

ROAD TRIP

WEEK 4

BIG IDEA

We obey God by loving everyone.

BIBLE

Exodus 20:15-17; Romans 13:8-10; I
Thessalonians 2:7-8

TALK

Sit on the rug with your group and chat with them about their week. Remember to ask about prayer requests and things that might be happening in your kids' lives.

LARGE GROUP TIME

ACTIVITY | Commandment Scramble

- Have a team of two from each group search the room for the cards of their color (assign each group a color before the game begins). They will have to put their cards in the proper order.-

MUSIC | Road Trip Jams!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Turn up your car radio. . . it's time to worship God on the go! Play some fun worship songs like these:*
 - "[Your Love for Me](#)"
 - "[Gonna Serve](#)"

QUESTION | Anywhere in the World

- **If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?**
- It's cool to hear everyone's different responses. Even though we had different answers, there is beauty in hearing everyone share.
- That's one way to love everyone: to hear them share something they love or care about and share in their excitement with them. We can take this practice along with us as we get to practice loving each other today.

SCRIPTURE | Exodus 20:15-17

- We are nearing the end of our road trip where we're hearing about the Ten Commandments and what they mean for us.-
- So far, we talked about seven of them:
 - God first.
 - No idols (worship God only).
 - Respect God's name.
 - Worship and rest on God's day.
 - Honor your parents.
 - Don't hurt or hate others.
 - Keep all promises, including your marriage.
- Let's take a look at the remaining three commandments!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read Exodus 20:15-17 aloud.*
 - **PRETEEN HACK:***-If you did the butcher paper activity last week with the timeline, have preteens add the phrases for 8, 9 and 10 as you read through them today.*
- These commandments or rules are all about living in community with others and loving them. God wants us to love people. But how?
- Well, we can show love by respecting people's things and not taking what doesn't belong to us.
- We can show love by choosing to be honest at all times and resisting the urge to say things that are not true, or things we don't have all the facts about.
- We can show love by being happy for someone when they have something good happens to them, instead of being jealous and wanting it for ourselves.

- To be completely honest, only God can perfectly love everyone. But because we love God, we have to try to love the people God loves, too! It's a good thing God gives us these examples of things to do – and not to do – as ways to show our love to others!

THE BIG IDEA | We obey God by loving everyone.

And lastly, we have today's Big Idea: **We obey God by loving everyone.**

VIDEO | Road Trip, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's [teaching video](#).*

STORY | A Traffic Jam

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Share a story about a time when you were faced with a dilemma regarding any of the commandments we talked about today. As you do, place a toy car on a table or the floor where the kids can see. Invite kids to share their stories, and each time they do, have them stack a car behind you.-*
 - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Provide some toy cars and a [road rug](#) so that kids can play and create their own traffic jam as they listen to the story.-*
- **Have you ever been in a situation where you really wanted something that wasn't yours?**
- **Have you ever been in a situation where you didn't want to tell the truth?**
- We all make mistakes from time to time. But if let those mistakes pile up, they can create this "traffic jam" in our hearts, so that they slow down or block our way to God.

REFLECTION | Love is the Law

- It's easy to say that you're supposed to love everybody, but in real life,

it's really hard to do, especially if a person isn't nice to you.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read Romans 13:8-10 aloud.*
- Up until now, we have been thinking that each of the commandments is the law, but this Bible passage says that we are keeping the law when we love!
- Think about the laws of the road. **Why do we stop at a red light? Is it so we won't get a traffic ticket, or because it's the safest thing to do?** Both answers are correct, but most of all, it's best to obey traffic rules because we want to be safe, not just to avoid getting in trouble.
- In the same way, God doesn't want us to just keep these commandments because we're forced to. God wants us to follow these rules because it's how we best love God and others.

SCRIPTURE | I Thessalonians 2:7-8

- So far, we've talked about how loving everyone isn't always that easy. People aren't always lovable, and honestly, we're not always lovable ourselves.
- Our buddy, Paul, has a lot to say about love – he literally wrote an entire chapter in the Bible on love found in I Corinthians 13. But this is what he wrote to his friends in a city called Thessalonica.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read I Thessalonians 2:7-8 aloud.*
- These verses tell us how Paul's friends loved each other by caring for each other. And because there was so much love there, they were happy sharing about God and other good things amongst themselves.
- When we make the decision to love others with God's love, it gets easier to keep commandments eight through ten – it's a lot harder to hurt people when you love them!

ACTIVITY | Share the Love

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Seat the kids in a circle. Explain that you are going to play some music as they pass around a heart pillow. Encourage them to imagine they are passing love to each other as they pass the pillow. When the music stops, the kid holding the pillow has to recite today's Big Idea and is out of the circle. Once they are out, they have to hop on one*

foot around the circle until they get back to their spot. Continue to play as time allows.

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank You for each person You've put in our lives to love. Help us to love others enough to respect their things, to tell the truth, and be happy for their blessings. Teach us each day to show our love for You through our love for others.
 - **PRETEEN HACK:**-Enlist the help of another volunteer to pray for the group.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **What is commandment number eight?**
- **What is the ninth commandment? What does it mean?**
- **What does it mean to 'covet?' Why is that not a good thing?**
- **Re-read Romans 13:8-10. What does it mean to "love your neighbor as yourself?"**
- **Why do you think God gave us the Ten Commandments?**
- **Do you find it easy or hard to love everyone? What makes it easy? What makes it hard?**
- **How would keeping commandments eight, nine, and ten help us love others?**

ACTIVITY | LUV EVRY 1

- Today, we've talked about how **we obey God by loving everyone**. It isn't always easy, but God wants us to be kind and compassionate to those in our family, in our community, our school, and our church. Think about

ways you can show love to someone in each of these categories this week!

- To help us remember to love everybody, we are going to create our very own license plates!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print the license plate printable on cardstock paper and instruct the kids to create personalized license plates using art supplies. Help them brainstorm and list ways they can show love to someone in their family, their community, their school, or their church. Include some of these items on the back of their license plate.*
 - **PRETEEN HACK:** *Have kids write their personalized license plate name in pencil, then trace over it using a glue gun. Then cover the license plate entirely with some foil, rubbing it down to expose the glue gun letters below. Decorate with colored permanent markers if desired.-*
 - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Provide a buddy and/or magazine pictures friends can glue on their license plate.*

MEMORY VERSE | Luke 10:27 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Practice this month's memory verse with the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) we've provided.*