

At Home Activities

January 3, 2021, Week 1

Today's Bible Story: The Greatest (Greatest Commandment) • *Matthew 22:36-40*

Today's Bottom Line: Love God. Love others.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Suppose you can be trusted with something very little. Then you can also be trusted with something very large.* Luke 16:10a (NIRV)

Monthly Life App: Responsibility—Showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

1. Opening Activity

What You Need: 4 Papers, marker

What You Do:

- Label the paper #1, #2, #3, and #4 then set one in each “corner” of your activity area.
- Explain that you will list one option for each corner.
- Kids will then indicate their favorite by going to the corner with that number. For example:
 - Corner One—Pizza
 - Corner Two—Tacos
 - Corner Three—Spaghetti
 - Corner Four - Macaroni and Cheese
- Once kids have picked a corner, read another list of options.
- Continue the game until you've read all of the corner options.

Corner Options:

- Blue, Red, Green, Purple
- Dogs, Cats, Hamsters, Fish
- Snow on a mountain, Sand on a beach, Wind on a boat, Calm weather outside the window
- Chocolate cake, Cookie cake, Cheesecake, No cake but some other kind of treat
- TV show, Movie, YouTube videos, Video games

What You Say:

We all have things that we think are the greatest, but Jesus showed us what the truly greatest things are we can do: Love God and love others.

2. What matters to me

What You Need: markers/crayons, note cards

What You Do:

- Give kids a marker/crayon and 10 note cards.
- Ask kids to write on each card one thing that is important to them.
- Challenge kids to arrange their cards in the shape of a pyramid on the floor so that what's MOST important to them is at the top of the pyramid.
- Invite kids to take turns sharing their choices and why they placed them high or low in the priority pyramid.

Ask:

- How can you show responsibility with some of the things on your list?

- What's one benefit of being responsible?
- What's one consequence of not doing what is expected of you?
- Why should a Jesus follower be known as a person who is responsible?
- Would you say that loving God and loving others is an expectation God has of those who say they follow Jesus? Why or why not?
- What's one way you could show more love for God this next week? How about for others?

3. Never-Ending Love

What You Need: "Never-Ending Love" Activity Page attached, scissors, construction paper or regular paper, markers

What You Do:

- Use "Never-Ending Love" Activity Page to familiarize yourself with how to make an accordion heart.
- Read this month's verse together. Luke 16:10a- "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much"
- Provide each kid with a piece of paper, a marker, and scissors.
- Show the kids how to fold and cut their paper to make accordion hearts.
- Encourage kids to write the memory verse across their accordion hearts.
- Review the memory verse together again.

What You Say:

"Do you see how one heart leads to the next then the next? When we show God we can be trusted with a small thing, like loving one person (*fold your paper back into one heart*), He will trust us with more (*unfold paper back to many hearts*). When you love God, it will spread into more and more opportunities to **[Bottom Line] Love God. Love others.** In every small thing you choose to show responsibility with each and every day, you make a very big impact in the world around you! How cool is that?"

4. Pray

What You Do:

- Designate half of your area as "Love God" and the other half as "Love others."
- Invite kids to stand in whichever area they feel like will be most challenging this week.
- After they take their place, go from kid to kid and pray out loud: Dear God, help [kid's name] to **[Bottom Line] Love God and Love others** this week.
- When you finish, close in prayer.

What You Say:

"Dear God, thank You for loving us first and showing us how to love others through Jesus. Please help us find ways to love You and love others this week, every day as we live our lives. Amen."

JANUARY
2021

Elementary

WEEKLY CUES

YOU GOT
THIS!

Theme

Rules for Life: Play well. Finish strong.

Responsibility is showing you
can be trusted with what is
expected of you.

Week One

Greatest Commandment
Matthew 22:36-40

Say This

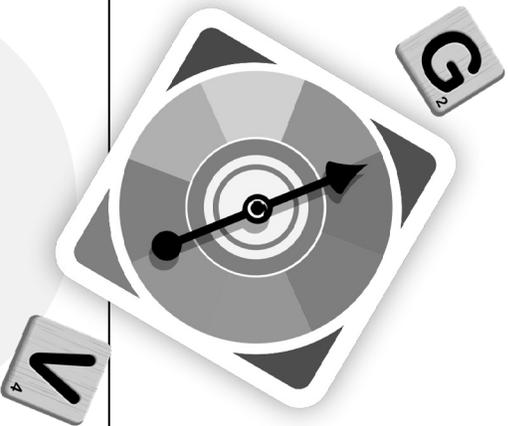
Love God. Love others.

Do This



Morning Time

Pick one thing that you usually do for your child in the morning and let them take charge and be responsible for it. Making sure they have everything for school? Encourage them to prepare the night before and have their bag ready. Making lunch? Teach them to do this and again, work on it the night before. Tell them that you trust they can do this!



REMEMBER THIS

"Suppose you can be trusted with something very little. Then you can also be trusted with something very large."
Luke 16:10a, NIV

JANUARY
2021

Elementary

WEEKLY CUES

YOU GOT
THIS!

Theme

Rules for Life: Play well. Finish strong.

Responsibility is showing you
can be trusted with what is
expected of you.

Week One

Greatest Commandment
Matthew 22:36-40

Say This

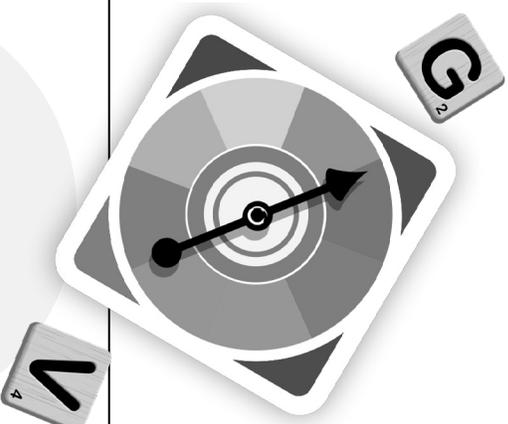
Love God. Love others.

Do This



Morning Time

Pick one thing that you usually do for your child in the morning and let them take charge and be responsible for it. Making sure they have everything for school? Encourage them to prepare the night before and have their bag ready. Making lunch? Teach them to do this and again, work on it the night before. Tell them that you trust they can do this!



REMEMBER THIS

"Suppose you can be trusted with something very little. Then you can also be trusted with something very large."
Luke 16:10a, NIV



**“We have a God
who goes before.
And we have a God
who stays behind.
And no matter what
is coming or what
has already come,
His presence is
sure, even when it
doesn’t feel likely.”**

—Sarah Anderson

For blog posts and parenting resources, visit TheParentCue.org

PC PARENT CUE

Download the free Parent Cue App
AVAILABLE FOR IOS AND ANDROID DEVICES

**“We have a God
who goes before.
And we have a God
who stays behind.
And no matter what
is coming or what
has already come,
His presence is
sure, even when it
doesn’t feel likely.”**

—Sarah Anderson

For blog posts and parenting resources, visit TheParentCue.org

PC PARENT CUE

Download the free Parent Cue App
AVAILABLE FOR IOS AND ANDROID DEVICES

Responsibility means showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you.

WEEK
1
2ND-3RD

P
3

DAY 1

Read Matthew 22:36-38

In school, every teacher wants their students know what's expected of them so they can have a successful year.

Write down a rule you have at school:

What happens if you break this rule?

Can you imagine what it would be like if your teacher had over 600 rules for you to follow? When Jesus lived on earth, Jews followed over 600 different laws or rules. There were rules about work, rules about clothes, and rules about caring for others. When a religious leader asked Jesus, "What's the most important commandment?" it was intended to be a trick question. But Jesus didn't fall for his trap. Instead Jesus simply said: **"Love God. Love others."**

Love God. We are called to love God with all our heart, soul and mind. When you love God and put Him first, you won't need 600 other rules. Loving God is our number one responsibility.

As you pray today, tell God why you love Him. List some things you're thankful for and ask Him to help you put Him first, every day.

DAY 2

Read Matthew 22:39-40

When Jesus answered the religious leader's question about the most important commandment, He didn't stop with "love God." He quickly added the second, equally important part: Love others.

When you think about it, loving God and loving others are like two sides of a coin. You can't really say you love God and then turn around and be unkind to your brother or the kid at school. And you can't really love your brother or the kid at school without loving God. Why? Because God is love. The only reason you know how to love is because God loved you first.

Grab a coin and cover it with masking tape. Write "God" on one side and "Others" on the other side.

Carry that coin in your pocket this week to remind yourself of your most important responsibilities. **Ask God to help you love Him and love others, even when it's hard.**

S
1

Love God.
Love others.

N
1

DAY 3

Read Psalm 31:23

What are some ways you show your parents you love them? List them in space below:

One big way you show your parents you love them is by obeying them. Even when you'd rather not. Even when you think their rules are lame. A parent's job is to guide and protect their children. By obeying them, you're showing that you trust they're leading you in the right direction.

Guess what? The same idea is true when it comes to loving God. The number one way you can show God you love Him is by being obedient to Him. When you read His word and follow what it says, you're taking your responsibility to "Love God" seriously.

Remember, God made you. He loves you. He will always lead you in the right direction because His way is the best way. This week, look for ways to be obedient as you follow God knowing that obedience is best. **Love God. Love others.**



DAY 4

Read 1 Peter 4:8

List all the people that sat by you today:

From your brother in the backseat, to the kid in the desk next to you, to your parent at the dinner table, on any given day, you sit next to a lot of "one another's." Part of your responsibility is to love God and all those one another's around you.

So here's a little "one another" challenge for the week. Tomorrow, every time you sit down, pay attention the people on your right and left. Think to yourself: "How can I show love to this person next to me?" When you have an answer, then follow through and actually do it. There are lots of ways you can show love to all the "one another's" around you.

Bow your head and pray for God to help you with your responsibility of loving others well this week.

