



God Gives the Ten Commandments (Part 2) Exodus 19:16–20:21

Fifth and sixth graders are beginning to encounter the various facets of bullying. While outright bullying probably won't happen directly in front of you, you might notice smaller things such as laughter at someone else's expense. Kids this age are still learning what is and isn't okay in this sphere. Use this lesson to help kids understand the personal relevance of showing respect for others.



► Bible Point


God tells us how to respect others.

Key Verse

“Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother,’ and ‘love your neighbor as yourself’ ” (Matthew 19:18-19).


Weaving Faith Into Life

Kids will show respect to others.

LESSON	WHAT KIDS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	A Little Respect <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Create a funny story about respecting others.	Bible Buzz, pens	Tear out the Lesson 5 pages from each Bible Buzz student book.
2 Bible Exploration	Commandments of Respect <i>(about 25 min.)</i> Rotate through six stations, and express actions based on the last six commandments.	6 Bibles, pens, paper, watercolors, cups of water, paintbrushes, paper towels Teacher Pack: “Commandment Station” cards, Bible Timeline 	Set up 6 stations each with a Bible, 1 of the “Commandment Station” cards, and the corresponding items: • Station 1: pens and paper • Station 2: no more items needed • Station 3: no more items needed • Station 4: pens and paper • Station 5: no more items needed • Station 6: inexpensive watercolors, paper, paintbrushes, cups of water, and paper towels

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





LESSON	WHAT KIDS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Do's and Don'ts <i>(about 20 min.)</i> Play a game based on the Key Verse, and then write prayers for guidance in respecting others.	Bible Buzz, CD player, paper, 4 markers, pens Teacher Pack: CD	
4 Lasting Impressions	Daily Challenges <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.	Bible Buzz	
	Weaving Faith at Home <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.		

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





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BIBLE BACKGROUND
FOR LEADERS

Last week’s Bible Background concentrated on the events surrounding the giving of the Ten Commandments, while this week’s concentrates on the commandments themselves. If you haven’t already done so, you may want to read both of them before beginning this lesson.

Commandments With a Purpose

These commandments weren’t given to force the Israelites to follow an arbitrary set of rules. These commands were intended to help the people live their lives to the fullest in relationship with one another.

With the death and resurrection of Jesus, we live no longer under the law but under grace. Jesus said he came to fulfill the law (Matthew 5:17-18). Certainly we are not bound to follow these laws to try to win God’s favor, but the principles behind the Ten Commandments are valid principles for all time.

Commandments in Two Categories

Over the centuries, scholars have divided the commandments into categories in varying ways. For the purpose of these studies, we’re dividing them into two sections. The first four commandments have to do with our relationship with God; the last six have to do with our relationships with others.

God’s Commandments Establish Priorities

The commandments regarding our relationship with God clearly spell out the priority and honor that he is to hold in our lives. How often—even in the Christian community—do we let other things come before our relationship with God?

One commandment that is often taken too lightly, especially in today’s culture, is the instruction not

to misuse God’s name. To use it in swearing or frivolously in joking is not appropriate. How we use God’s name directly reflects how we feel about God. He and his name are worthy of all the honor we can muster!

The commandments regarding our relationships with others (Exodus 20:12-17) give us lots of guidance on how to respect others. Though even our Christian culture can fail to take many of these commands seriously, living by them gives people the honor and respect due them as unique creations of God. No matter what we see around us, we must hold true to these principles if we are to honor God and respect others the way God intends.

The Jesus Connection

As our relationship with Jesus grows, we can begin to see this world and other people through his eyes of unconditional love. We will enjoy fellowship more—and others will see Jesus’ presence in our lives.

God wants us to alter our lives to reflect our Savior who loves us enough to die for us. It’s easy to get distracted, even by good things, and we can get caught up trying to be like other Christians more than we try to be like Jesus himself.

God loves his creation so much that he gave us commandments to help preserve it and glorify him. God’s greatest creation is humanity—and we are surrounded by it. Every person you have contact with today gives you an opportunity to glorify God by lifting up his greatest creation—people. At the end of the day, take note of who God blessed through you and how you were blessed in his service. You can write your prayer in the space below.





A Little Respect Supplies

Bible Buzz
pens

A Little Respect Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 5
pages from each Bible
Buzz student book.

1 GETTING STARTED

A Little Respect

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Ask kids to form pairs. Distribute pens and this week's Bible Buzz pages, and have pairs find the "Say What?" section.

Say: **With your partners, you're going to complete the "Say What?" story by filling in the blanks. Each blank has a description, and each partner will think up a word according to the description. Let's fill in the first blank together to see how this works. The first blank is a place. Now each person needs to think of a place and tell your partner, who will write the word in the first blank in the story. We'll continue until all the blanks are filled in. The blanks are numbered in the story so you can keep track. If a word needs to be repeated, it will indicate which blank it comes from. For example, the name you choose for blank 2 is also used in blank 5.**

Have kids switch Bible Buzz pages and take turns asking their partners for a word to fill in each of the blanks. Don't have kids read the stories yet; make sure they just look at the blanks and ask their partners to give them an example of each kind of word to fill in.

When the first partner is finished, have partners switch roles so each person has a completed story.

Allow partners to read their silly stories aloud to each other.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Have partners discuss these questions together.

Ask:

- Do you think the outcome of your story showed respect to the people whose names you used? Explain.
- In what ways can you tell when you're showing respect to someone else?
- In what ways can you tell when you're not showing respect to someone else?

Say: **Our stories were silly, but they helped us understand respect a little more. God made each person, and he wants us to treat everyone with respect. Today we'll look at the Ten Commandments God gave Moses on Mount Sinai. In the last six commandments, ► GOD TELLS US HOW TO RESPECT OTHERS.**





2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Commandments of Respect

What You'll Do

Show kids the “God Gives the Ten Commandments” picture on the Bible Timeline. Then say: **If you think the Ten Commandments are restrictive, go to this side of the room.** Indicate one side of the room. **If you think they aren’t restrictive, go to this side of the room.** Indicate the other side of the room. Make sure kids know it’s okay for them to honestly choose either side. Encouraging honesty is better than guiltting them into choosing a “right” answer.

Allow kids a few minutes to discuss with others on their side why they think the Ten Commandments are restrictive or not. Then have each side share what they came up with.

Say: **It might seem like the Ten Commandments are nothing but a list of “do’s and don’ts.” But the Ten Commandments are about honoring God and respecting others, and it’s how we do or don’t do things that offers endless possibilities!**

Form six groups, and have each group gather around one of the stations you set up earlier.

Say: **Use these Commandment Stations to help get your creative juices flowing. Each station is based on one of the last six commandments. As a group you’ll rotate through the stations. At each station, read the directions on the card for a creative example of that commandment. I’ll tell you when it’s time to move to the next station.**

Give groups about two or three minutes at each station. When groups have rotated through all six stations, ask each group to show everyone else their favorite creative projects.

Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **How did this activity change the way you think about following the Ten Commandments?**
- **Are some of the commandments harder for you to follow than others? Explain.**
- **How did this activity change the way you think about how to respect others?**

Say: **The Israelites had no rules at all, so they needed the commandments, and we can be thankful for them, too. Sometimes the Ten Commandments may seem strict, but instead of seeing a list of fun-ruiners, we can see the endless ways we can respect others. We can help, protect, honor, and celebrate each other. What a privilege to have so many great ways ► GOD TELLS US HOW TO RESPECT OTHERS.**



Commandments of Respect Supplies

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- 6 Bibles
 - pens
 - paper
 - watercolors
 - cups of water
 - paintbrushes
 - paper towels
 - Teacher Pack**
 - “Commandment Station” cards
 - Bible Timeline

Commandments of Respect Easy Prep

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- Set up 6 stations each with a Bible, 1 of the “Commandment Station” cards, and the corresponding items:
- Station 1: pens and paper
 - Station 2: no more items needed
 - Station 3: no more items needed
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 - Station 6: inexpensive watercolors, paper, paintbrushes, cups of water, and paper towels





Do's and Don'ts Supplies

Bible Buzz

CD player
paper

4 markers
pens

Teacher Pack

CD: "Trust and Obey"
(track 11)

3

WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Do's and Don'ts

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

For this activity, you'll need a large open area. Scatter paper all over the floor of the open area. Have kids read the Key Verse, Matthew 19:18-19, on their Bible Buzz pages: " 'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother,' and 'love your neighbor as yourself.' "

Form four groups. Give each group a marker, and have group members link arms. Read the Key Verse aloud again, and tell the groups to remember the different commandments listed in the Key Verse.

Say: Let's play a game to help us remember this. The object is to get to the other side of the room before the other groups. You can't step anywhere but on the papers, and you can't step on any papers that you haven't written on. You must remain in contact with the people in your group who are crossing the room. They have to be touching one another at all times.

Tell kids you're going to read a situation and the group has to think of a commandment listed in the Key Verse that might help with that situation. The first person in each group will quickly write that commandment on a paper on the floor. Then that person will step on that paper and give a description of how he or she might apply that commandment. Then he or she will hand the marker to the next person. That person can repeat the process. Then he or she can step on that commandment, making sure to somehow remain connected to the rest of the group at all times. The group can continue to list as many commandments as they think might apply. They can create new commandment steppingstone papers for each commandment they think of that applies to the situation. When kids run out of commandments for a situation, move on to the next one. For example, in the first situation in which two young kids are fighting over a toy, kids might link that to the "Do not steal" commandment. They can think of multiple commandments for each situation if the commandments apply. Each group can travel only on paper, and no one can step on a paper that's written on unless, of course, their team wrote on it.

Keep the activity going by changing situations at random times. Use these ideas for situations:

- **Two young children are fighting over a toy.**
- **A married couple has an argument, and one of them leaves.**
- **A vase is stolen from an art museum, and there were two people who could've stolen it in the room at that time.**
- **A child's parents want her to go to bed, but she's not tired.**
- **Two kids in the hall are getting ready to fight.**
- **Someone is chatting online while his parents aren't home; this online chat buddy wants to meet him.**





- Some friends sneak into an R-rated movie.
- Two sworn enemies are trapped in the same building during a hurricane.

Say: **God gives us his commandments to help us know how to live our lives in the best way possible. We can follow these commands and have a full life.**

Have kids sit in groups to discuss how standing on the papers was like walking through life by following God’s commandments.

Provide pens, and have kids find the “My Prayers...” section on their Bible Buzz pages. Have kids write a prayer request after each commandment. Encourage kids to ask not only for strength to resist certain temptations but also for compassion for those who don’t.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead all the kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- What did your group decide was similar about walking on the papers with commands on them and the way you can navigate life by following God’s commands?
- What encouraged you about some of the ways you thought of to apply these commandments?
- What does that say about how we might think of using the commandments?
- Which commandment seems to have the most varied uses? Why do you think that is?

Say: **In tense situations, it’s sometimes hard to think about how we respect others. We often do the easiest thing and just worry about ourselves. But if we turn to God in these stressful times, he’ll guide us in our relationships. God’s commandments helped the Israelites know how to respect each other, and we can be thankful that ► GOD TELLS US HOW TO RESPECT OTHERS through those same commandments.**

4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You’ll Do ■■■■

Say: **Let’s think this week about how we can remember that ► GOD TELLS US HOW TO RESPECT OTHERS.**

Have kids find this week’s Daily Challenges on their Bible Buzz pages and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:



Daily Challenges
Supplies

Bible Buzz





- Listen to your parents without thinking of what you will say next. Consider the things they're saying the next time you disagree about something. Say something to show you listened to them rather than telling them your opinion immediately.
- The next time you have an opportunity, help return something to its rightful owner. This counts for things like when you borrow your friend's pencil or pen at school or even when you see someone drop something on the ground.
- Write God a thank-you note for the things you have, and recognize the ways you're content with those things. Remind yourself of the commandment that says not to covet other people's things. Instead of wanting more things, or someone else's things, be thankful for what you have.

Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell the kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Include a time, place, and other ideas.

Say: **God gave the Israelites these rules because he wanted what's best for them. Let's remember that ► GOD TELLS US HOW TO RESPECT OTHERS by following through with our Daily Challenges.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about respecting others. Kids can also do the activities in the "HomeConnect" section of their Bible Buzz pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families! Available at group.com/digital.

Say: **Another way we can show respect for others is by praying for them.**

Have kids form small groups and sit together. Say: **Take a few moments to pray silently for the person on your right, and then switch and pray for the person on your left.** Allow a minute for each prayer, and then close the prayer.

