

10 Commandments

Introduction

Does God care about His commandments?

UNIT Challenge: During this unit, we will be memorizing specific passages of God's word. May we all TREASURE HIS WORD within our hearts so that we do not sin against Him!

Have you ever tried to communicate with your family or friends and felt like your words were not being heard or understood? You so badly want people to understand your thoughts and ideas but just can't seem to get them to understand. This can be one of the most frustrating things to experience in life.



How much more frustrated do you think God is when He has communicated so lovingly and clearly His words of instruction, but the people simply do not pay attention? Paul reminds us why God gave these instructions. Romans 10:4, "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes." The goal of HIS instruction, the goal of His commandments, is Yeshua.

Remember, God has spoken to every man in every nation, of every tribe and tongue, showing them His mercies and His plan for their salvation. He has used creation to declare who He is to them, He has sent men to speak His words to them, and then He sent His own son to declare His plan and direction for salvation, but many did not receive His words. Instead, they sought after the things of this world, they served their flesh and rejected and ignored God's words that bring Life and Healing. Check out what the Lord says to His people through the prophet.

Jeremiah 7:12-13, "But go now to My place which was in Shiloh, where I made My name dwell at the beginning, and see what I did to it because of the wickedness of My people Israel. And now, because you have done all these things," declares the Lord, "and I spoke to you, speaking again and again, but you did not listen, and I called you but you did not answer."

Can you hear the sadness in the voice of our King? He is trying to communicate to His people, but they do not show up. They do not turn their attention toward Him or toward His instructions. As His children, we want to walk in the ways of our God by serving Him and taking heed to His instructions.

Psalm 119: 9-11, How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your word. With all my heart I have sought You; Do not let me wander from Your commandments. Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You."

We should all aspire to be children who seek after the instruction of our Father in heaven with All of our hearts. His word is so valuable and profitable to us when we listen and obey. So where are you at today in listening to the voice of God? ***This is a great time to really engage with the class and direct them to what it means to pursue Him with all their heart, soul, strength, and mind.**

Throughout this Unit, we will be learning about the commandments that God wants us to accomplish through His strength. You will learn how His word has physical importance as well as emotional and spiritual. Physically, His commandments keep us safe from judgment as well as harm. Emotionally, we are kept safe by not sinning against God or His people. This allows us to have a clear conscience and a mind filled with hope. Spiritually, we draw near to God. By keeping His commandments, we declare that He is ours and we are His. This declares to the world, and Satan (Our greatest enemy), that we are God's and will never leave Him.

Lastly, God is most glorified when we walk toward Him according to His word. Check out these verses and think about them throughout the day.

John 15:12-14, "This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are My friends if you do what I command you."

¹ John 2:3-5, "By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. ⁴ The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; ⁵ but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected."

God's commandments are designed to bring us to Yeshua, to make us like Him, obedient and kind and faithful to our God. You are loved by Yeshua. Draw near to Him and learn His commandments.

Unit challenge: Scripture Memorization!

Matthew 22:36-38, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ And He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the great and foremost commandment."

10 Commandments

You shall have no other gods before Me.

He is El Qanna!

Weekly Challenge: During this unit, we will be memorizing specific passages of God's word. Review last week's challenge: Matthew 22:36-38, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ And He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the great and foremost commandment."

Did you know God's names reveal His nature and desire for us? For example, El Qanna or Elkannah is Hebrew for "Our God is Jealous." According to Webster's dictionary, to be jealous means "*intolerant of rivalry or unfaithfulness.*" So, putting this all into perspective, we learn that our God is jealous of us and loves us fiercely. And we understand this just by knowing His name!

Jealousy is something you may have experienced before. Typically, you can feel jealous of a sibling because they were able to experience something you didn't, or maybe a friend because of something they have. You can face jealousy whenever you have an expectation that is not realized personally, but someone else enjoys the experience. ***take some time to share a personal example of jealousy.** In the case of our God, He is **JEALOUS** for you in a righteous way.

In other words, if you completely ignore that you live with your parents, leave Shabbat service with another family and begin living with them. Your parents would experience jealousy for you, and rightly so. You are their child; they have raised you. They have prayed for you and provided for you in ways no other person ever has. As a result, your parents have a right to you, and you have a right to them. Just like our **GOD**! He has a right to us. He created us and has provided everything for us, right down to every beat of our hearts.

Throughout Biblical history, men and women have put things before the worship of God. They have not respected or appreciated the **LOVE** God has for them. As a result, God has become very jealous of their love and worship. We can also put things before God in our lives and cause God to be jealous for our love and worship.

What are 3 things that you know come before God in your life.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Being God's children, created in His image, we are created to worship God only. The Bible teaches that when we put things before God these things become idols, and idols are an object of worship. This is offensive to our God. Listen to what is written in the Torah about how God feels when we worship idols and false gods. Ps 96:5, "For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens."

Deut 6:14-15, "You shall not follow other gods, any of the gods of the peoples who surround you, for the Lord your God in the midst of you is a jealous God; otherwise the anger of the Lord your God will be kindled against you, and He will wipe you off the face of the earth."

This verse shows us that God is in the midst of His people. This means He is present and all around, seeing every idol and distraction that takes the love of His people, the love that should belong only to Him. If you were Him would you be jealous? ***Does anyone have a story to share about being jealous for something or someone?**

The Apostle Paul dealt with many who worshipped idols. He had the difficult, but fulfilling task of showing as many people the truth as he could. On one of his missionary journeys he had this to say to the church.

1 Corinthians 10:19-20, "What do I mean then? That a thing sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers in demons."

In the eyes of the LORD what are other gods.

1. **IDOLS**

God's wrath comes to mankind when God is completely disregarded and ignored. Yet, in His mercy He warns us saying if you deny me, I will also deny you.

2 Timothy 2:11-13, "It is a trustworthy statement: For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him; If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us; If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself."

Unit challenge: Scripture Memorization!

Exodus 20:1-3, "Then God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. "You shall have no other gods before Me."

10 Commandments

You shall not make for yourself a carved image

Are you telling me that image is a god?

Weekly Challenge: During this unit, we will be memorizing specific passages of God's word. Review last week's challenge: **Exodus 20:1-3, "Then God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. "You shall have no other gods before Me."**

Ancient civilizations created images for the gods they worshiped. These images were made from **WOOD, STONE**, and even **BONE**. Once an idol was created, the people set the image on a high hill or in a temple for the nation's people to come and pay homage.

Remembering last week's lesson on not worshipping other gods, I bet you can already imagine what our God thinks about making images of false gods and worshipping them. He **HATES** it! One of the most famous stories about this very thing happened after God rescued and redeemed His people, Israel, from slavery in Egypt. [READ Exodus 32:1-10 and discuss the narrative]

Our Lord wants us to know and understand several significant truths about His image. First, He wants us, His people, to know and celebrate the truth that He does not need us; instead, He **WANTS** us! God does not need people to make Him an image to worship. We understand who we are through His image revealed to us. We are created in His image, not the other way around!

Secondly, we must remember that an idol is an image of a demon and not of our God. The demons want to be honored and worshipped, so they inspire and coerce men to make idols, trying to take worship and love away from our Lord. When an idol is made, men are *MISLED* and *DECEIVED*.

Thirdly, God wants us to know that HE IS NOT **DEAD**! Our God is alive and reigning as the sovereign King of all eternity. An idol is a dead piece of material. It doesn't breathe, it doesn't talk, it doesn't help people in any way. It is a complete fraud and mockery. Whenever a person worships an idol instead of Yeshua, they reveal their lack of wisdom. Let's read some more scripture on the topic. [READ ISAIAH 40:18-20; JEREMIAH 10:6-16] **Isaiah= Highlight the different materials used to craft an idol and the attention a man takes to ensure the idol does not fall over. Point out how no man is needed to help our God be strong. Contrarily, our God is a strength to us. Jeremiah = Focus on how our God is living and reigning as an everlasting King, completely Sovereign and with no equal (vs 10).*

Has God ever commanded His people to make any kind of image? If so where?

1. God commanded the building of the Ark. Gen 6:14. 1 Peter 3:18-22 is a very important conclusion to the Noah story. In the same way the Ark, represents redemption, but we do NOT worship the ark, we worship the Redeemer.
2. Num 21:6-9 tells us of how the Lord used a physical image to build faith into the people. Later on (see below) we see how the people turn this image into an idol of worship. Yeshua mentions the fulfillment and purpose of this serpent in John 3:14-16. *Talk about John 4:23, "worship in spirit and Truth"

Hezekiah, the grandson of King David, knew what it meant to worship the Lord in Spirit and in Truth. Look at what He did in ancient Israel when the people took what God used as a tool of redemption and made it an item of worship.

2 Kings 18:4, "He removed the high places and broke down the *sacred* pillars and cut down the Asherah. He also broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made, for until those days the sons of Israel burned incense to it; and it was called Nehushtan."

What a profoundly disturbing reality this is. A creation of our God was transformed into an object of worship for the people of Israel. We must recognize that when images overshadow the reverence we owe to the Living God, decisive action is required: TEAR IT DOWN! We can never allow mere images to usurp the rightful place of the Almighty, who is alive and ever ready to come to the aid of His people.

Spend some time writing down anything you've worshipped in addition to God. Confess to Yahweh your sin and invite Him to make you new. Get rid of the item and begin to worship God freely without an images or idols to distract you.

**provide a piece of paper the children can use to complete this challenge*

Unit challenge: Scripture Memorization!

Exodus 20:4-6, "You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments."

10 Commandments

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain

What did you just say?

Weekly Challenge: During this unit, we will be memorizing specific passages of God's word. Review last week's challenge: **Exodus 20:4-6, "You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments."**



Did you know God required His prophets to represent His wishes totally and completely without adding or taking away a single word? To carry the word of God to God's people, a prophet was required by Scripture to represent God and His wishes totally and completely. Anything less was considered a death sentence. The 3rd commandment is "Do not take the name of the Lord in vain". This commandment has taken on many forms over the years. Today, we will look into the deep meaning of this commandment, which will help us walk with Him closely!

Tell me if you can relate to this: Mom or dad gives you the task of going to your siblings to tell them it's time for bed and they need to start the nighttime routine. But they allow you to stay up 30 minutes longer than your siblings. Would you be tempted to share your parents' exact message, or do you put your own spin on it?

***Talk about various ways we can misuse the authority given to us by simply changing the message we are to relay.**

In the Biblical context, our Heavenly Father has called us to walk according to His word, not taking His name in vain. What do you think it means to take His name in vain? _____

The word "vain" means to consider as empty, as nothing, and even false. If the 3rd commandment is "not to take His name in vain," then it is safe to say that God does not want us to consider His words as empty, nothing, and even false... Do you agree?

In ancient Israel, prophets began rising up, speaking their own words, and neglecting to communicate the word of Yeshua. They began speaking words that Yeshua never shared. Scripture calls these false prophets. The prophet Jeremiah dealt with this in Chapters 27-28, when a legitimate prophet of God spoke against the word of the Lord, ultimately deceiving the people.

"He will NOT hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain." God promises to bring about a consequence for anyone who does not value and respect His name and His words. Here is another example:

Ezekiel 13:1-10, "And the word of the Lord came to me, saying, "Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel who prophesy, and say to those who prophesy out of their own heart, 'Hear the word of the Lord!'"

Who is Ezekiel to prophesy against? Those who PROPHESY out of their own HEART. [READ LUKE 6:45] **Take note that a good man brings a good treasure from his heart, while an evil man will speak from the fullness of his wicked heart. Ps 119:11 we are to TREASURE HIS word in our heart.*

[READ EZEKIEL 13:4-8 and write down the 7 characteristics of a false prophet.]

[NASB] Ezekiel 13:4-8, "O Israel, your prophets are like *foxes in the deserts*. You have not gone up into the *gaps to build a wall* for the house of Israel to stand in battle on the day of the Lord. They have *envisioned futility* and *false divination*, saying, 'Thus says the Lord!' But the Lord has not sent them; yet they *hope that the word may be confirmed*. Have you not seen a futile vision, and have you not spoken false divination? You say, 'The Lord says,' but I have not spoken." Therefore thus says the Lord God: "Because you have *spoken nonsense* and *envisioned lies*, therefore I am indeed against you," says the Lord God."

List the seven characteristics of False Prophets:

1. foxes in the deserts
2. not gone up into the gaps to build a wall for the house of Israel
3. envisioned futility
4. false divination
5. hope that the word may be confirmed
6. spoken nonsense
7. envisioned lies

Read Ezekiel 13:8-10 noting the consequences God gives to False Prophets.

*Ezekiel 13:8-10, "Therefore thus says the Lord God: "Because you have spoken nonsense and envisioned lies, therefore **I am indeed against you**," says the Lord God. "My hand will be against the prophets who envision futility and who divine lies; **they shall not be in the assembly of My people**, nor be **written in the record of the house of Israel**, nor shall they **enter into the land of Israel**. Then you shall know that I am the Lord God."*

List the four consequences given to the False Prophets:

1. I am indeed against you
2. they shall not be in the assembly of My people
3. nor be written in the record of the house of Israel
4. nor shall they enter into the land of Israel

As God's children, we are to love the Truth! His words are TRUTH! We must be careful to value the Name of the Lord and the words He gives to us. Never speak using God's authority unless God has confirmed His word to you. If you feel that God has spoken a word to you and wants you to share it with others, confirm His word by asking for confirmation from another believer. By doing this, we can have confidence we are "not taking His name in vain".

Unit challenge: Scripture Memorization!

Exodus 20:7, "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain."

10 Commandments

Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy

What is the purpose of the Sabbath day?

Weekly Challenge: During this unit, we will be memorizing specific passages of God's word. Review last week's challenge: **Exodus 20:7, "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain."**

Today, many people of faith claim to follow God's commandments, yet they do not take the 4th commandment seriously. If you ask someone why they don't observe a literal 7th-day Sabbath, they might respond with, "Well, God judges my heart, and I rest every day." Or, "Yeah, my Sabbath is on Sunday; the Jews' Sabbath is on Saturday." Others might say, "Jesus rose on a Sunday, so I worship God on that day." You might even hear something different altogether! Today, we are going to explore God's 4th commandment. Who can recite the 4th commandment?

Concerning the Sabbath, Yeshua has this to say,

Mark 2:27-28, "Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

***Give context on the passage. 1. Who was the audience 2. What were the surrounding 3. What was the accusation? etc**



The Sabbath was established by God for man, meaning it was established for specific purposes. Yet, there is much confusion and misunderstanding about God's teachings about the Sabbath. In this 2 part lesson, we will examine seven main reasons why God established the Sabbath for us, starting with the Bible's first book.

Genesis 2:2-3, "By the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made."

Reasons the Sabbath was established: 1. Holy

God made all that we see, and He created all things with you in mind! What did He call His creation? GOOD. What did He call the Sabbath? HOLY.

Being Holy means to be "set apart" or "uncommon." How would you respond if I were to bring a very "uncommon" diamond necklace into the class? Would you treat the necklace in the same way you would treat your shoes? Or would you treat the necklace as being "set apart" for a special purpose? Well, in the same way, God has "Set apart" and made "Holy" the 7th day of the week. This is why many families avoid doing what is common (Things done any other day of the week) on Shabbat. What is one thing you do not

do on Shabbat that you do on the other days of the week? **Spend some time talking with the class to determine a baseline of family activities surrounding Shabbat.*

God called the Sabbath day Holy because he wants us to pay attention to it and value it. What other “Holy” things does God want us to value? _____ We can see the Sabbath was made for man so that we would value the Holy things of God. Make sense?

Reasons the Sabbath was established:

1. Provider [Read Exodus 16:22-27]

Exodus 16:26, “Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, *the Sabbath*, there will be none.”

Imagine that you’re walking through the wilderness in a land with NO grocery stores. You begin to run out of food. You start to worry about what you will eat. Now imagine this: God goes with you, He provides your food and what you drink every day. God takes His job of providing for you very seriously. **TALK ABOUT WHAT BEING IN THE WILDERNESS WITHOUT PROVISION FROM GOD WOULD LOOK LIKE.*

Reasons the Sabbath was established:

2. Rest

Exodus 20:9-10, “Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God; *in it* you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you.”

Remember, God rested on the Sabbath, which He called “GOOD” and “HOLY.” He has given us the Sabbath to enjoy without the burden of working tirelessly every day. Wasn’t that kind of Him? Think about it: you could be looking forward to growing up and working every day of your lives with no breaks. But our God has blessed us with this incredible gift, and because of Him, we are able to rest and enjoy Him on the Sabbath. Can you see more clearly what Yeshua meant when He said the Sabbath was made for man?

**Discuss this a little.*

Reasons the Sabbath was established:

3. Creation

Exodus 20:11, “For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.”

He even made Dinosaurs! Sadly, many people today do not believe that God made the heavens and the earth like the Bible says. This belief is very new. It wasn’t until the nations stopped honoring the Sabbath that this belief really took hold. You see, God gave us the weekly Sabbath to remember and thank Him for life and all creation. Maybe if more people loved and enjoyed the Holy Sabbath, they would see that creation testifies of HIM! Do you agree?

Weekly challenge: This week read Exodus 16 and see just how much God provided for His people. Spend some time thinking about what it might be like to walk around the desert, pick up manna, and bring it home to your mother.

We will continue with the Sabbath next week. Shabbat Shalom!

10 Commandments

Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy

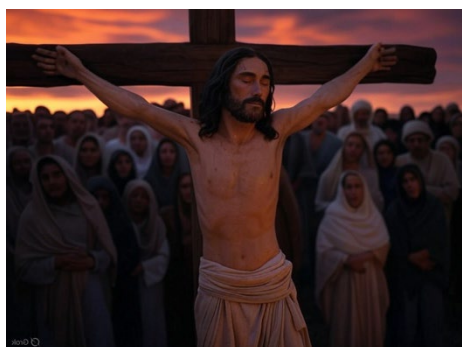
What is the purpose of the Sabbath day? (pt 2)

Weekly Challenge: During this unit, we will be memorizing specific passages of God's word. Review last week's challenge: Did you read Exodus 16 and think about what it would have been like to collect manna in the desert?

Last week, we asked the question, "What is the Sabbath and Why do we keep it?" Today we will continue on this quest to determine the Sabbath and why we keep it. First, let's review! Can you list the four reasons God gave us the Sabbath covered last week?

- | | | |
|----|----------|-----------|
| 1. | Holy | (Gen 2:3) |
| 2. | Provider | (EX 16) |
| 3. | Rest | (EX 20) |
| 4. | Creation | (EX 20) |

*Help the class understand and comprehend the points taught last week and set them up to receive the remaining 3 points. *Ask them to recite the first four commandments by memory.



Today, we will cover three final points concerning the Sabbath and why God wants us to remember His 4th commandment. The first point is probably the most powerful to think about because it provides a deep purpose for all who keep it. Remember, whatever God establishes has purpose. The purposes of His word never return void and are NEVER wasted or unfruitful for us who honor it.

Reasons the Sabbath was established:

5. SANTICFIER

Mark 2:27-28, "Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for man, not man. for the sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.""

Standing before the Pharisees, Yeshua proclaimed He was the promised Messiah. He did this through a previous declaration made concerning the Sabbath. The Sabbath is a sign to all of us, reminding us that we are made clean and sanctified through Messiah Yeshua.

Exodus 31:13, "But as for you, speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'You shall surely observe My sabbaths; for this is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who sanctifies you.'"

God has given the Sabbath as a proclamation from believers to the entire world, affirming that Yeshua is the SAVIOR! The next time you gather around the table on Friday night, eager to enjoy the Shabbat meal, take a moment to remember why you celebrate so joyfully during this time. Yeshua is your salvation!

Reasons the Sabbath was established:

6. Holy Convocation

What is a Convocation? Assembly

Leviticus 23:2-3, "Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'The Lord's appointed times which you shall proclaim as holy convocations—My appointed times are these: 'For six days work may be done, but on the seventh day there is a sabbath of complete rest, a holy convocation. You shall not do any work; it is a sabbath to the Lord in all your dwellings.

Have you ever looked forward to spending time with your best friends? Did you make plans to enjoy activities or events together? Think about this: The Shabbat is one day in seven when the Lord is eager to spend time with you without distractions. On a Sabbath, have you ever sat and talked with God? Have you ever expressed gratitude for the blessings in your life?

Reasons the Sabbath was established:

7. Rehearsing for the return of Yeshua

The Sabbath is a rehearsal for future glory of being with Yeshua.

Zechariah 14:9-11, "And the Lord will be king over all the earth; in that day the Lord will be the only one, and His name the only one. All the land will be changed into a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem; but Jerusalem will rise and remain on its site from Benjamin's Gate as far as the place of the First Gate to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the king's wine presses. People will live in it, and there will no longer be a curse, for Jerusalem will dwell in security."

This great and fantastic day of the Lord will bring us into eternity, where there will be no pain, no crying, and no mourning. Life will be everlasting, relationships will endure forever,

and joy will be boundless. Does that sound good to you? Remember what Yeshua said about the Sabbath? It was HOLY. Do you think our time in Heaven with Yeshua will be Holy? Through this study, have you come to appreciate why we observe the Sabbath and strive to keep it Holy? **Take the class through a brief recap of the Sabbath lesson and even talk about ways we keep sabbath in our own homes.*

Weekly challenge: Think about ways to keep Shabbat, Holy and set apart for Yeshua. Write down your thoughts and plans to do this after reading Isaiah 58:13-14.

10 Commandments

Honor your father and your mother,

Honor your Father and Mother... WHY?

Weekly Challenge: During this unit, we will be memorizing specific passages of God's word. Review last week's challenge: Think about ways to keep Shabbat Holy and set apart for Yeshua. Write down your thoughts and plans to do this after reading Isaiah 58:13-14. **Check with the class concerning last week's challenge question. Also, ask someone to recite the 10 commandments up to #5.*

We've covered the 4th commandment, now on to the 5th! Honor is a word that has historical significance. You might think of honor as an awarded medal for incredible service during military service or maybe you were honored because of an athletic success like winning a race or wrestling match.



Does honoring your parents mean you must award them a medal or publicly acknowledge their greatness? Although some parents would be incredibly overjoyed by this acknowledgment, this isn't quite what the commandment means. Today, we will look at the biblical understanding of what it means to **HONOR** your parents and receive the benefits that come directly from God as a result.

EXODUS 20:12, "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which

the Lord your God gives you."

HONOR: to be made heavy, be honored, enjoy honor, be made abundant

**Walk the class through the understanding of Heavy.. In the biblical sense to be made heavy or weighty is to bear authority. Example: If you were to walk into the court of a King or a very rich man how would you walk in? Would you show honor and respect for the man of Authority or would you act like you were just hanging out with friends? YES, Parents are to be HONORED and Revealed for sure!*

When we honor our parents, we show them esteem because they are in their position by God's design and plan. Think about it this way: God has given your parents the responsibility to care for you and prepare you for the future. Listen to what the Lord tells your parents in Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it." Have you ever had to train a person and prepare them to live on their own? Here's a question! Could you live on your own right now? You see, God gives our parents a very big responsibility to

accomplish, and He wants us to honor them as they do their best for us. "What do we get out of honoring our parents?" Is there a blessing for us?

Have the students fill out their thoughts on this line.

According to Exodus 20:12, what is the blessing we receive as we honor our parents?

1. Long Days in the Land God gives to us

God says our days will be long on this earth. Does this mean the days are shorter for children who do not honor their parents? ?????

Proverbs 10:27, "The fear of the Lord prolongs life, But the years of the wicked will be shortened."

Psalms 89:45, "You have shortened the days of his youth; You have covered him with shame."

God has blessed the children of those who honor their parents and removes blessings from the children who dishonor their parents. God wants your time to be extended on earth because you are living as His obedient child. He wants you to enjoy the best of His creation and the best things He has for you in this life. Think about something you've done that hasn't honored your parents, something that you feel bad about. What do you think you should do about it? _____

Did you know you could honor your parents by confessing these feelings? The relationship we have with our parents is very similar to the relationship we have with God. God wants us to confess all our sins so that our relationship with Him can grow and be stronger. Part of honoring God is staying away from sin. Look at this passage.

Proverbs 4:20-27 has some GREAT ways in which we can stay in an honoring relationship with our parents. Let's read through this passage and take note of these instructions from God's word.

Verse 20 : Give Attention

Verse 21 : Keep/Guard/Shamar

Verse 24 : Put Away sin

Verse 25 : Look upon the path ahead of you

Verse 27 : Do not turn away from the Lord

If we implement these words in our lives we will be living in an honorable way toward our parents and our Lord. **LAST QUESTION**, Have you ever thought about what you mean to your parents? Like, what benefit do you bring them?

Psalms 127:3-5, "Behold, children are a gift of the Lord, The fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth. How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; They will not be ashamed when they speak with their enemies in the gate."

You are so important to your parents, and they thrive on your honor. Yeshua also thrives on your honor. Remember, He gave himself for you, like a mom or dad who sacrificed their lives for you. He demonstrated His love for you because you are so important to Him. The Bible says we will all stand before Him and hear His voice on that day. Those who've honored and obeyed Him will hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant. You were faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Let us strive to bring honor to our parents and our Lord with how we think, how we act, and what we say!

Weekly Challenge: Read 2 Kings 2:23-24. Consider the attitude shown toward the Man of God. What was the offense? What was the consequence? THEN, take time to ask your parents if you could do anything to honor them more. In other words, seek their blessing!

May Yeshua bless you wholly and entirely as you trust Him.

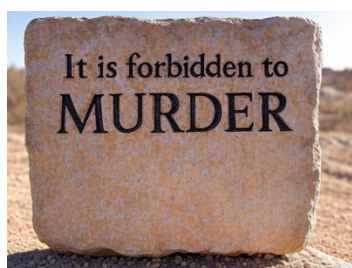
10 Commandments

You shall not murder.

Why don't you DIE...

Weekly Challenge: During this unit, we will be memorizing specific passages of God's word. Review last week's challenge: Read 2 Kings 2:23-24. Consider the attitude toward the Man of God spoken of. What was the offense? What was the consequence? THEN, take time to ask your parents if there is anything you could do to honor them more? In other words, seek the blessing.]

*Ask the class to recite the 10 Commandments. They need to be working on this individually as this quarter lesson is coming to a close.



The 6th commandment, no murder, huh? Can you imagine living in a land where murder was an acceptable act committed against people all around you? Can you even begin to grasp the fear and uncertainty of everyday life? Going to the grocery store would be a nightmare you would face every day. Sadly, many places around the world experience this reality, and many Christians do too. Murder is strictly forbidden by Yehovah, and for good reason. AMEN?! We think of murder as the act of taking away someone else's life, and it is; yet today, we are going to explore a form of murder you may have never considered before, a form that you may have even been found guilty of yourself.

Give 4 examples of Murder in the Bible: (Ask the children for examples of Murder in the Bible.)

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1. | Cain Killing Abel (Gen 4) |
| 2. | Levi and Simeon killing Shechem (Gen 34) |
| 3. | The Killing of Yeshua |
| 4. | David killing Uriah (2 Sam 11) |

The heart of our God hates the death of His creation. God is the one who breathed life into our lungs and it is for God to call that breath back to Himself. Ecclesiastes 12:7, "dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it." In ancient Israel, Yehovah established six cities strategically located around the Land for a specific purpose. These cities were called refuge cities, and they were designed to shelter people who were involved in an accident that caused someone's death. However, if a person intentionally killed someone, they would suffer the penalty of death; as the Torah says, "eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth, " and "Life for a life." (Ex 21:23)

The Golden rule of "treat others the way you want to be treated" was established to ensure that people value others' lives as much as their own. Does that make sense? Listen to what this passage says;

Numbers 35:15-16, "These six cities shall be for refuge for the sons of Israel, and for the alien and for the sojourner among them; that anyone who kills a person unintentionally may flee there. 'But if he struck him down with an iron object, so that he died, he is a murderer; the murderer shall surely be put to death."

We can see how God protects the innocent and brings judgment upon those who intend evil by murdering someone. God's word and His heart are established in RIGHTEOUSNESS, and His righteousness is good for each of us. Hear what Yehovah says to Israel:

Exodus 23:6-7, "You shall not pervert the justice due to your needy brother in his dispute. Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent or the righteous, for I will not acquit the guilty."

According to the Torah, perverting justice and causing the innocent to die for a crime they did not commit is evil in God's sight. Murder is a form of perverting justice, but there is another way of perverting justice that Yeshua discusses, and you may be familiar with it.

[Read Matthew 5:21-22]

Yeshua's words are HEAVY! The Torah states that a murderer will be required to pay in court, and Yeshua compares the severity of murder with harboring anger toward someone. In other words, Yeshua implies that if you harbor anger in your heart toward someone, you are guilty in court just like a man who murders another. Wow, this prompts us to consider, "Hmm, is there anyone I am angry with?" Harboring anger toward someone blinds you to everything God is trying to accomplish in and through them. Anger places you in a mindset where you act on your own thoughts rather than through the guidance of the Ruach Ha Kodesh (Holy Spirit).

Is it possible to be angry and not sin?

Discuss with the class

Ephesians 4:26, "Be angry, and yet do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger"

We can be angry about the evil things that people say and do, but we must not sin in our anger. Part of trusting in Yeshua is allowing Him to work in the lives of others as He needs to. We CAN trust Him to have His way in others, just like we trust Him to have His way in our lives.

Matthew 5:23-24, "Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering."

If you know of a friend or person who is angry with you, or someone you are angry with, Yeshua advises that you stop what you are doing and make it right as soon as possible. When we act this way, instead of out of anger, we bring blessings rather than guilt. Remember, anyone who harbors

anger in their heart toward another is guilty in the court of God. Let's do our best to pursue God's righteousness in our relationships.

Take time today to reach out to the person you need to speak to and mend the relationship. May Yeshua bless you.

Weekly Challenge: Read Ephesians 4. God, through Paul, wrote to the church at Ephesus with words that guided them in their Christ-like walk. Consider the instruction God gives us about living with one another in a way that is peaceful and honoring. Write down a situation in which you have struggled to love another person the way Paul encourages us to in Ephesians 4. Be prepared to recall that moment next week in class.

10 Commandments
You shall not commit adultery.
Adultery – what is that....?

Weekly Challenge: Read Ephesians 4. Write down a situation in which you have struggled to love another person the way Paul encourages us to in Ephesians 4. Be prepared to recall that moment next week in class.

Today, we will examine faithfulness in marriage and toward God. Yehovah, more than anything, desires us to be found faithful. In fact, when we are not faithful, it saddens Him terribly. God became deeply saddened and angry with the nation of Israel because they were unfaithful to Him. What did they do? They ran after other gods and people. In fact, there is one story that illustrates this unfaithfulness perfectly! Hosea was a prophet of God and became obedient to Him by marrying a woman who was very unfaithful. This woman's name was GOMER.

Hosea 1:2, "When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, "Go, take to yourself a wife of harlotry and have children of harlotry; for the land commits flagrant harlotry, forsaking the Lord."
**Harlotry can be communicated as unfaithfulness to a covenant.*

Why in the world would Yehovah ask His prophet, Hosea, to take a wife who was not faithful to her marriage covenant? God wanted to show Israel they were an unfaithful people

Hosea 4:1, "Listen to the word of the Lord, O sons of Israel, for the Lord has a case against the inhabitants of the land, because there is no faithfulness or kindness or knowledge of God in the land."

Israel kept looking to other nations to send them bread and water, wool and flax, oil for cooking, and wine to drink. Israel's unfaithfulness meant they stopped trusting and serving the Lord and began serving and trusting in others. Israel was acting in adultery by being unfaithful to God.

Faithfulness is important in every relationship we have. God, in fact, desires faithfulness more than anything else. Do you value faithfulness in relationships? Imagine your parents not faithfully caring for you. Or your friends not being kind and faithfully to you. Have you ever experienced a relationship in your life that wasn't faithful? **Talk about how unfaithfulness in a relationship can cause pain.*



Adultery occurs in a marital relationship when a man or a woman acts unfaithfully to the covenant of marriage by taking on a new and additional relationship with another person. This is unfaithfulness to the marriage covenant. A covenant should be considered Holy and highly valued. Marriage is a beautiful picture of God's love for man and woman, because it shows God's faithfulness toward us. When there is unfaithfulness in a marriage, it causes the world to

question whether God is faithful. Does this make sense? [READ Genesis 39:6b-9] ***have someone read this passage and guide them through the importance of Joseph's faithfulness.**

How did Joseph show faithfulness in this story?

1. He honored Potiphar
2. He valued the marriage between Potiphar and his wife
3. He feared God

Joseph proved that he was faithful and he trusted in the relationship he had with God more than anything else. You will be tested to see if you trust in the Lord. Will you be faithful? Will you be faithful to Yehovah, like He has been faithful to you?

Is there anything you have done recently that has not been faithful?

***talk about the basics, but also start to bring in their thoughts and motives which is a big motivator toward unfaithfulness.**

Did that action hurt a relationship? _____

Even though Joseph was treated unfaithfully by his brothers, he still gave them forgiveness and did not return evil to them. He trusted the Lord to protect him and guard him. Joseph's brothers felt very bad about what they had done to Joseph. When Joseph revealed himself, all the brothers rejoiced with great weeping and celebration. When we act unfaithfully to those around us and to the Lord, we need to go and make it right with them as soon as we can.

Adultery toward God and relationships hurt a lot. This is why God included the 7th commandment. "You shall NOT commit Adultery." He wants to protect you and your loved ones from this hurt. Today, make a decision to be faithful to God and faithful to the relationships He has given you. Determine to walk in God's truth and do not turn away from following Him. If you do this you will be blessed!

Weekly Challenge: The word for Faithfulness in Hebrew is אֱמֶת – "emet". It means: firmness, faithfulness, and truth.

Proverbs 3:3, "Do not let kindness and truth leave you; Bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart." The word Truth is "emet" which is also translated faithfulness. The challenge this week is to search the book of proverbs looking for the verses that include "emet".

Spend time thinking and meditating on these verses and ask Yeshua to give you understanding. Please be prepared to share what you found! (Please ask a parent for help on this one!)

Also, remember to memorize the 10 Commandments!

Have your parents sign off after you recite your verse! _____

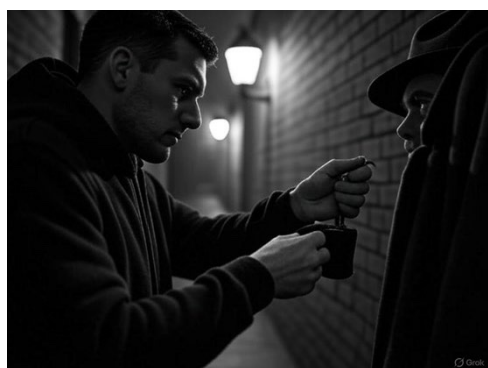
10 Commandments

You shall not steal.

Is that yours?

Review Weekly Challenge: Did you meditate on Proverbs 3:3? Please share your findings from last week's challenge with the class! **Have the Children recite the 10 commandments.*

This week we will be talking about the action of taking something that doesn't belong to you. Taking something that doesn't belong to you is called STEALING? Here is the definition of stealing: *to take (another person's property) without permission or legal right and without intending to return it.* -oxford dictionary. **Share* a story of something that was stolen from you.



Exodus 22:1, "If a man steals an ox or a sheep and slaughters it or sells it, he shall pay five oxen for the ox and four sheep for the sheep."

In the Torah, the Lord establishes a repayment value of four to five times what was taken. Imagine if whatever was stolen from you was paid back at four to five times the original value! This would transform an evil committed against you into a Just repayment according to the order of the Lord. This high repayment value would also deter many people from taking something that did not belong to them.

God doesn't want us to take things that do not belong to us. In fact, God sets such a high standard for ensuring that people are compensated for their belongings; we read this in the Torah:

Exodus 22:14, "If a man borrows *anything* from his neighbor, and it is injured or dies while its owner is not with it, he shall make full restitution."

Even an item that is damaged while being borrowed should receive full payment for replacement. There is a story from the book of 2 Kings that I want you all to read and understand.

[Read 2 Kings 6:1-7] = Read and take notes!

Q:1 The sons of the prophets needed to make more homes. They went to the wilderness to cut trees for beams in their construction. Elisha went with them. While they were cutting down trees, what happened to the axe? The head fell off into the water

Q:2 Why was the man so worried? The axe head was borrowed and he couldn't pay for it

Q:3 Elisha did something amazing through the power of the Lord. This miracle allowed the man to return the axe head without having to make a payment. What did Elisha do? He raised the metal axe head from the bottom of the river up so the man could grab it

The 8th commandment is very important to God because it teaches us how to love our neighbor in context. Think about it: if you had a special toy or belonging that meant a lot to you, and someone came over, mistreated it, and broke it, how would you feel? [Allow time to answer.] What if the person who broke the item didn't feel bad about it and didn't try to make it right? Would you feel love? Would you feel cared for by this person? Yehovah wants each of us to value the property of others so much that we do not take what is not ours, and we repair or replace anything that we've broken. It's part of showing love to our neighbor and love toward God. Here is a story about stealing that we all need to hear. [Read Acts 5:1-11]

Ananias sold some property and brought only part of the money to the disciples, yet he told them it was everything. Peter asked Ananias to clarify the total price of the property, but Ananias LIED and withheld some of the price of the land.

Why would Ananias want to withhold some of the money from the sale of his land? Greed-security-power Fear

Saphira, Ananias' wife, was given an opportunity to come clean and confess what Ananias had done. Did she tell the truth, or did she lie to God and the Apostles? NO, she lied

In verse 9, Peter says, "Why is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test?" Stealing is one way we test God. If we do not trust Him to give us what we need, we are tempted to take what isn't ours and lie about it. You can rob God by not giving Him what is His, and many people do.

Stealing usually involves money and possessions, but are there any other ways we can steal from God and others?

List additional ways people can take/steal: negative actions can steal JOY, being mean to someone can steal HOPE, speaking evil to a sibling can steal CONFIDENCE, cheating is a form of stealing, quality time, lying and not being honest steals away your character and causes great pain to those around you. *These are just some thoughts.

If you are ever tempted to take something that isn't yours, I challenge you to first think: 1. Have I asked God to give me my needs? 2. By taking this, will I show love to my neighbor? 3. Would I like it if someone took things from me?

Weekly Challenge: One of Yeshua's disciples was guilty of stealing. Can you find out who it was and what he stole? *John 12:6

10 Commandments

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

He did it?

Review Weekly Challenge: One of Yeshua's disciples was guilty of stealing can you find out who it was and what he stole? **JOHN 12:6**

The path down through the Kidron Valley was steep and strewn with rocks. The disciples struggled to keep the way illuminated enough to avoid the obstacles. Fortunately, they had the Light of the World with them, so it didn't seem too difficult. Once they arrived at the Mount of Olives, they began to pray.



The scene above depicts Yeshua and his disciples leaving the upper room after the Passover meal to make their way to the Mount of Olives. Remember that Judas Iscariot had already left during the meal. Yeshua said to Him, *"What you do, do quickly"* -John 13:27. The betrayal of Yeshua by Judas exemplifies what it means NOT to bear false witness.

After they had finished praying, a crowd approached them. Yeshua, getting up to meet the crowd, was followed by His disciples. Judas approached with intention. He then kissed Yeshua on the cheek, the sign of betrayal. Following Judas were guards, carrying long spears and torches. Based on the witness of Judas and his kiss, they knew Yeshua was the man they were to take.

Psalms 41:6-9, "And when he comes to see me, he speaks falsehood; His heart gathers wickedness to itself; When he goes outside, he tells it. All who hate me whisper together against me; Against me they devise my hurt, saying, "A wicked thing is poured out upon him, That when he lies down, he will not rise up again." Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up his heel against me."

Psalms 41 is one of the prophetic words we read in scripture, pointing us to Yeshua proclaimed as the Messiah. Isaiah 53 says that He was despised and rejected by men. He was considered unworthy, and yet He did nothing wrong. Have you ever been betrayed by a friend? Has there been a situation where someone lied about you and what you have done? ***Enter a personal story if you have one.**

Matthew 27:1-4, "Now when morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus to put Him to death; and they bound Him, and led Him away and delivered Him to Pilate the governor. Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned, he felt remorse and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests

and elders, saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to that yourself!"

Judas began to feel the conviction of his sin. The 9th commandment was given to ensure that we do not incriminate someone innocent by speaking evil against them. Ultimately, the Lord wants to protect us from sinning against others and against Himself. To bear false witness against someone is to lie about them, and the Lord hates a lying tongue. Proverbs 6 mentions seven things God considers an abomination to Him.

Proverbs 6:19, "A false witness who utters lies, and one who spreads strife among brothers."

Proverbs 14:5, "A trustworthy witness will not lie, but a false witness utters lies."

Genesis 39:12-19 [The false witness against Joseph]

What did the false witness of Potiphar's wife do to Joseph? Her testimony sent Innocent Joseph to Prison

What did Joseph's brothers tell their father about Joseph? Do you remember? They brought him the coat. The brother told Jacob that Joseph had been killed by wild animals.

Did they tell the truth or bear false witness? They bore false witness

Have you lied about someone, and did they get in trouble because of you? Share a personal story of what you said that put someone else in trouble

As followers of Yeshua, we need to protect our neighbors and their reputations. When you speak the truth in every circumstance, you prove yourself to be a trustworthy and valuable friend to those around you. You also find a blessing from the Lord. Seek and pursue the blessing from the Lord and be a friend who commits to telling the truth in every situation.

Ephesians 4:25, "Therefore, laying aside falsehood, speak truth each one of you with his neighbor, for we are members of one another."

Exodus 23:1, "You shall not bear a false report; do not join your hand with a wicked man to be a malicious witness."

**Take some time to apply these verses to the class. Give some context and wrap the lesson up with a challenge.*

Weekly Challenge: Read Numbers 13:25-33; 14:1-38. This is the account of the spies going into the Promised Land to check its defenses and its value. Please read the passages suggested and write down how dangerous giving a bad report can be.

10 Commandments

You shall not covet

I wish that was mine!

*Check with the class concerning last week's challenge question. Also, ask someone to recite the 10 commandments. (Think about an activity to help them recite the 10 commandments independently.)

Weekly Challenge: Read Numbers 13:25-33; 14:1-38. This is the account of the spies going into the Promised Land to check its defenses and its value. Please read the passages suggested and write down how dangerous giving a bad report can be.

We've come a long way in this study. I hope you have learned a lot about the heart of our heavenly Father and His desires for each of us. The 10th commandment states we should not covet. Hamad חָמַד is the Hebrew word for covet. It means "to take delight in." In the context of the commandment, we should not "take delight in" what belongs to someone else; rather, we should "take delight in" what God has given us. Can you think of a time when you wanted something that wasn't yours?



Coveting can take on many different forms. We can want someone's clothing, a car, a cell phone, or even another person's life. One of the biggest ways we covet is through our desire for money. People dream saying, "when I grow up I'm going to buy "fill in the blank" or "when I'm an adult I'm going to be "fill in the blank"". Make no mistake, there is nothing wrong with setting goals and working hard to accomplish them, but there is a problem when we set our eyes on things we plan to achieve in our own strength, causing us not to trust in the Lord for our future.

When a person does this, they are coveting.

In the Gospel of Luke, Yeshua is approached by a man who feels that an injustice has been done to him. His parents have died and his brother is not sharing the inheritance. So, he approaches Yeshua and says this, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." -Luke 12:13

What was the man wanting? He was wanting what belonged to his brother

LUKE 12:15, "Then He said to them, 'Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions."

When we focus on earthly possessions, our eyes are constantly scanning for what we can acquire, rather than concentrating on what God has given us or what He desires for us. Yeshua tells a parable about a rich farmer who began to contemplate in his own mind what he could do with all his crops. The story emphasizes being content with what Yeshua has provided, rather than seeking what the world can offer. [Read Luke 12:16-21] **[It will be important to bring the story together, as needed, so the students really understand the concepts presented by Yeshua]*

Did the rich landowner seek God for counsel in his plan? _____

Was the man's plan to increase for God's glory or his own benefit? _____

With all the man's plans for his future what was the one thing he didn't consider?

 Death

What does it mean to be "rich toward God"? _____

The verses below will help you understand what being "rich toward God" looks like. Enjoy the Bible drills!

Colossians 3:2, "Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth."

Luke 12:34, For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Proverbs 19:23, "The fear of the Lord leads to life, So that one may sleep satisfied, untouched by evil."

Matt 6:33, "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Being rich toward God means trusting Him to provide for every need you have and being content with what He has given you. Work hard in whatever you do, putting God first and relying on Him to meet your needs. Take time to thank Yehovah for all that He has provided. Write down your top three things that you are most grateful for.

1) _____ 2) _____
 3) _____

Weekly Challenge: Read Psalm 100 and write down: 1. All the commands given. 2. All that is said about the character of God, and 3. All that is mentioned about who we are. This exercise will really help you be grateful for God's plans for you and keep you humble in heart!

UNIT Challenge: MEMORIZE THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

The 2 *GREATS* of the Commandments

Love God how much?

Weekly Challenge: Read Psalm 100 and write down: 1. All the commands given. 2. All that is said about the character of God, and 3. All that is mentioned about who we are. This exercise will really help you be grateful for God's plans for you and keep you humble in heart!



Have you ever heard of the TWO GREATEST commandments? Today, we will examine the first of these commandments. While Yeshua was in Jerusalem, during the very week He was about to die on the cross, He spoke about these two commandments to the hard-hearted Pharisees. In ancient Israel, there were two major religious groups: the Sadducees and the Pharisees. The

Sadducees controlled the Temple worship and were part of the ruling class in Israel. Although they were fewer in number than the Pharisees, they held authority over the Temple service. The Pharisees, on the other hand, were the teachers of the people and were closely connected to the common folk. We understand how the Pharisees taught the people when we consider that the Apostle Paul studied under one of the leading rabbis of the time, Gamaliel.

One of the main differences between the Sadducees and the Pharisees was their understanding of how the dead will be resurrected. The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection because they recognized only the first five books of the Bible (the Torah) as being true. Yet, the Pharisees accepted both the Torah and the entire Tanakh (Old Testament) as Truth.

What are the first 5 books of the Bible? _____

However, the Pharisees believed in the entirety of the Old Testament, including the Torah and the Prophets. The Sadducees and the Pharisees were in conflict and often debated whether there was a Resurrection. One day, the Sadducees approached Yeshua and challenged Him regarding the teaching of the Resurrection. When Yeshua responded, explaining to them that they did not understand the Scriptures or the Power of God, a

Pharisee (an expert in the Law) approached Yeshua and asked Him, "Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?" **Ask the class if they have you ever thought about that question? In all of the Law, what is the greatest of them? Invite the Children to talk through this question.*

[Read Matthew 22:33-40] **Point out how Yeshua brings the question right BACK to the Scriptures for the Biblical answer!*

Deut 6:5, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

Love in Hebrew is אָהַב (Ahav), and it means "to have affection for." In other words, Yeshua says the greatest commandment is to "have affection" for God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your might. To have affection means to hold the highest form of value and desire for something.

What is one thing in this world that has the greatest amount of your affection? _____

The greatest of God's commandments, or rather, the deepest desire of our Lord, is for us to LOVE Him. How can we love God with our heart, soul, and might? Let's examine these:

Biblically speaking, the Heart is identified as our appetite; what we crave, what we desire, and what we long for. To **LOVE** God with our Heart is to crave and desire Him and His goodness. Here is an example from the Word:

Psalms 40:8, "I delight to do Your will, O my God; Your Law is within my heart."

The Soul is identified as our mind; what we think about, what we meditate on, and how we process the things we face. To **LOVE** God with our Soul is to consider His ways and respond according to His Truth. Here is an example from Scripture:

Psalms 19:14, "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer."

Might is identified as being our physical abilities and the way in which we **SERVE** God. How excellent is your service to God? How well do you obey Him? How willingly do you serve God and others? Here is an example from Paul in the New Testament:

Col 3:23-24, "Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve."

**Communicate the word "Heartily" infers with all your VITALITY (strength).*

So, reflecting on when the Pharisee asked Yeshua what the greatest commandment was, this is what Yeshua said,

Matt 22:37-38, "And He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the great and foremost commandment."

Yeshua's response surprised all the Pharisees. Hopefully, they were encouraged by Yeshua to **LOVE** God more and more. Hopefully, you are too! Shalom and Yeshua bless you.

Weekly Challenge: This week, write a letter to Yeshua. Take some time to reflect on all the things you appreciate about Him. If your mind goes blank about what to write, pray and ask Yeshua to reveal more of His word and goodness to you. Bring your letter next week to Bar and Bat to encourage the other students!

UNIT Challenge: MEMORIZE THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

The 2 greats of the Commandments I have to love my Neighbor-who is that?

*Check with the class concerning last week's challenge question. Also, ask someone to recite the 10 commandments. We need to begin to include the 2 greatest commandments as well. The final call to recite the commandments is the last Shabbat in February. (Think about an activity to help them recite the 10 commandments independently.)

***Weekly Challenge from last week:** This week write a letter to Yeshua. Spend time thinking about all the things you appreciate about Him. If you find your mind going blank as to what you should write, pray, asking Yeshua to show you more of His word and goodness. Bring your letter next week to Bar and Bat as an encouragement to the other students!

*Play the Bible Project video on Agape love [Roughly 5 mins long]. [I love this video, BUT they use Easter instead of Passover/Resurrection. Please be mindful of this and point it out to the children.]

https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/agape-love/?utm_source=web_social_share&medium=shared_video

Matthew 22:37-40, "And He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

*Communicate how on these 2 commandments every single one of God's commandments have been built. The word "Depend" κρεμάννυμι meaning "To Hang"!

Last week we learned the greatest commandment was to LOVE the Lord God with ALL our heart, soul, strength, and might. Today, we will focus on what it means to Love our neighbor as ourselves. The Hebrew word for Love is AHAV and it means to have "affection for". Yeshua tells the lawyer the two greatest commandments are to "have affection for" God and to have "affection for" our neighbor.

What or who is a neighbor? _____ **Discuss** _____

Has it ever been hard for you to love your neighbor? _____

*Ask about school relationships? Actual neighborhood relationships. Family members?

In Israel, there were several different people groups all living in the Land during the time of Yeshua. There were the Jewish people who had the inheritance of the Land given to them by Yehovah, but there was also a group known as the Samaritans. This group of Samaritans did not associate with the Jews, in fact, the two groups were often not kind to one another. The Jews called the Samaritans, "dogs"! And the Samaritans did not mingle with the Jews. In the 5th B.C. when the Greeks came into the land of Israel the Samaritans denied they had any connection

with the Jews, although the Samaritans were genetically connected to the Jews through the 10 northern tribes of Israel. Yeshua brings up a very powerful story concerning these two groups of people when he tells a story of a Jewish man and a Samaritan man.

Luke 10:30-31, "Jesus replied and said, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead.
³¹ And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

Wouldn't you expect a Priest, someone who was in service to God, to stop and treat this wounded man?

Luke 10:32 ³² Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.

Wouldn't you expect a Levite to stop and help this man out? He was a student of God's Law!! ____

Luke 10:33-35, "But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion, ³⁴ and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on *them*; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.'

***Talk through the Man being on the journey, Showing Compassion! Bandaging the wounds, and paying for expenses.**

A Samaritan! A people who hated the Jews stopped and showed this great love to a man in need. The Jewish man was his neighbor!

Why would this man do such a thing? Have you seen an act of love and kindness by someone? ____

Yeshua concluded the parable with this:

Luke 10:36-37, "Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers' *hands*?" And he said, "The one who showed mercy toward him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do the same."

Write down some ways in which you can Love your neighbor as yourself:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Matthew 7:12, “In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”

Weekly Challenge: This weeks challenge is to look for an opportunity to go out of your way to show Yehovah’s love to your neighbor. You should ask Yeshua to show you what He wants you to do and then do it! Be reading to share what Yeshua showed you to do in next week’s class.