

YOUTH EDUCATIONAL ADVENTURES

Growing God's Way

YE1I · Teacher Edition

Beginners · Year 3: Bible Heroes

Christian Educational Ministries — a faithful digital edition of the printed program

Do Right!

MEMORY VERSE

Deuteronomy 6:18a - “Do what is right and good in the Lord’s eyes” (NIRV)

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the children will be able to:

1. Explain that making the right choice is sometimes hard to do.
2. State that God gave the Ten Commandments to help us know what is right and wrong.
3. Tell that God wrote the commandments on stone tablets and gave them to Moses. State that
4. God wants us to do what is right and good – doing these things make us happy.

TOPICS & THEMES

Mt. Sinai

Obedience

Ten Commandments

PREPARATION

This is the first book in YEA’s third year curriculum. Throughout the lessons on the Ten Commandments, we will be using a puppet to gain the attention of the children, to help emphasize important points, and to ask review questions. The puppet may also be used to greet the children, to lead in the singing, in memory verse recitation, and also in parts of the activities. Experience has shown that children respond positively to puppets. Even though they may know that the puppet is not real, children relate to it as though it is alive. A recent puppet presentation in a local church held both adults and children of all ages spellbound. You are encouraged to make an investment in several puppets to be used in conjunction with this year’s curriculum. They will be used over and over again and will become like old friends to the children. Inexpensive puppets can often be found in Dollar Stores, other discount stores, or you can make your own.

For the puppet skit you will need a female teacher or helper to play the part of Donna and someone to operate the Dudley-Do-Right (dog) puppet. Be familiar with your part and practice the skit ahead of time. On construction paper, make a sign that says, “Do Not Dig.”

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Have Dudley ask the questions.

1. Is it easy or hard to make good choices?
2. Why did Donna tell Dudley not to dig in the flower bed?
3. How does God feel when we do things we shouldn't do?
4. How can you know what you should and shouldn't do?
5. What did God give Moses to help us make good choices?
6. When you obey God's Ten Commandments, how does God feel?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Give each child a lump of modeling clay or Play Doh. Have them form two flat "tablets." With a pencil, have them "carve" the number 10, or numbers 1- 10 on their tablets.

SONG

"O Be Careful Little Eyes" is on page 39 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the children in prayer thanking God for the Ten Commandments that show us the right things to do and wrong things we shouldn't do. Have them recite the prayer in the Students' book.

God is #1

MEMORY VERSE

Deuteronomy 6:4 “The Lord is the one and only God” (NIRV).

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the children will be able to:

1. State that there is only one true God.
2. Give examples of why God is #1.
3. Tell why we should worship God alone.

TOPICS & THEMES

Putting God First

Ten Commandments

Putting God First

Worship God

PREPARATION

“Our God is a person and not an abstraction, so this helps us in teaching young children. A person is concrete. A person lives somewhere, does things, says things, loves, gets angry and so forth” (Teaching Kindergartners by Ruth Beechick).

But the God in heaven is so much more than just a person. He is the Creator-God, the Eternal One, the Alpha and Omega, the Most Holy, the Almighty, Living God. Most of these attributes, however, are abstract, and are beyond the understanding of young children.

Today’s lesson is laying a foundation for the little ones. In simple terms, it presents God as the very best, and therefore worthy of our worship. It pleases God when we worship Him out of a heart of love. And, obedience to God’s commands will ultimately bring us happiness.

Before class, enlarge and copy enough of the badge patterns onto construction paper for each child to have one. (You may want to cut these out beforehand for young children.) Make one badge that says, “You’re #1” to be used in the lesson. Cut yarn into 20" lengths and cover one end with tape to make it easier for the children to thread through the hole.

Use the Dudley-Do-Right puppet to greet the children. Use his name to remind the children that the Ten Commandments teach us how to Do Right! Wear a large foam finger (like those worn at

ball games) when cheering.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. How do we know that God in heaven is the one true God?
2. How can we show God that we love Him with all of our hearts?
3. Should we bow down or pray to statues?
4. Who is #1?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Give each child a badge pattern. Help them apply glue to the rays of the badge. Sprinkle glitter over the glue. (Pour excess glitter into a shallow box lid to be used again.) Punch a hole in the badge. Have the children thread a piece of yarn through the hole and tie the ends together. The badge can be worn home and hung on their door as a reminder that, “God Is #1.”

SONG

(Use the puppet to lead the children in singing.) “Praise Him, Praise Him” is on page 76 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the students in prayer, thanking God for being Who He is, praising Him for His love and majesty.



What's in a Name?

MEMORY VERSE

Deuteronomy 5:11 - "Do not misuse the name of the Lord your God." (NIRV).

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the children will be able to:

1. State that God's name is very special
2. Recite the third commandment (Deuteronomy 5:11).
3. Name some right ways to use God's name.

TOPICS & THEMES

Taking God's Name in Vain

Ten Commandments

Taking God's Name in Vain

PREPARATION

"Children in the concrete stage of thinking need lots of help . . . to become acquainted with what is right to do and what is wrong to do" (Teaching Kindergartners by Ruth Beechick). Learning and teaching what is right is much harder than teaching the negative. Children can often give you a list of things they shouldn't do. We often think of sin in terms of doing things that God doesn't want us to do. But it is much more. Therefore we need to do more teaching about what is good to do.

Before you come to class, enlarge (and cut out) enough dog patterns for each child to have one.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. How does God feel when people use His name in the wrong way?
2. Is using God's name in prayer the right or wrong way to use His name?
3. What are some other good ways to use God's name?
4. What will God do to people who misuse His name?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Give each child a paper bag and a Dudley-Do-Right pattern. Have the children color Dudley. Cut out the dog head. (You may want to do this ahead of time for young children.) Glue the dog head onto the flap of the paper bag. Have the children use their puppet to answer the Review Questions.

SONG

“Jesus Loves Me” is on page 6 and “God Is So Good” is on page 87 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the children in prayer asking God to help them always use His name in the right way.



The Sabbath Day

MEMORY VERSE

Exodus 31:14 - “Keep the Sabbath day. It is holy to you” (NIrV).

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the children will be able to:

1. State that God rested on the Sabbath day.
2. Explain that God knew man needed a day to rest so He gave us the Sabbath.
3. State that Jesus did good things for others on the Sabbath day.
4. Name some good things we can do on the Sabbath day.

TOPICS & THEMES

Holy

Jesus, Healing

Jesus Sets Example

Sabbath

Sabbath Conduct

Ten Commandments

Sabbath

PREPARATION

The Ten Commandments are God’s guide to living a life pleasing to Him. The first four commandments teach us how to have a right relationship with God. Acknowledging God as the only true God, worshiping Him and Him only, honoring His holy name, and keeping the Sabbath as a day of rest and worship will not only please God, but will also make us happy.

On the seventh day of creation, God rested – but not because He was tired. He had His crown of creation, man, in mind when He set the Sabbath aside as a day of rest. God supplied everything His creation needed, including a day of rest.

As parents and teachers we are given the responsibility not only of teaching children to memorize the Ten Commandments, but also to help them identify practical ways they can keep and obey them.

Fold construction paper in half forming cards. You will need one for each child. Copy the following verse onto construction paper. (Note: You may need a couple of extra volunteers to help with the activity during class.)

God, Before I call you, you're already there. You know what I need, and I know that you care.

Use the puppet to greet the children. He can listen to them recite their memory verse and ask the review questions.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

(Use the puppet to ask the following questions.)

1. Why do trees lose their leaves in the fall?
2. What did God do on the seventh day of creation?
3. Why did God tell us to rest on the Sabbath?
4. What are some good things you can do on the Sabbath?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Give each child a sheet of colored construction paper folded with the verse printed on it. Allow the children to decorate the front of the card by gluing silk flowers, pictures cut from used greeting cards, stickers, glitter, or any combination of items. Help them to sign their name inside the card. Tell them to give the card to someone who has been sick, to a grandparent, or to someone they would like to invite to Sabbath School.

SONG

"Praise Him, Praise Him" is found on page 76 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the children in prayer, thanking God for giving us everything we need. Thank Him for giving us the Sabbath day to rest, to worship Him, and to do good things for others.

Honor Father and Mother

MEMORY VERSE

Exodus 20:12 - “Honor your father and mother. Then you will have a long life”
(Paraphrase).

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the children will be able to:

1. Name the young preacher who honored his mother and grandmother by obeying God.
2. Tell that it makes God happy and brings Him honor when we obey.
3. State that God commands us to honor our father and mother.
4. Explain that obeying shows you love someone. It is better than a gift!

TOPICS & THEMES

Honor God

Honor Your Father and Mother

Obedience

Ten Commandments

Honor Your Father and Mother

Timothy

PREPARATION

Children are in the heart of God. Jesus instructed His disciples to allow children to come to Him. It is our responsibility as parents and teachers to protect and correct them – we are their advocates. We should look out for their physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being. Nothing brings greater joy than to see them grow into mature, well-adjusted, God-honoring adults.

As in the case of young Timothy, it brings honor to parents when their children honor God in their lives. Paul recognized that, because of the training Timothy received from his mother and grandmother, he had authentic faith.

Obedience to God’s commands and to those in authority is pleasing to God and brings honor to Him. In rebuking King Saul, Samuel said, “It is better to obey than to offer a sacrifice. It is better to do what he says than to offer the fat of rams” (1 Samuel 15:22). Obedience demonstrates honor better than giving gifts!

Before you come to class, cut enough poster board pieces into 6" x 5" rectangles for each child to have one. On jumbo craft sticks, write "I Love You" and "I'll Obey." Each child in class will need one of each.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What was the name of the young preacher who had been taught by his mother and grandmother?
2. Is it better to honor your parents with a gift or with obedience?
3. Is it better to honor God with a gift or with obedience?
4. God says, "If you love me, keep my commandments." How does God want you to show that you love Him?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Give each child a piece of poster board, 2 craft sticks, and magnet strips. Glue one "I Love You" craft stick to the top of the poster board and the "I'll Obey" craft stick at the bottom. On the back place the self-adhesive magnet strips. Slide a picture of the child between the two craft sticks. This picture frame can be placed on the refrigerator to remind the child to honor their father and mother.

SONG

"Jesus Wants Me For A Sunbeam" is on page 21 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Have the children repeat the following as a simple prayer: Lord, Teach me to honor my mother and father. In what I do and say, help me always obey. Amen.

Do Not Murder

MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 5:44 - “Love your enemies. Pray for those who hurt you” (NirV).

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the children will be able to:

1. Explain that killing is taking a life that belongs to God.
2. Tell that hating people will lead to doing bad things to them.
3. Tell that God wants us to love each other, even those who are mean to us.
4. State that God will help us be nice to people who are mean to us.

TOPICS & THEMES

David

Murder

Saul

Ten Commandments

Murder

PREPARATION

Television, movies, video games, cartoons – today’s children are being bombarded with violence. The media has desensitized our children to the true consequences of violent behavior. One day care administrator was deeply concerned when a four year old child threatened another because he was angry. The child said, “I’m going to kill you! Then I will kill your mommy and daddy!” Even at the tender age of four, violence was his method of solving difficulties.

If this trend continues, what does the future hold for our children? The Scriptures tell us that dangerous times will come in the last days. We are warned in 2 Timothy 3 that, “People will love themselves. They will love money. They will brag and be proud. They will tear others down. They will not obey their parents. They won’t be thankful or holy. They won’t love others. They won’t forgive others. They will tell lies about people. They will be out of control. They will be wild. They will hate what is good. . . . They will love what pleases them instead of loving God.”

Most children know that murder is wrong. But, how many of them realize that anger, jealousy, and hatred can lead to dangerous behavior? Jesus expanded on the sixth commandment by

saying, “Anyone who murders will be judged for it. But here is what I tell you. Do not be angry with your brother. Anyone who is angry with his brother will be judged” (Matthew 5:21-22). The goal is to arrest evil behavior before it has a chance to mature – to “nip it in the bud!”

Before you come to class, enlarge and copy the heart pattern onto construction paper. Cut or tear red and pink tissue paper into 1" squares. Cut yarn into 20" pieces.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the Sixth Commandment?
2. Was King Saul going to keep or break the Sixth Commandment?
3. Was David going to keep or break the Sixth Commandment?
4. Who do you rely on to help you love people who are mean to you?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Give each child a heart and a piece of yarn. Help the children cut out the heart. Punch a hole in the heart. Have the children thread the yarn through the hole and tie the ends together. Spread a thin layer of glue on the blank side of the heart. Crumple the tissue squares and cover the glue with tissue paper. The children can hang this heart on their door to remind them that God wants us to love those who are mean to us.

SONG

“This Is My Commandment” is on page 4 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the children in prayer, asking God to help them love their enemies and people who are mean to them.



Honor Marriage

MEMORY VERSE

Hebrews 13:4a - “All of you should honor marriage” (NIRV).

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the children will be able to:

1. Tell that marriage was God’s idea.
2. State that God wants everyone to honor marriage.
3. Explain that a bride and groom promise to love and honor each other.
4. Say that God expects us to keep our promises.

TOPICS & THEMES

God’s Promises

Jesus, His Miracles

Water to Wine

Marriage

Promises, Oaths

Ten Commandments

Adultery

Wedding

PREPARATION

Although children are constantly testing boundaries, researchers have found that rules give children of all ages a sense of security. They want and need to know what is expected of them. God gave us rules, including the Ten Commandments, because He loves us, and so that we will know what is expected of us.

The seventh commandment, Do not commit adultery, is a concept that is far beyond the understanding of preschool children. These children, however, will be bombarded by television (including cartoons), movies, toys, and adults around them, with behavior that will influence their moral values when they get older.

Paul teaches us in 1 Corinthians 6:18 that sexual sins (and adultery is a sexual sin) are sins against our own bodies. And sins have consequences. In our society, where families (even

Christian families) are fragmented because of adultery, children need the reassurance that their parents love them and love each other.

In a wedding ceremony, the bride and groom promise to love, in spite of circumstances, and promise to honor one another by being monogamous and undefiled. This lesson strives to teach children God's ideal – that husbands and wives should be faithful to their wedding vows and to their God.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

(Use Dudley to ask the questions.)

1. Whose idea was marriage in the first place? (God's.)
2. Who were the first bride and groom? (Adam and Eve.)
3. What is so special about a wedding? (The bride and groom promise to love and honor each other.)
4. How can a bride and groom Honor Marriage? (Keep their promises.)
5. What does God want you to do when you make a promise? (Keep your promise.)
6. What did God promise you and me? (Love us, never leave us, home in His Kingdom.)
7. Does God keep His promises?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Repeat the Game at the beginning of this lesson, adding additional actions. Allow different children to lead in the game.

SONG

“This Is My Commandment” is on page 4 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the children in prayer. Ask God to help the children keep their promises, especially when they get older and get married. Thank God for keeping His promises to us.

Do Not Steal

MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 5:21 - “The Lord watches a man’s ways” (NIrV).

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the children will be able to:

1. Define stealing as taking something, without asking, that doesn’t belong to you.
2. Tell that God sees what you do, even when no one else does.
3. State that stealing is disobeying God’s commandment.
4. State that God wants us to give and share, not take things that are not ours.

TOPICS & THEMES

Generosity

God’s Omniscience

Holy Conduct

Sharing

Stealing

Ten Commandments

Stealing

PREPARATION

Children learn, very early, the difference between what is right and what is wrong by the consequences for their actions. They must be shown that intentionally doing wrong will yield correction, punishment, retribution, or disapproval. When there are no consequences for wrongdoing, or when the consequences are inconsistent, the child is led to believe that the action is not so bad.

The book of Proverbs tells us to train a child in the way he should go. Teaching the Ten Commandments is part of that training. We cannot earn entrance into God’s Kingdom by keeping the commandments, but adherence to them is foundational to moral and spiritual development and happiness. And, disobedience to them carries consequences.

Before you come to class, enlarge and copy the flower stem and verse onto construction paper. Place several layers of folded paper towel in the bottom of a shallow pie tin. Cover the paper

towel with a mixture of tempera paint and a few drops of liquid soap. Place a bowl of candy on a table in plain sight.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. When you take something that doesn't belong to you, without asking, what are you doing?
2. What did Dudley steal?
3. Who sees everything you do?
4. When Achan took something he shouldn't, how did God feel?
5. What does God's command say?
6. What does God want you to do instead of stealing?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Flower Print

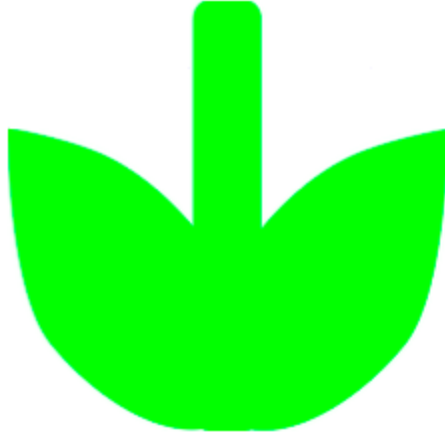
One at a time, press each child's palm on the paint covered paper towel, then onto their construction paper, making a flower on the stem.

SONG

"O Be Careful Little Eyes" is on page 39 of the Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the children in prayer, asking God to help them share with others instead of stealing things that don't belong to them.



**Use your hands to share,
not to steal.**

Be Honest

MEMORY VERSE

Ephesians 4:25 - “Stop lying to each other; tell the truth. . .” (Living Bible).

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the children will be able to:

1. Tell that lying can hurt, just like fire.
2. Explain that when we lie, something bad usually happens.
3. Give examples of good ways to use our words.
4. Recite their memory verse.

TOPICS & THEMES

Forgiveness

Lying

Ten Commandments

Lying

Truth

PREPARATION

Many preschoolers, and adults as well, have the mistaken idea that God sits in heaven waiting for us to do something wrong, just so He can punish us. Our own actions carry consequences without God lifting a finger. It is important that we teach children that they can please God. God wants the best for His children. By teaching them the positive form of this commandment, you will teach them the way to live lives pleasing to God.

The opening object lesson will call for the utmost caution since you will be demonstrating the destructive power of fire. Make certain that you keep the flame well out of reach of the children and that you thoroughly extinguish it when finished.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

(Have Dudley ask the review questions.)

1. When we tell lies, how are our words like a fire?
2. If you think you are in trouble, is it better to tell the truth or a lie?

3. What happened to Jesus when men told lies about Him?
4. What usually happens when you tell lies, good things or bad things?
5. What are some good ways we can use our words?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Play True or False. Line the children up against a wall. Make a series of statements one at a time: My hair is red. I have on a blue dress. I am a man. I am not wearing shoes. I am wearing glasses. My shoes are black. The door is open. The floor has carpet. etc. If the statement is true, the children take a step forward. If the statement is false, they must stand still. Children acting on a false statement must go back to the wall and start again. The first child to make it across the room is the winner.

SONG

“O Be Careful Little Eyes” is on page 39 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Have the children repeat this rhyming prayer as their prayer.

Dear Heavenly Father,
In all I say and do,
may my words be always true.
Telling lies will make you sad,
but the truth will make you glad.
In Jesus’ name.
Amen

Do Not Envy

MEMORY VERSE

1 Corinthians 13:4 - “Love is kind. It does not want what belongs to others” (NIRV).

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson, the children will be able to:

1. State that when you envy you are not thankful for what you have.
2. Tell what King Ahab did when he didn't get what he wanted.
3. Explain what God wants us to do instead of being greedy.
4. Recite their memory verse about being kind and not envying.

TOPICS & THEMES

Ahab

Contentment

Envy/Jealousy

Greed

Jezebel

Lying

Murder

Naboth

Obedience

Stealing

Ten Commandments

Coveting

Lying

Murder

Stealing

PREPARATION

While watching toddler children at play, it soon becomes evident that you don't have to teach them to be greedy or envious. It is inborn. Give one child a new toy. Before long, the other

children will all discard what they were playing with and grasp for the same toy saying, “Mine, mine!” or “Gimme, gimme!”

God wants to give us all good things. We are told to make our requests known unto Him (Philippians 4:6). Desiring things is not wrong in and of itself. It becomes sin when the desire is so strong that we are willing to do anything to obtain the desired object, even if it hurts someone else.

We must take care to be thankful for what we already have. God’s priority is found in Matthew 6:33, “But put God’s kingdom first. Do what he wants you to do. Then all of those things will also be given to you” (NIRV).

Teaching preschoolers not to be envious (covetous) involves teaching them to share, to be kind, and to be thankful for what they have.

Before you come to class, cut out magazine pictures of families, clothes, food, houses, cars, pets, and toys that would be of interest to children. You will need enough pictures for each child to have several. Place a sheet of butcher’s paper on the wall. Draw a line dividing the paper into two sections. Label the left side, “Wants” and the right side, “Thankful For.”

Begin this lesson with an object lesson on envy. Place the Dudley-Do-Right puppet on a soda bottle behind a stack of books, so it appears he is looking over them. (An assistant, Greedy Greta, enters the room with her arms full of toys and dolls.)

REVIEW QUESTIONS

(Have Dudley ask the questions.)

1. What does it mean to envy or be greedy?
2. What did Greta do when she didn’t get what she wanted?
3. Is envy a good thing or a bad thing?
4. What did King Ahab want?
5. What did he do when he didn’t get what he wanted?
6. What should we do instead of envying?

TEACHER-DIRECTED ACTIVITY

Tell the children it is okay to want things, but they should first be thankful for what they have. Have the children choose magazine pictures and glue them on the butcher’s paper either under “Want” or “Thankful For.”

SONG

“God Is So Good” is on page 87 of Kids Classics Collection.

CLOSING PRAYER

Lead the children in prayer, thanking God for giving the Ten Commandments that teach us how to Grow God’s Way.