

THANKS

WEEK 3

BIG IDEA

We can thank God for wisdom.

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?

Countdown

Once it is time for class to start, begin the intro video. Instruct kids to clean up and then sit in their designated group spot. As kids sit down, Small Group Leaders should sit with the kids in their group.

Rules

1. Listen to your small group leader
 - Respect your leader and obey what they tell you
2. Treat others the way you want to be treated
 - Be a good friend
3. Have fun!

ACTIVITY: Thankful for Manna

We are still in our series called, *Thanks!* To help us continue to remember to

be thankful, we are going to continue to keep a record of all of the different things and people that we are grateful for in our lives. So like last week we will cut out a piece of "manna" and draw or write a different thing or person that we are thankful for than we did last week.

- **INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOU:** *In each classroom will be a poster silhouette representing the Sinai Peninsula taped on the wall. Each poster will have "THANKFUL" at the top. Give your small group markers, crayons, scissors, glue, and "manna" shapes. Let each kid cut out a "manna" and draw or write what they are thankful for on it. Then put the manna on the desert floor on the posters (use this as a visual aid later on).*

- *Have younger students draw pictures (1st-2nd grade).*
- *Words and sentences should be more complex depending on the age group.*
- Think about things we normally forget about, like the air we breathe, the stars in the sky, and the grocery stores where we can buy food instead of having to grow it all from a garden.
- God has given us so much! It's good to take time to remember all of that we have and all that God gives!

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?**

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 was a plan God gave the Israelites so they would know what was important to God.*

SO WHAT?

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.**



- 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 rest and worship on 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. We should always be honest, even if we could get in trouble for telling the truth.

- 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 others. Wisdom means doing the right thing. We can thank God for wisdom about how to treat others.

SCRIPTURE: John 12:50

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Look up the verses and read them!*
- Jesus was saying God's commands, or rules, are really a plan to help us live right and live with God forever someday.
- 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 rules? What kind of consequences come with not following the rules?**
- God doesn't want to keep 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?

VIDEO: A Special Touchdown

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Show **this***
- **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 are obeying God.
- **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. When I shout one of the Ten Commandments, you will race to the other side of the room and tap the poster that describes that commandment. For example, if I shout out "Respect your parents," you will run over and tap the poster that says, "Love Others." If it is a commandment that teaches how to Love God, you'll tap the "Love God" poster.
- **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 opposite from the posters. Shout out a commandment, and have the kids run down and touch the poster that goes with the commandment.*
- **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 paper and pens and give them two*

minutes to think about how they can have wisdom in real life with each of the ten commandments. Have them write down a few of the commandments and one way they can follow or demonstrate them. 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 God 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 VERSE: Psalm 56:3; Matthew 6:33 ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:**
work on the memory verse together.

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?**

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

- **INSTRUCTIONS:**
work on the memory verse together.

PRAYER ▲

Take some time to pray together as a group.

Points: Kids get points for things listed below. Add weekly points and insert that number next to their name for the given week. ▲

- Dot Stickers 10 Points
- Bring your Bible to class 50 Points
- Memorize monthly verses 50 points/verse
- Attend Redeemer's Kids Class 100 Points
- Bring a friend who doesn't attend Redeemer's 100 Points
- **Weekly Postcard Points:** (*Put check mark next to each you've given them points for*)
 - Memorized Weekly Big Idea 50 Points
 - Read Bible Daily 100 Points