

WHAT WE LEARNED TODAY

Week 18 | God Gives the Law: Loving God and Others

God's rules are a gift. They show us how to love Him and love each other.

We are so glad your child was with us today. Here is what happened in class and how you can keep the conversation going at home.

LESSON SUMMARY

Today your child heard the story of God giving the Ten Commandments to the nation of Israel at Mount Sinai. The mountain was covered in fire, smoke, and thunder. The whole nation witnessed it. God spoke to all of them at once.

One of the most important things we taught today is that God saved Israel from Egypt before He gave them any rules. The rescue came first. That means the commandments were not the price of God's love. They were the guide for living inside a relationship that already existed. We want your child to understand that following God is a response to love, not a way to earn it.

The Ten Commandments address two things: how to love God and how to love the people around us. Jesus later said that loving God and loving your neighbor are the two greatest commandments. The Ten Commandments are those two things written out in ten specific ways.

MEMORY VERSE

Deuteronomy 6:5

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Parent Tip: Try saying this verse together at bedtime each night this week. You can say it call and response: you say the first half, your child says the second half.

DEFENDING THE TRUTH

What Your Child Might Hear	What the Bible Says
Rules are old-fashioned. Just do what feels right.	The commandments describe what love looks like in practice. Loving people means not stealing from them, not lying about them, and not treating them as less than they are worth. These principles are timeless.
If God really loved everyone, there would be no rules.	Rules from a loving parent exist to protect, not to punish. God's commands protect people from the real harm that comes from dishonesty, violence, and broken relationships.
The Bible's rules don't apply to us anymore.	Jesus confirmed the commandments and summarized them as love God and love people. That summary is not a cultural relic. It is the core of what it means to live well with God and with others.

FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

For Younger Kids: Can you name one of the Ten Commandments? What does it mean?

For Older Kids: God gave the commandments after saving Israel, not before. What does that tell you about why God gives us guidelines to live by?

For the Whole Family: If you had to pick the hardest commandment to follow in your everyday life, which one would it be and why?

TRY IT AT HOME

This week try the Two Sides of Love activity together as a family. Get a sheet of paper and fold it down the middle. Write LOVE GOD on one side and LOVE OTHERS on the other. Each person fills in one or two specific things they want to do under each heading. Stick it on the refrigerator and check in on Friday to see how everyone did.

THIS WEEK'S FAMILY PRAYER

God, thank You for saving us before asking anything of us. Thank You that Your rules come from Your love and not Your anger. Help our family love You with our whole hearts and treat the people around us the way You would want us to. Give us the strength to do what is right even when it is hard. Amen.

A WORD FOR PARENTS

Teaching kids about rules and faith can feel tricky, especially if your own relationship with rules and religion has been complicated. You do not have to have all the answers to have a meaningful conversation with your child this week. A simple question at dinner or in the car is enough. Small moments add up to something real.