world right now trying to get your attention?
- How did Jesus use their curiosity to tell them about Jesus?
- How do you need to see God differently?
- How does this help us understand the 2nd Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

4

Third Commandment

PURPOSE

God reveals His desire to have relationship with His people and what the relationship should look like

WEEKLY FOCUS

To understand the importance of knowing and using the Lord's Name correctly

Exodus 20:7

Context

- God created the Earth and all that is in it in order for man to live and then created man in His own image to reflect, represent and multiply Him
- All creation exists to spread His Glorious Kingdom to the ends of the Earth
- Sin enters the world and cuts off relationship with God but God has a plan to take away our sin both now (skins) and forever (Redeemer) and even as sin increases it can't thwart God's plan
- While in Egypt God's people become slaves and He hears their cries and raises up Moses to deliver His people from Pharaoh
- God frees His people by killing the firstborn of Egypt and sparing those who put the blood of the lambs on their doorposts
- God then leads His people out of Egypt and protects them from Pharaoh and his armies by leading them through the Red Sea
- God gives His Law to His people for them to obey in order to have a relationship with Him and be a witness to the nations

Outline

- I. **God's Name is important**
 - A. At this time, your name and your word were very valuable
 1. How you were known to others
 2. How you made deals with others
 - B. God had given His people a unique Name for them to know Him by
 1. Yahweh
 2. I AM who I AM
 3. Spoken to Moses in the burning bush
 - C. God's Name is more than just a word
 - Connected to His person, power and presence

II. We are not to take it in vain

- A. We are not to use God's name without respect and reverence
 - Not just throw it around lightly
- B. 3 ways we can do this
 - 1. Use God's Name in a frivolous manner
 - a. Not really thinking about it before we use it
 - b. Using it as a way to curse others or ourselves
 - 2. Use God's Name in oaths
 - a. Making promises on God's Name
 - b. We do not have the right to include God in our deals
 - Can make Him out to be a liar if we don't fulfill our part of it
 - 3. Using God's Name in false worship
 - a. Corrupting God by including His Name in magic or other religions
 - b. Not upholding the purity of God and His Name
- C. God will punish those who misuse His Name

III. What difference does the Third Commandment make for us?

- A. We have the opportunity to help others know God
 - We should always speak of God for who He truly is in His goodness and mercy and not make His Name something common
 - o Can help people want to know who He is
- B. It reminds us that our purpose is to spread His Name to the ends of the Earth
 - 1. He has given us Names that we may know Him by so that we can spread Him to others
 - a. Yahweh—I AM
 - b. El Shaddai—God Almighty
 - c. Adonai—Lord
 - d. Jehovah Jireh—God who provides
 - e. Jehovah- Rapha—God who heals
 - 2. At the Name of Jesus every knee in heaven and earth will bow down—Philippians 2:10

IV. So What??!!

- A. God has given us His Name so that we may know Him and reveal Him to others
- B. We are to use that name with reverence and respect
- C. The world around us makes assumptions about God by the way we use His Name

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from lesson this morning?
- What does the 3rd Commandment tell us to do and not to do?
- What does this commandment tell us about what is important to God?
- What are ways that we typically disobey this commandment?
- How can we live this commandment out this week?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the talk?
- What does this Commandment tell us about God? About us?
- What are ways that you most often break the 3rd Commandment?
- Why is God's Name such a big deal?
- What are ways that you can show God's Name the respect it deserves this week?

Third Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- If you could change your name to something else what would it be and why?

READ EZEKIEL 36:22-32

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- Why does God say that He is about to act out among them?
- What will the nations know?
- What will God do to make them know that?
- What does He say He will give His people?
- How does this help us understand the 3rd Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What does God say they did to His Name among the nations?
- What does that mean?
- How does God making us clean proclaim His Name?
- What difference does a new heart and spirit make?
- How does this help us understand the 3rd Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are ways that you have “profaned God’s Name”?
- What are ways that you see yourself having a heart of stone?
- Where are the places that you need to obey the Lord where you aren’t currently?
- How does this help us understand the 3rd Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Third Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- When is a time when you gave your word but didn't keep it? What was the result?

READ MATTHEW 5:33-37

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What was what they had heard before?
- What does that mean?
- What are we supposed to say instead?
- How important is it to be people of our words?
- How does this help us understand the 3rd Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Why does Jesus tell them not to take oaths?
- When was a time that you were tempted to make an oath (promise or swear)?
- Why should our "yes" and "no" be enough?
- Can people trust you when you say you will do something? Why or why not?
- How does this help us understand the 3rd Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- How often do you add to your "yes" and "no"?
- Why do you think that is necessary?
- How does this help us understand the 3rd Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

5

Fourth Commandment

PURPOSE

God reveals His desire to have relationship with His people
and what the relationship should look like

WEEKLY FOCUS

To understand the importance of accepting and using
the gift of the Sabbath that the Lord has given to us

Exodus 20:8-11

Context

- God created the Earth and all that is in it in order for man to live and then created man in His own image to reflect, represent and multiply Him
- All creation exists to spread His Glorious Kingdom to the ends of the Earth
- Sin enters the world and cuts off relationship with God but God has a plan to take away our sin both now (skins) and forever (Redeemer) and even as sin increases it can't thwart God's plan
- While in Egypt God's people become slaves and He hears their cries and raises up Moses to deliver His people from Pharaoh
- God frees His people by killing the firstborn of Egypt and sparing those who put the blood of the lambs on their doorposts
- God then leads His people out of Egypt and protects them from Pharaoh and his armies by leading them through the Red Sea
- God gives His Law to His people for them to obey in order to have a relationship with Him and be a witness to the nations

Outline

- I. **God has created a rhythm of rest for us**
 - A. One day a week for worship and rest
 - B. He set the example in Creation
 - Created for 6 days and rested on the 7th
 - C. He set the example in the wilderness for the people
 - Collected manna for 6 days which included a double portion so they wouldn't have to work on the Sabbath day
- II. **The Sabbath is an opportunity to show our trust**
 - A. He will provide even if we don't work every day
 1. Work at this time was farming
 2. Felt like if you didn't work you wouldn't eat
 - B. Our labor is not what saves and sustains us but the Lord is

III. The Sabbath is for all of the people

- A. To be recognized by families
- B. To be recognized by your workers including your livestock
- C. To be recognized by all who are among you
 - Sojourner—one who is with you for a time

IV. How do we keep it holy?

- A. Treat it as Jesus treated it
 - 1. Sabbath is for man not man for the Sabbath
 - 2. Would heal others and do acts of mercy
 - 3. Was a day of worship—went to synagogue
 - 4. Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath—Matthew 12:7-8
- B. See our time as something we steward for God
 - He deserves a day devoted to His worship

V. What difference does the 4th Commandment make for us?

- A. God knows us better than we know ourselves
 - 1. Made us and our bodies
 - 2. Knows that we need rest
- B. God has provided that rest for us
 - 1. We should use it for rest
 - 2. We should use it to thank Him for this gift and all His other gifts
- C. We can show Jesus in how we use the Sabbath
 - 1. Shows what is important to us
 - Being at church
 - 2. We need to set it apart in our lives as a priority
 - Most important part of our week

VI. SO WHAT??!!

- A. God has made the Sabbath for our good and for us to use as a witness for Him
 - 1. We rest because we trust that God will provide
 - 2. We worship because we believe it is the most important thing we can do
- B. We need to set our lives around the rhythm of the Sabbath
 - 1. Should be the most important thing we do each week
 - 2. Giving of ourselves in worship to the Lord

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from lesson this morning?
- What does the 4th Commandment tell us to do and not to do?
- What does this commandment tell us about what is important to God?
- What are ways that we typically disobey this commandment?
- How can we live this commandment out this week?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the talk?
- What does this Commandment tell us about God? About us?
- What does the Sabbath typically look like for you and your family?
- What are ways that you set it apart as a holy day?
- How does observing the Sabbath show our faith in God?
- How is the Sabbath for our good?

Fourth Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What is your favorite thing to do on Sundays? Why?

READ NEHEMIAH 13:15-22

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What did Nehemiah see the people doing?
- Why was that a big deal?
- What did Nehemiah do to keep this from continuing to happen?
- How does this help us understand the 4th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What was the big problem with what they were doing?
- What does Nehemiah say about the “fathers” who also did this?
- How was Nehemiah trying to help the people?
- What was the result?
- How does this help us understand the 4th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are ways that God calls you to observe the Sabbath?
- What are some ways that you are not keeping the Sabbath?
- Who in your life help you to obey the Lord? Who are you doing that for?
- How does this helps us understand the 4th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Fourth Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- When is a time that you felt really sick? What did you do?

READ LUKE 13:10-17

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What was Jesus doing on the Sabbath?
- Who did he encounter? What did He do for her?
- What did the ruler of the synagogue do?
- How did Jesus respond?
- How did the people respond?
- How does this help us understand the 4th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What does Jesus tell us about the Sabbath by what He did?
- How did the woman respond to Jesus touching her?
- What was Jesus saying to the ruler in the synagogue?
- How does this help us understand the 4th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are some things you should be glorifying God for?
- How does Jesus change your view of the Sabbath here?
- How does this help us understand the 4th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

6

Fifth Commandment

PURPOSE

God reveals His desire to have relationship with His people
and what the relationship should look like

WEEKLY FOCUS

To understand the importance of honoring our parents

Exodus 20:12

Context

- God created the Earth and all that is in it in order for man to live and then created man in His own image to reflect, represent and multiply Him
- All creation exists to spread His Glorious Kingdom to the ends of the Earth
- Sin enters the world and cuts off relationship with God but God has a plan to take away our sin both now (skins) and forever (Redeemer) and even as sin increases it can't thwart God's plan
- While in Egypt God's people become slaves and He hears their cries and raises up Moses to deliver His people from Pharaoh
- God frees His people by killing the firstborn of Egypt and sparing those who put the blood of the lambs on their doorposts
- God then leads His people out of Egypt and protects them from Pharaoh and his armies by leading them through the Red Sea
- God gives His Law to His people for them to obey in order to have a relationship with Him and be a witness to the nations

Outline

- I. **God shows the importance of family**
 - A. Calls us to honor our parents
 1. Show them the proper respect that is due their position of authority
 2. God had given us these people to guide and to help us
 - a. They are a gift to us from God
 - b. Help us and protect us
 3. It's a matter of showing love to them
 - More than just obedience but respect
 - B. A picture of God's relationship with us

1. He is our perfect Heavenly Father
2. We honor our parents as we would honor God
 - Not worship them but show respect for
3. Parents were the ones called to pass down God's law and commands to their children
 - Deuteronomy 6:4-9

II. A commandment with a promise

- A. So that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you
- B. Preparing them for entering into the Promised Land
 1. Families are very important to a society
 - a. Where families are broken and weak so too will the society be
 - b. Importance of love, nurture and upbringing
 2. Would need each other to stay faithful to the Lord and not go after other gods
 - Need the wisdom and experience of the older generation

III. Jesus' teaching on the 5th commandment

- A. Mark 7:1-12
- B. Countered against the Pharisees tradition of Corban
 1. They would dedicate to God that which could be used to take care of their parents and argued that it was best
 2. Jesus called it making the Word of God void
 3. He upheld the commandment to honor our parents

IV. What difference does the 5th Commandment make for us?

- A. We are called to show love to those God has given to take care of us
- B. We are called to listen to those who God had provided for our good

V. SO WHAT??!!

- A. God has given us older people to help us as we seek to follow Him
- B. We are called to honor those people in thankfulness for them and in trust of God's provision of them in our life

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from lesson this morning?
- What does the 5th Commandment tell us to do and not to do?
- What does this commandment tell us about what is important to God?
- What are ways that we typically disobey this commandment?
- How can we live this commandment out this week?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the talk?
- What does this Commandment tell us about God? About us?
- What are ways that you honor your parents?
- What are ways that you could honor your parents but don't?
- Why does God make such a big deal about honoring our parents?
- How does our honoring our parents reflect what we believe about God?
- What is one way you will honor your parents this week in a new way?

Fifth Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What is your favorite thing about your parent(s)? Why?

READ MATTHEW 15:1-9

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What question did the Pharisees and scribes ask Jesus?
- How did Jesus respond to them?
- What example did Jesus give to them?
- What did Jesus say about them?
- How does this help us understand the 5th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What were the Pharisees and scribes trying to do in asking Jesus their question?
- Why were the Pharisees and scribes breaking the commandment?
- What were they doing?
- When is a time that you have honored God with your lips but your heart was far from Him?
- How does this help us understand the 5th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- When is a time that you have tried to justify your actions by pointing out what someone else had done?
- When is a time that you have honored God with your lips but your heart was far from Him?
- How does this help us understand the 5th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Fifth Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What things that others do for you make you feel the most loved? Why?

READ ROMANS 13:8-10

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What is the one thing we are to owe?
- What does it say about one who loves?
- What sums up the Law?
- How does this help us understand the 5th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What does it mean to owe loving one another?
- How are you called to love your neighbor?
- Who are your “neighbors” who you need to love?
- How does this help us understand the 5th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Who are the people that God is calling you to love?
- How does love fulfill the Law?
- What are specific ways that you can be loving folks in your life right now?
- How does this help us understand the 5th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

7

Sixth Commandment

PURPOSE

God reveals His desire to have relationship with His people
and what the relationship should look like

WEEKLY FOCUS

To understand how God sees life and how we
should treat it in light of that

Exodus 20:13

Context

- God created the Earth and all that is in it in order for man to live and then created man in His own image to reflect, represent and multiply Him
- All creation exists to spread His Glorious Kingdom to the ends of the Earth
- Sin enters the world and cuts off relationship with God but God has a plan to take away our sin both now (skins) and forever (Redeemer) and even as sin increases it can't thwart God's plan
- While in Egypt God's people become slaves and He hears their cries and raises up Moses to deliver His people from Pharaoh
- God frees His people by killing the firstborn of Egypt and sparing those who put the blood of the lambs on their doorposts
- God then leads His people out of Egypt and protects them from Pharaoh and his armies by leading them through the Red Sea
- God gives His Law to His people for them to obey in order to have a relationship with Him and be a witness to the nations

Outline

- I. **God has a high view of life**
 - A. People were made in God's image—Genesis 1:27
 - B. Life is a gift that He has given to us
- II. **We are not to unlawfully take the lives of others**
 - A. Seems to be a commandment that doesn't apply to us
 - B. We would all say that it's wrong to murder

III. What does Jesus say about the 6th Commandment?

- A. Jesus helps us to see the heart behind the commandment
- B. Matthew 5:21-22
 - 1. Equates our anger with murder
 - 2. Equates our words towards others with murder
 - 3. 1 John 3:15
- C. We can commit murder in our hearts against someone when out of anger we want bad things to happen to them
 - Includes our hatred and malice towards others

IV. What difference does the 6th Commandment make for us?

- A. All people have been made in God's image so have value to Him
- B. Life itself is a valuable gift from God so should be preserved
- C. Murder is more than just a physical act so we need to guard our thoughts and attitudes towards others

V. SO WHAT??!!

- A. God has given each of us the gift of life and it is precious
- B. We have the ability to destroy people not only with our actions but also with our words
- C. We have a responsibility to seek to love others even when they don't love us and to guard our hearts from anger and resentment that lead to sin

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from lesson this morning?
- What does the 6th Commandment tell us to do and not to do?
- What does this commandment tell us about what is important to God?
- What are ways that we typically disobey this commandment?
- How can we live this commandment out this week?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the talk?
- What does this Commandment tell us about God? About us?
- What does the 6th commandment tell us to not do?
- What did Jesus have to say about the 6th commandment?
- Who are the people in your life whom you feel the most anger towards? Why?
- What are ways you can replace that anger with caring?

Sixth Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- When is a time that you remember being very angry? What did you do?

READ GENESIS 4:1-16

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What are we told about Cain and Abel?
- What did each of them bring to the Lord?
- How did He respond?
- How did Cain respond?
- How does this help us understand the 6th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What was different between Cain's and Abel's sacrifices?
- Who is someone that you find yourself jealous of?
- How did Cain try to cover up what he did?
- How did God still protect Cain?
- How does this help us understand the 6th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are the sacrifices that the Lord has called you to give to Him?
- Where is a place that sin is crouching at your door?
- Who is someone that you have a hard time with?
- How does this help us understand the 6th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Sixth Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- Who in your life can make you laugh the most? Can make you the most angry?

READ MATTHEW 5:21-26

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What was said of old?
- What does Jesus tell us to do with our gift at the altar?
- What would that look like for you?
- How does this help us understand the 6th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What does Jesus say about being angry?
- What does Jesus say about insulting another?
- Who is someone that you are tempted to insult?
- How does this help us understand the 6th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Who is someone that you find yourself often being angry with?
- Who is someone you need to be reconciled with?
- How does this help us understand the 6th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

8

Seventh Commandment

PURPOSE

God reveals His desire to have relationship with His people and what the relationship should look like

WEEKLY FOCUS

To understand how God created relationships and commitment

Exodus 20:14

Context

- God created the Earth and all that is in it in order for man to live and then created man in His own image to reflect, represent and multiply Him
- All creation exists to spread His Glorious Kingdom to the ends of the Earth
- Sin enters the world and cuts off relationship with God but God has a plan to take away our sin both now (skins) and forever (Redeemer) and even as sin increases it can't thwart God's plan
- While in Egypt God's people become slaves and He hears their cries and raises up Moses to deliver His people from Pharaoh
- God frees His people by killing the firstborn of Egypt and sparing those who put the blood of the lambs on their doorposts
- God then leads His people out of Egypt and protects them from Pharaoh and his armies by leading them through the Red Sea
- God gives His Law to His people for them to obey in order to have a relationship with Him and be a witness to the nations

Outline

- I. **God has created relationships**
 - A. Marriage was His idea from the beginning—Genesis 2:18-24
 - B. Was to be a picture of His relationship with His people—Revelation 19:7-9
- II. **God has specific rules for relationships, especially marriage**
 - A. Desired for there to be fidelity and faithfulness to each other
 - B. Was about commitment over our selfish desires
 - C. Created a sense of trust in the entire community

III. Adultery destroys that which God created

- A. Destroys trust in one another
- B. Makes relationships lose their sense of being “set apart”
- C. Communicates that relationships only exist to fulfill selfish desires
 - Devalues other people as objects and not people
- D. Points to what we truly think about our relationship with God
 - 1. We are not very committed
 - 2. Only in it for ourselves and the benefits
- E. Was also a protection against false worship
 - Many religions in the Promised Land had forms of sex as a part of worship

IV. What does Jesus say about the 7th Commandment?

- A. He again shows that our sins always start in our hearts
- B. Matthew 5:27-30
 - 1. Adultery starts with our eyes
 - Eve saw the fruit was good and pleasing and we see that someone else looks pleasing to us
 - 2. It begins with lust
 - a. Looking at someone for what they can do for us rather than as a person
 - b. They lose any value besides what they can do to satisfy you
 - 3. We need to get rid of the things that cause us to sin

V. What difference does the 7th Commandment make for us?

- A. We are to value marriage as a symbol and picture of God’s love for us
- B. We need to flee those things that cause us to sin—1 Cor. 6:18
- C. We need to trust and wait for God’s provision for all of our needs

VI. SO WHAT??!!

- A. God calls us to see each other as brothers and sisters and not as objects
- B. We are to seek healthy relationships and marriages as a way to show others the love of Christ for His people

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from lesson this morning?
- What does the 7th Commandment tell us to do and not to do?
- What does this commandment tell us about what is important to God?
- What are ways that we typically disobey this commandment?
- How can we live this commandment out this week?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the talk?
- What does this Commandment tell us about God? About us?
- What are ways that you are tempted to see things as only for your pleasure?
- How is marriage a picture of God's love for us?
- How does a broken marriage hurt how others might see God?
- When is a time you felt betrayed? How did you move past it?
- What are ways that you find yourself tempted to break this commandment? What do you have set up to protect yourself?

Seventh Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What is something you really want for your next birthday or Christmas? Why?

READ MATTHEW 5:27-30

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What was said before?
- Why does God call us be faithful to those we marry?
- How does this help us understand the 7th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What does Jesus say we need to do with the things that tempt us?
- What are some of the things that tempt you that you need to be getting rid of?
- How does this help us understand the 7th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are ways that you are prone to lust?
- What do you need to "cut off" from your life? Why?
- How does this help us understand the 7th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Seventh Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- If you could win any award what would it be and why?

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-20

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What happened to them in verse 11?
- What are we told about our bodies and who they belong to?
- What do verses 19 and 20 say?
- How does this help us understand the 7th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Who are some of the people mentioned who will not inherit the kingdom of God?
- How have you been washed by God?
- What does it mean that we were bought with a price?
- How does this help us understand the 7th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What does it mean that you have been sanctified?
- What are ways you can use your body for God?
- What are we called to flee from here? How do you do that?
- How does this help us understand the 7th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

9

Eighth Commandment

PURPOSE

God reveals His desire to have relationship with His people
and what the relationship should look like

WEEKLY FOCUS

To understand God's provision for us and
how we are to trust Him in it

Exodus 20:15

Context

- God created the Earth and all that is in it in order for man to live and then created man in His own image to reflect, represent and multiply Him
- All creation exists to spread His Glorious Kingdom to the ends of the Earth
- Sin enters the world and cuts off relationship with God but God has a plan to take away our sin both now (skins) and forever (Redeemer) and even as sin increases it can't thwart God's plan
- While in Egypt God's people become slaves and He hears their cries and raises up Moses to deliver His people from Pharaoh
- God frees His people by killing the firstborn of Egypt and sparing those who put the blood of the lambs on their doorposts
- God then leads His people out of Egypt and protects them from Pharaoh and his armies by leading them through the Red Sea
- God gives His Law to His people for them to obey in order to have a relationship with Him and be a witness to the nations

Outline

- I. **God knows our needs and provides for them**
 - A. He gives us all we need to survive and thrive
 - We are called to be stewards of those gifts—Matthew 25:14-30
 - B. We are called to be content with what the Lord gives us—Hebrews 13:5
 - C. We are called to not worry—Matthew 6:25-34
- II. **When we take from others we show we don't trust God**
 - A. Believe that a created thing is more important than God
 - B. Sets us up to be like God because we think we know what is best for us and for them

C. Is often accompanied by deceit

1. Examples of stealing in the OT

- a. Secret moving of boundary markers to enlarge someone's property—Deut. 19:14
- b. Use of false measures and balances in order to cheat someone else—Deut. 25:13-16
- c. Selling of inferior goods—Amos 8:4-6
- d. Charging of interest—Exodus 22:25

III. We are to be the ones who generously give and not take

- A. Giving to our neighbor—Luke 10:25-37
- B. Taking care of the poor and needy—Matthew 25:31-46, James 1:27
- C. Shows our love for another—John 13:35
- D. Example of the early church—Acts 4:34
- E. We are to tithe because not doing so is robbing God—Malachi 3:8-10

IV. What difference does the 8th Commandment make for us?

- A. We are to trust that God knows best and has given to each person what they need
- B. We are also to be content for what we have and not allow that which we own to ultimately own us

V. SO WHAT??!!

- A. God had provided for our needs and we are to trust Him
- B. We need to be good stewards of what He has given us and give back to Him and those in need
- C. We need to see everything we own as temporary and treat it as such

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from lesson this morning?
- What does the 8th Commandment tell us to do and not to do?
- What does this commandment tell us about what is important to God?
- What are ways that we typically disobey this commandment?
- How can we live this commandment out this week?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the talk?
- What does this Commandment tell us about God? About us?
- What are ways that you have “stolen” from others?
- What are some things that you wished you had but don't?
- What are ways that you have been a blessing to others by taking care of their needs?
- What do you spend your money on most?

Eighth Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- If you could have 1 thing that someone in your family has what would it be and why?

READ EXODUS 22:1-9

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What happens to the person that steals something?
- What is the repayment for what has been taken?
- How does this help us understand the 8th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are ways that you have taken from someone else?
- Why is God so interested in repayment?
- What are ways that you need to “repay” someone for something that you have done?
- How does this help us understand the 8th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are ways that you have taken from someone else?
- Who is someone that you need to repay because of something that you have done?
- Why is God so interested in property?
- How does this help us understand the 8th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Eighth Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What is the best party that you have ever been to? Why?

READ LUKE 19:1-10

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- Where was Jesus?
- Who did He see there?
- What are we told about him?
- What did Jesus say to him?
- What did people say about Jesus?
- How does this help us understand the 8th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What do you know about tax collectors at this time?
- What did Zacchaeus do when Jesus called him?
- What had Zacchaeus been doing to the people?
- How was he willing to make it right?
- How does this help us understand the 8th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Who are the people in your life that you need to bring to Jesus?
- What are ways that you can make situations where you have wronged someone else right? Will you?
- How does this help us understand the 8th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

10

Ninth Commandment

PURPOSE

God reveals His desire to have relationship with His people
and what the relationship should look like

WEEKLY FOCUS

To understand the importance of truth and how to
use it for good of others

Exodus 20:16

Context

- God created the Earth and all that is in it in order for man to live and then created man in His own image to reflect, represent and multiply Him
- All creation exists to spread His Glorious Kingdom to the ends of the Earth
- Sin enters the world and cuts off relationship with God but God has a plan to take away our sin both now (skins) and forever (Redeemer) and even as sin increases it can't thwart God's plan
- While in Egypt God's people become slaves and He hears their cries and raises up Moses to deliver His people from Pharaoh
- God frees His people by killing the firstborn of Egypt and sparing those who put the blood of the lambs on their doorposts
- God then leads His people out of Egypt and protects them from Pharaoh and his armies by leading them through the Red Sea
- God gives His Law to His people for them to obey in order to have a relationship with Him and be a witness to the nations

Outline

- I. **God is a God of truth- Titus 1:2, John 14:6**
 - A. His Word is truth—John 17:17
 - B. Saw false witness as very serious business—Deut. 19:15-21
 - Severe penalty for one who bore a false witness
- II. **Our words can have an effect on others**
 - A. In a time before forensics and evidence, testimony was king
 - B. People could easily make false accusations against someone else

C. Could ruin another person's life

1. 1 Kings 21
2. Mark 14:56-57
3. James 3:5-6, 9

III. We need to be those who stand up for truth and those who need it

A. Need to tell the truth to and about each other

- Ephesians 4:15-16

B. How we treat the truth reflects Christ

C. We need to not be people of gossip and slander—James 4:11

1. Hurts the reputation of others
2. Hurts our witness for Christ

IV. What difference does the 9th Commandment make for us?

A. We need to place a high value on other people

B. We need to recognize that our words make a difference for good and evil as do the words of others

C. We need to be trustworthy people as ambassadors of Christ so that they see Him as trustworthy as well

V. SO WHAT??!!

A. God calls us to be people of truth in how we interact with Him and each other

B. Our words have great power so we need to always be aware to use them to build each other up—Ephesians 4:29, 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from lesson this morning?
- What does the 9th Commandment tell us to do and not to do?
- What does this commandment tell us about what is important to God?
- What are ways that we typically disobey this commandment?
- How can we live this commandment out this week?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the talk?
- What does this Commandment tell us about God? About us?
- What are ways that you have given false testimony about someone else?
- What are ways you have used your words to build someone else up this week?
- Would others say you are someone who can be trusted? Why or why not?

Ninth Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- When is a time that you told a lie? What happened?

READ DEUTERONOMY 19:15-21

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What are we told here about witnesses?
- How many witnesses were needed?
- What happens to false witnesses?
- How does this help us understand the 9th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Why do you think that God required two witnesses?
- Why is the punishment for a false witness so harsh?
- How does this help us understand the 9th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- When have you said something untrue about someone else?
- When is a time when someone said something untrue about you? How did you handle it?
- How does this help us understand the 9th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Ninth Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- Who is someone that you really trust? Why?

READ JAMES 5:12

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What does James say to do above all?
- What does it mean to swear?
- What are we to do with our “yes” and “no”?
- How does this help us understand the 9th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Why do you think that we are to do this above all?
- What are ways that you are tempted to swear?
- How does this help us understand the 9th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- Why is it such a big deal to make promises or swear?
- Why is our word such an important thing?
- How does this help us understand the 9th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

WEEK

11

Tenth Commandment

PURPOSE

God reveals His desire to have relationship with His people and what the relationship should look like

WEEKLY FOCUS

To understand how to see what the Lord has given to others and not let it affect how we see them or God

Exodus 20:17

Context

- God created the Earth and all that is in it in order for man to live and then created man in His own image to reflect, represent and multiply Him
- All creation exists to spread His Glorious Kingdom to the ends of the Earth
- Sin enters the world and cuts off relationship with God but God has a plan to take away our sin both now (skins) and forever (Redeemer) and even as sin increases it can't thwart God's plan
- While in Egypt God's people become slaves and He hears their cries and raises up Moses to deliver His people from Pharaoh
- God frees His people by killing the firstborn of Egypt and sparing those who put the blood of the lambs on their doorposts
- God then leads His people out of Egypt and protects them from Pharaoh and his armies by leading them through the Red Sea
- God gives His Law to His people for them to obey in order to have a relationship with Him and be a witness to the nations

Outline

- I. God calls us to not covet what others have
 - A. Covet—Desiring something that doesn't belong to us
 - Could lead to us acting on it
 - B. Not want what others have that God has seen fit in His wisdom and mercy to have not given us
 - C. Coveting is a form of idolatry—Colossians 3:5
 - Means we want something more than trusting God

II. Examples of coveting in the Bible

- A. David and Bathsheba—2 Samuel 11:1-5
- B. Ahab—1 Kings 21
- C. Achan—Joshua 7:20-21
- D. Judas—John 12:6

III. What did Jesus say about coveting?

- A. Luke 12:13-21
- B. Our lives are not defined by the abundance of our possessions
- C. Everything we have will one day pass away
- D. Need to lay up treasures in heaven and not on Earth—Matthew 6:19-21
 - Where our treasure is there will our heart also be

IV. What difference does the 10th Commandment make for us?

- A. We are called to be content because someone will always have something “better”
 - We are to trust God that He knows what we need and what is best for us
- B. We need to long for heaven more than the things of this world
 - Everything we own will pass away but everyone we know will live forever, either in heaven with God or in hell apart from Him

V. SO WHAT??!

- A. God calls us to be content and trust Him with all that we have
- B. God wants us to work towards eternal things and not temporal things

Follow-Up Questions for Parents

- What do you remember from lesson this morning?
- What does the 10th Commandment tell us to do and not to do?
- What does this commandment tell us about what is important to God?
- What are ways that we typically disobey this commandment?
- How can we live this commandment out this week?

Small Group Discussion Questions

- What stuck out to you from the talk?
- What does this Commandment tells us about God? About us?
- What are things that others have that you have coveted?
- How is coveting like idolatry?
- How can you live more contentedly this week?

Tenth Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- When is a time that you really wanted something and didn't get it? How did you respond?

READ 1 KINGS 21:1-24

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- Who was Naboth and what did he have?
- What did Ahab say to Naboth?
- What was Naboth's reaction? How did Ahab feel about that?
- What did Jezebel do?
- What happened to Naboth?
- How did the Lord respond?
- How does this help us understand the 10th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What is something that someone else has that you want? What have you done about that?
- What happened to Naboth because of Ahab's greed?
- How does this help us understand the 10th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What is something that someone else has that you want? What have you done about that?
- When have you been tempted to manipulate a situation for your good?
- How does this help us understand the 10th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)

Tenth Commandment

OPEN IN PRAYER (choose one person to pray)

OPENING QUESTION/ACTIVITY

- What is your most treasured possession? Why?

READ LUKE 12:13-21

QUESTIONS FOR JK-3RD

- What did the person in the crowd say to Jesus?
- What was Jesus' response?
- What did the rich man say?
- How does this help us understand the 10th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 4TH-8TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are possessions that you covet? Why?
- What was Jesus saying to them in the parable?
- What happens to the rich man?
- How does this help us understand the 10th Commandment better?

QUESTIONS FOR 9TH-12TH (in addition to or replacing some of those above)

- What are ways that you covet what others have?
- What are ways that you are like the rich man in the parable?
- How do you combat that?
- How does this help us understand the 10th Commandment better?

CLOSE IN PRAYER (EVERYONE PARTICIPATES)



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