

2.19 GOD'S FRIENDS FOLLOW HIS INSTRUCTIONS

Topic: Becoming Friends of God

Subtopic: God Gives Instructions for Daily Living

2B. Scripture

Class: Standard II (2nd Grade)

Objectives:

Knowledge: When students are asked to explain how the Bible is a guide for living, they will say that God's rules for living show us how we can live together peacefully.

Attitude: Students will learn the Ten Commandments and choose to follow them.

TEACHER ACTIVITIES

Introduction:

1. Have you ever wondered how we can know how to live to please God?
2. If you want to play soccer, what enables you to play as a team?

Bible Story:

3. How did God teach the people He promised to lead into a new land how He expected them to live together? Tell the story of the Ten Commandments from Ex. 19:1-20:17; 24:12.

Suggested Discussion Questions

4. Who gave Moses these commandments?
5. These commandments have two parts. What are they?
6. What four ways do we relate to God?
7. What six ways does God tell us to treat one another?

Application:

8. How does each of these commandments affect us today?
9. Will you commit these ten commandments to memory?

Evaluation:

10. If we follow these rules from God, is it possible for us to live at peace with one another? How?

Materials Needed:

Exercise Book

Memory Verse Exercise Book

Scripture:

References: Exodus 19:1-20:17; 24:12
Teacher's Notes

Memory Verse: "We will do everything that the Lord has said." Exodus 19:8

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Introduction:

1. Students will express their thoughts.
2. Rules for a game allow us to play together.

Bible Story:

3. Students will listen and consider the rules Moses was given for us all.

Possible Answers to Questions:

4. God gave Moses these rules for living on the top of Mount Sinai
5. How to relate to God and how to relate to one another.
6. A) No other gods; B) Make no idols or worship them; C) Not speak God's name except with reverence; D) Remember the sabbath day
7. A) Honor parents; B) Never kill another; C) Don't sleep with someone outside of marriage; D) Never steal; E) Never lie; F) Never long for things someone else has

Application:

8. See Teacher's Notes
9. Students will commit these commandments to memory

Evaluation:

10. Yes because God will be at the focus of our lives and we will care about each other instead of wanting to destroy them or crave the things they have. We can trust one another.

Extension Activities

1. In Memory Verse Exercise book, write the memory verse for today: "We will do everything that the Lord has said." Exodus 19:8
2. In Exercise book, have students write "Friends of God Obey God's Rules". Underneath, have the children draw two tablets of stone and underneath the picture, write "The Ten Commandments".
3. Discuss together the importance of rules: What would happen if?... a) drivers didn't drive on the left side of the road? (or in America on the right side); b) printers decided to print reading from right to left instead of left to right? c) if your goal in soccer could be at either end of the court? d) the school day began whenever you arrived? Involve students in thinking of times when rules make living much less chaotic.
4. Ask students to memorize the Ten Commandments which they will recite for the teacher when they are ready. Perhaps the teacher can give a reward for their memorizing the Ten Commandments.

NOTES FOR TEACHERS

Highlights for the Bible Story

1. The Israelite people had been suffering as slaves for many years.
2. God called a man, named Moses, to lead the people out of Egypt.
3. They came to the bottom of Mount Sinai two months after leaving Egypt.
4. God instructed Moses to mark a boundary around the bottom of the mountain and tell the people they were not to cross that boundary because God was going to present Himself to the people.
5. When a loud trumpet blew, the people came toward the mountain.
6. The mountain was covered with smoke because God had come down on it in fire. The people were very frightened.
7. God called Moses to come to the top of the mountain.
8. There God spoke these words which we know today as the Ten Commandments. They are laws to show us how to relate to God and how to relate to each other.
9. Then God gave Moses two stones on which He had written the ten laws. He was to take them down for the people to learn from.
10. These laws are guides for us today as well.

Think with the Students How the Ten Commandments Are to be Lived Out

These commandments were given by God to help all of us know how to live with each other.

The first four commandments teach us how we relate to God.

1. **Worship no God but me.** We must love God more than anyone or anything else. What are some things we might put before God? [things, self-recognition etc.]
2. **Do not bow down to any idol or worship it.** Making idols from wood or stone cannot love you or help you. God alone created you and me. He is alive and loves us

and we are to worship no one but Him. Are there things people worship today besides God? [Money, jobs...]

3. **Do no use my name for evil purposes.** We should use God's name only with respect, remembering how great and holy a name it is. Do not swear. If you hear God's name spoken without respect, what should you do?
4. **Observe the Sabbath and keep it holy.** God knows how important it is for us to rest on the seventh day. He had to rest after the six days He took to create the world. Today we rest on Sunday because Jesus rose from the grave on "the first day of the week." Do you see this commandment being followed in your home and community?

Commandments 5-10 teach us how to relate to one another.

5. **Respect your father and your mother.** Next to God, the most important people to obey are parents. We honor them by doing what they tell us.
6. **Do not commit murder.** We must not kill other people. When God's Son, Jesus, came to earth many years later, he said that hating someone is as bad as killing that person. [Review the four rules for Talking Together when we are tempted to hate someone that might even lead to murder: a) Stay calm; b) Listen to the other; c) Care about the other person; d) Talk together and resolve the issue.
7. **Do not commit adultery.** When a married man sleeps with a woman who is not his wife, or a married woman sleeps with a man who is not her husband, it is called adultery. God says adultery is wrong.
8. **Do not steal.** Taking something that doesn't belong to you is stealing. If you have ever done this, God says you should give it back or pay for it. Identify some ways we steal from one another that is not right. [taking loquats from your neighbor's trees without permission, sneaking food from the dining room, continuing to talk when the teacher is calling the class to order,....]
9. **Do not accuse anyone falsely.** This means we must never say anything about another person that isn't true. That includes altering the truth by leaving out a little or adding a little to make it different from the truth. Lying displeases God.
10. **Do not desire another man's house... or anything else that he owns.** Don't be upset when you can't have things other people have. Be happy for them. What happens when you want something someone else has? [become jealous, end up stealing whatever to satisfy your desire,]

Key Points

The Ten Commandments are guidelines for us today as much as they were in the lives of the Israelites. Four of them tell us how to relate to God and six of them tell us how to relate to one another. Students need to discover how to apply these commandments in their daily lives.

Teacher Evaluation

Am I a good example to my students of living out these Ten Commandments? If there is even one commandment I have broken, am I willing to seek God's forgiveness and make it right with anyone I have harmed? How can I help the students remember to follow these commandments every day?

