

Bringing **The Story** Home- Ch. 5- Week of February 3rd



New Commands and a New Covenant

"Bringing The Story Home" is a tool for you to use with your family to connect with the weekly lessons taught in "The Story" curriculum. Feel free to use these activities in a way that fits your family life. Do what works with the time you have each week.

Timeless Truth: God tells us how we should treat Him and each other.

Bible Basis: Exodus 19–25:22

Key Verse: [God's people] answered with one voice. They said, "We will do everything the Lord has told us to do." —Exodus 24:3

Parent Tips: Read and discuss the key point from the Sunday school class your child or children attended. Use the Table Talk question to start a discussion around the dinner table or at some point this week. The Living Faith activity is designed to help your family think about the 8th Commandment. The Extra Mile idea will help your family learn the Ten Commandments in order.

Get The Point: *Preschool:* God gave us rules so that we can know him. I can know God by learning his laws.

Elementary: God gave us rules so we can know him. I can know God by learning his laws.

Middle School: Following man's ideas leads to selfishness and death. Following God's laws leads to life.

High School: The 10 Commandments allow us to have true community with the one true God, instead of following our disobedient tendencies.

Table Talk:

- **Why did God's people need rules?**
- **Those rules are pretty old now. Do they still apply today? Why?**
- **Which one of the Ten Commandments is the hardest for you to follow?**
- **What happens when you break one of the commandments?** (Repent of my sin, ask for forgiveness, receive grace because of Jesus.)
- **What do you think is the most important of the Ten Commandments? Why?**
 - **When Jesus was asked that same question, what did he say?** (Read Matthew 22:36–40)
Why did he answer this way? Do you agree?
- **The third commandment talks about not misusing God's name. Does that apply to words such as "Gosh", "Geez," and "OMG"?**

Living Faith: Play the "Two Truths and a Lie" game as a family. In this game, each family member has to think up two real things and one falsehood to say out loud. Then everybody guesses which thing is the lie. Try to make the lie sound believable. Parents will have an easier time stumping their children, but be aware about what you reveal about yourself. Also, try to have the true statements sound outrageous, then you can share the story behind your "truth." (Example: "I once hit a golf ball and broke a car's windshield; I made my little brother drink pickle juice.")

After everybody is finished, ask:

- **What was the hardest part about this game?**
- **Did you learn anything new about your family?**
- **Was it easy to disguise a lie from the truth?**
- **How come it's easy for little lies to slip out in everyday life?**

- **How can lies lead to more lies? How can lies lead to hurt?**
- **How can God strengthen our faith so we resist the temptation to lie?**

Extra Mile:

Use these ideas to think more about the Ten Commandments.

In the Cards—Get a deck of cards and remove all the face cards (jacks, queens, kings, and jokers). Shuffle the deck. Bring out a Bible and review the Ten Commandments in order. For younger children, you can paraphrase the Commandments like this:

1. God is the one true God.
2. Do not misuse God's name.
3. Set aside one day a week to rest and worship.
4. Respect your father and mother.
5. Do not kill.
6. Husbands and wives should keep their promises to each other.
7. Do not steal.
8. Do not lie.
9. Do not be jealous of other people's things.
10. Do not be jealous of other people's relationships.

Put the deck on the table. Have the youngest family member start by drawing a card and trying to say the corresponding commandment (example: 8 = Do not lie). If the person says the correct commandment, he gets to keep the card. If it's incorrect, the card is put face-up next to the deck. Go through the entire deck of cards. The person who ends up with the most cards gets a prize, such as being able to choose a special dessert the following night.

Prayer Time: *Dear God, thank you for remembering us even when we break your rules. Thank you for meeting all of our needs and especially for forgiving us when we need it. Help us share the wonderful news of Jesus with others. Amen!*