



WEEK 3

ELEMENTARY LESSON OUTLINE

THANKS!

BIG IDEA

We can thank God for wisdom.

THE BIBLE

The Ten Commandments Part 2: Exodus 20:12-21 (John 12:50, Mark 12:28-31, Luke 6:31, James 1:5, Proverbs 2:6 & 8:11)

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Stop and Go
- **ACTIVITY** | Knock it Down
- **POLL** | What's Most Important?
- **OBJECT LESSON** | Special Ingredients
- **THE BIG IDEA** | We can thank God for wisdom.
- **BIBLE STORY** | Exodus 20:12-21
- **ACTIVITY** | Memory Game
- **SCRIPTURE** | John 12:50
- **VIDEO** | A Special Touchdown
- **SCRIPTURE** | Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31
- **ACTIVITY** | Love God, Love Others Race
- **RESPONSE** | Wisdom in Real Life
- **MEMORY VERSES** | Psalm 56:3; Matthew 6:33

SMALL GROUP TIME

- **DISCUSSION**
 - What do the last six commandments help us learn?
 - How do you think Moses felt when he was approaching God on the mountain?
 - Why is it important to treat others right?
 - If you could create one new, specific rule for people about how to treat others, what would it be?
 - Why is having wisdom important when we follow God?
- **SCRIPTURE** | James 1:5, Proverbs 2:6, Proverbs 8:11
- **ACTIVITY** | Cup Stacking
- **MEMORY VERSES** | Psalm 56:3; Matthew 6:33



WEEK 3

ELEMENTARY LESSON GUIDE

THANKS!

BIG IDEA

We can thank God for wisdom.

THE BIBLE

The Ten Commandments Part 2: Exodus 20:12-21 (John 12:50, Mark 12:28-31, Luke 6:31, James 1:5, Proverbs 2:6 & 8:11)

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? *What are we talking about today*

ACTIVITY | Stop and Go

- Welcome back, everyone! We learned last week about the first four commandments from the Ten Commandments. This week, we're learning about the last six. Do you think it was hard for the Israelites to listen and obey the Ten Commandments?
- Let's play a game to see how well we can listen and obey.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *This game is like Red Light, Green Light. Have kids all stand on one side of the room while you stand on the other side. When you hold up one finger, they can walk toward you, but when you hold out your hand like a "Stop" signal, they have to freeze immediately. If anyone moves after the "Stop" signal, they have to go back to the beginning. You can be tricky and change it up quickly. The first kid to get to you wins.*
- **Was it easy to tell what you were supposed to do and obey right away? What made it hard? Is it always easy to know what God wants us to do and obey God?**

ACTIVITY | Knock it Down

- Since we're on Part Two of our lessons on the ten commandments, let's play our ten commandments bowling game again from last week!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *You can play this with regular size bowling or take it up a notch and do giant bowling using this [bowling set](#). You could make your own bowling pins with empty water bottles. Print the Knock it Down printable and cut the slips apart. Tape each one onto a bowling pin. Set up the bowling pins in a bowling pyramid formation and choose one kid to fix the pins when they get*

knocked down. Tape a line about ten feet from the bowling pins (farther away for older kids). Let the kids take turns rolling a ball to try and knock down the pins. Have the other kids line the lane and pretend to be “bumpers” and nudge the ball back into the lane if it starts to roll out. Give each kid two tries to knock down the pins. When they knock one down, have them read the commandment on that pin.

- **Did anyone knock down all the commandments? How would this game change if you didn't have people helping keep your ball straight and in the correct lane?**
- We can help each other and treat each other with respect and kindness.
- Last week, we learned about the first four commandments. **Do you remember what they help us do?** They help us love God. This week, we'll focus on the last six commandments that help us know how to treat others.

POLL | What's Most Important?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Poll the kids on what they think is most important.
- *Eating your vegetables or going to bed on time.*
- *Doing your homework or paying attention in class.*
- *Eating candy or being a good friend.*
- *Brushing your teeth or taking a shower.*
- *Looking both ways when crossing the street or sharing your toys.*
- *Putting your shoes on the correct feet or obeying your parents.*
- **FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** Some kids with special needs take a long time to process information. It may take a while for them to fully understand the two choices and choose one over the other. Talk about each option with them or give them extra time to choose.
- **Were all of those easy to decide?** Some of them might have been easy to know what was important, and some of them were hard.
- Today, we're talking about the rest of the Ten Commandments. The Ten Commandments were the rules God gave the Israelites so they would know what was important to God. The Ten Commandments are also important for us, too.

SO WHAT? *Why does it matter to God and to us?*

OBJECT LESSON | Special Ingredients

- **Have you ever made or had food that tastes really bad?**
- To make good food, it's important to follow the recipe, which are the rules for making a particular type of food the right way.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out a mixing bowl, spoon, and the ingredients from a boxed cake mix. Have one of the kids read the ingredients from the recipe out loud as you put each ingredient into the bowl. After all of the ingredients have been added to the bowl, tell the kids you want to add one more special ingredient into the cupcake mix before cooking them. Take out the special ingredient (you can use a can of soda, or any other crazy ingredient) and pour it into the cupcake mix. Ask the kids if they would still want to eat the cake when it is finished.
- Recipes, like rules, are there to help us, not harm us. In the same way, God gives us rules to help us.

THE BIG IDEA | We can thank God for wisdom.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Each week, do a big reveal (and make it fun) when you announce the Big Idea, like:*
- *Ask the kids to give you a drumroll by stomping their feet or patting their laps.*
- *Shout the Big Idea, then point to the kids and have them shout it back (Change it up by using funny voices, different volumes, or inflections).*
- *Have a character (either recurring or rotating) come out every week to reveal the Big Idea.*
- *Write it on a piece of paper and hide it somewhere in the room. Have the kids go on a "hunt" for it. When it's found, ask someone to come up and read it.*
- This week's Big Idea: **We can thank God for wisdom.**

BIBLE STORY | Exodus 20:12-21

- Last week, we looked at the first four commandments. **Do you remember what they are?** Put God first, worship only God, respect God's name, and honor the Sabbath. Today, we're going to learn about the last six commandments.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Look up the story in your Bible and encourage the kids to do the same. Read it!*
- The first four commandments were focused on God, who God is, and how to worship God. The last six are focused on others and how we can love and treat them. These commandments help teach us how to make wise choices.
- **What are the six commandments we just read about?**
- #5 Respect your parents.
- #6 Don't hurt anyone.
- #7 Be faithful to your husband or wife.
- #8 Do not steal.
- #9 Tell the truth.
- #10 Don't wish for other people's stuff.
- God is wise. God gave these commandments to protect us, not to make everyone's lives difficult. Let's talk about them a little more.
- The fifth commandment tells us to respect our parents. **What do you think this means?** It means we should obey them and talk kindly to and about them. Parents aren't perfect—no one is! – but we can learn a lot from them!
- The sixth commandment tells us not to hurt anyone. God made every person and loves them, so we should never do anything to hurt another person.
- The seventh commandment tells us to be faithful to our husband or wife. None of you are married, so you won't need to follow this commandment for a long time. It means people who are married should be honest and true to each other.
- The eighth commandment tells us not to steal. That means we shouldn't take anything that isn't ours, whether that's a toy or even something like someone's homework.
- The ninth commandment says to tell the truth. God wants us to always be honest.
- The tenth commandment tells us not to wish for other people's stuff. We should be happy with what we have.
- **How can these commandments help us treat others right?**
- God loves us so much and wants us to love others and treat them with kindness and respect. God knew these commandments would show us how to love and respect God and others. Wisdom means doing the right thing. We can thank God for wisdom about how to treat others.

ACTIVITY | Memory Game

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print the Memory Game printable and cut out the cards. Mix them up and lay them down. Let the kids take turns flipping two cards over at a time. If they get a match, they can go again. If they do not get a match, then their turn is over and the next player takes a turn. For younger kids, have a copy of the Match Guide printable to help them.*
- **FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** *They may need help matching the commandments with the numbers.*
- **FOR PRETEENS:** *Let them create their own visuals to help them memorize the ten commandments. See your weekly instructions for details.*

SCRIPTURE | John 12:50

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Look up the verses and read them!*
- Jesus tells us these rules are for our good and they'll help us live with Him forever!
- We can be thankful God gave us rules so we know how to treat each other.
- **Has there ever been a time when you didn't want to follow the rules? What kind of consequences come with not following the rules?**
- God gives us rules not to restrict us from living a good life and having fun, but to protect us from the things that bring harm into our lives. **What harm would come if we lie to people all the time? What harm would come if we never listen to our parents? What harm would come if we're always wanting other people's stuff?**
- We can thank God for wisdom and help so we know how to treat others.

NOW WHAT? *What does God want us to do about it?*

VIDEO | A Special Touchdown

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Show [this](#) video.*
- **What stood out to you in this video?**
- The Olivet football team put the needs of their friend Keith above their own needs. These players had the wisdom to know the right thing to do.
- They illustrate a command Jesus gives His followers. Let's open our Bibles and take a look!

SCRIPTURE | Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Look up the verses and read them! After you read the verses in Mark, read through the Ten Commandments again. Ask the kids to decide if each one is a "Love God" or "Love Others" command.*
- God gave the Israelites the Ten Commandments to follow. When people asked Jesus which commandment was most important, He told them the two most important commandments are to love God and love others. When we love God and love others, we obey all Ten Commandments.
- **According to the verse in Luke, what should we do if we want to show love to others?**
- The verse in Luke helps us to know how to love others. Think about how you would want to be treated, and then treat others that way!
- When we follow these commands, we can trust we will be making the wise choice. We can thank God for wisdom.

ACTIVITY | Love God, Love Others Race

- We're going to have a fun race. I will shout out one of the Ten Commandments and you will race to the other side of the room and tap the poster that matches your commandment. For example, if I shout out "Respect your parents," you will run over and tap the poster that says, "Love Others."
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Place two posters with the words "Love God" and "Love Others" at one end of the room, taped to a wall. Divide the group into two teams and have them line up on the opposite end of the room from the posters. Shout out a commandment, and then tell the first set of runners to run down and touch the poster that goes with the commandment you said. If it teaches how to love God, they'll tap the "Love God" poster, and if it teaches how to love others, they'll tap the "Love Others" poster. After the first pair is done, read another commandment and let the next set of kids run to the posters. Play until everyone has had a turn or until one team reaches ten points.
- **FOR PRETEENS:** Let them do this activity in a similar style to a popular game "Steal the Bacon." See your weekly instructions for details.

RESPONSE | Wisdom in Real Life

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the kids a Wisdom in Real Life printable and pens. Give them two minutes to think about how they can have wisdom in real life with each of the Ten Commandments. When they're done, pray with them and ask God for wisdom with each of the commandments.
- God will give us wisdom whenever we ask and we can thank Him for that.
- **What is one thing you can do this week to love God?**
- **What is one thing you can do this week to love others?**

MEMORY VERSES | Psalm 56:3; Matthew 6:33

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid memory verse magnets or stickers. Then, work on the memory verse together. For ideas on how to do this well, check out the Memory Verse Guide in your Programming folder and give them to your small group leaders, if you'd like.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **What do the last six commandments help us learn?** (How to treat others.)
- **How do you think Moses felt when he was approaching God on the mountain?**
- **Why did God give the Ten Commandments?**
- **Why is it important to treat others right?**
- **If you could create one new, specific rule for people about how to treat others, what would it be?**
- **Why is having wisdom important when we follow God?**

SCRIPTURE | James 1:5, Proverbs 2:6, Proverbs 8:11

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Look up the verses in your Bible and encourage the kids to do the same. Have one person from each group read their verse out loud for everyone to hear.
- **FOR PRETEENS:** Split them into three groups and assign each a Scripture, then have them create billboards to explain the Scriptures to people passing by.

- What do these verses tell us about wisdom?
- What should we do if we want wisdom?

ACTIVITY | Cup Stacking

- Let's play a fun cup stacking game to see if your team can remember all Ten Commandments.
- **INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOU:** *Print the Cup Stacking printable, and put the labels at the bottom of Styrofoam cups or plastic cups. Give one stack of cups and nine small paper plates to each team (you can do more sets per small group if your small groups have ten or more kids).*
- **INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR LEADERS:** *Give your small group one minute to stack their cups in order of the Ten Commandments, placing a small paper plate between each cup. The first team to stack their cups in the correct order without them falling over for five seconds wins.*
- **FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** *This is a wonderful opportunity for kids with special needs to work together in a team. Give a special job to a student with special needs, such as handing over a cup or helping stack the cups.*

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