

ROAD TRIP

WEEK 3

BIG IDEA

We obey God by loving our families.

BIBLE

Exodus 20:12-14; Matthew 5:21-24; I
Thessalonians 1:2-7

TALK

Sit on your rugs and spend some time getting to know your kids. Talk to them about their weeks, their favorite tv shows etc.

Ask them how- they spent time worshipping God this past week.

ACTIVITY: Mother/Father May I?

Play the traditional game of Mother May I with your small group.

LARGE GROUP TIME

ACTIVITY Match the Commandments

Two volunteers from each team will work together to arrange the first four commandments in order. The first team with the commandments organized correctly and in the correct order wins.

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:*

- "Yes I Will"
- "Deep Cries Out"

SCRIPTURE | Exodus 20:12-14; Matthew 5:21-24

- We're on the road for week three of our virtual road trip to hear more about The Ten Commandments or rules God wants us to live by.
- These are the first four we talked about so far – let's review them together:
 - Put God first.
 - No idols. (Worship God only)
 - Respect God's name.
 - Worship and rest on God's day
- Next up, we have commandments five, six, and seven. Each of these commandments are about loving people, especially our families.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read Exodus 20:12-14 and Matthew 5:21-24 aloud.*
 - **PRETEEN HACK:-***Set up a long piece of butcher paper and write out numbers 1-10 spaced evenly apart. Have kids write the summary phrases (above) next to commandment numbers 1-4. Have them add numbers 5-7 while you teach today.-*
- We can show our love to our parents and other grownups who take care of us by listening to their advice and treating them with love and kindness. They want what's best for us, so obeying them would be the wise thing to do!
- We can show our love to our siblings and other family members by not filling ourselves with negative emotions toward them. It's understandable to get frustrated and annoyed sometimes. It's okay to feel hurt. But God doesn't want us to stay that way because that is more harmful to us. We can ask God to show us how to love them like God does, and make things right with the people who upset us.
- We can also show love to people we make commitments to –like when people get married – and keep the promises we make to them.
- Our families aren't perfect, but God loves each of our family members anyway . . . and we can do the same!

THE BIG IDEA | We obey God by loving our families.

VIDEO | Road Trip, Episode 3

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

STORY | Family Matters

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Share a story about your family where you had to make a conscious choice to show love (like forgiving a sibling or listening to your parents' advice). Talk about how looking back, that was the right thing to do even though at the moment, it didn't feel like it.*
- **Why do you think loving our families is important to God?**
- God wants us to treat people with kindness, love, and respect, which basically sums up the three commandments we heard about today. When we aren't kind, loving, and respectful, it's hurtful to everyone. God wants us to love people the way God loves us.
- It's not always easy to love others, especially when they hurt our feelings or make us angry. But it's important for us to learn how to get along and love each other the way God asks us to.

ACTIVITY | No Family Feud

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Pair the kids and instruct them to work together to think through how they'd respond to a scenario that might occur while on a family road trip. Read aloud each of the scenarios below (or make up your own) and give each pair a few minutes to discuss what they'd do.-When the allotted time is up, ask the pairs to share their responses with the larger group.*
 - An adult won't let you listen to the music you want to.
 - You want to stay up late, but an adult says no.
 - Your sibling is annoying you and won't stop.
 - An adult promises you can get a special snack, but then changes their mind because it's too close to dinnertime.

- **PRETEEN HACK:**-Have one preteen pretend to be the parent or sibling. They act out and set up the scenario. Another preteen acts as themselves and shows how they would or should respond in that situation.

SCRIPTURE | I Thessalonians 1:2-7

- We can love our families by putting love into action. That means the way we act shows love, kindness, and respect. Let's read a few Bible verses that explains this.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read I Thessalonians 1:2-7 aloud.*
- These verses tell us how Paul's friends loved each other through their actions. When we think about our families, hopefully we can see how they show us they love us with their words and actions.
- **How has your family shown you love recently?**
- **What are some things we do that are not loving toward our families?**
- Remember: **we obey God by loving our families.** Let's talk a little more about how we can do that!

MEMORY VERSE | Hop Scotch

- **INSTRUCTIONS**
- **Jump like you're playing hop scotch as you say each word- of this month's Bible verse**

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank You for each person in our family. Loving our families isn't always easy, but help us to love each person with our words and with our actions. May we remember that we obey You when we do that. Amen.

- **PRETEEN HACK:**-Ask for a different volunteer to pray for the group today.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **What commandments did we hear about today?**
- **Who are these commandments telling us to show love to?**
- **What reason does the Bible give us for honoring our parents?**
- **Re-read I Thessalonians 1:3 aloud. Who in your family has been a good example of showing love? How have they done that?**
- **What makes it hard to show honor and respect to your parents?**
- **What are some things God would want us to do when someone upsets us?**
- **Why is it important to keep your promises?**

ACTIVITY | Wish You Were Here!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Encourage the kids to write a postcard for someone in their family, explaining why they love them.*
- Today, we've talked about how **we obey God by loving our families**. God wants us to show them love and respect, to be kind, and to keep our promises. Think about someone in your family whom you love. Why do you love them? Take a few minutes to write a postcard that expresses why you are glad you get to be a part of their family and how much you love them.

ACTIVITY | Heads Up! Family Edition

- Let's put our love into action!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *-Have the first player from Team One come up to the front. Explain that you will place a card with a word or phrase on it on their forehead so their team can see it. The team will have thirty seconds*

to act out the word or phrase and the player must correctly guess what's on the card. If they guess correctly, they get a point and then the other team gets a turn to guess. Continue as time allows.

- **PRETEEN HACK:***-Download the "Heads Up" app and purchase the option to build your own deck. Then insert the words or phrases listed in your Shop & Prep List and use a device to play the game instead of index cards.*
- **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Having all the kids talk at our friends all at once will be too stimulating so create a system where one person gets to give a clue at a time.*

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.*