

God is Pure and Holy

Term 2 Week 3

God gives us rules (Rules 6-11)

Introduction: Read the first 5 rules (that we learned last week)

Rule no. 6: “Do not murder anyone”

Every person is precious to God. God does not allow a person to kill another person. When God made animals and people on Day 6 of Creation, He made people more special than the animals because people have a relationship with God. God gave permission for people to kill animals for food, but not to kill people.

Rule no. 7: “Be faithful to the person you marry”

To be faithful is to promise to stay with that person, and not leave them. God wants husbands and wives to love one another and to help one another, so that they can care for their children together. But sometimes sad things happen... a mother or father may die or has to leave. This is not God’s plan, but if it does happen, God promises to look after families who have lost a member.

Psalm 68:5 God is a Father of the fatherless and protector of widows.

Rule no 8: “Do not steal.”

Who has ever had something stolen from them? (Ask children to relate experiences.) How do you feel when someone steals something from you or your family?

There is a true story in the Bible about a man who Jesus met. His name was Zacchaeus. You will probably remember this story. Zacchaeus was a rich man. He made himself rich by stealing from other people. His job was to collect money from people to give to the government. This is called ‘tax’ money. The government needs tax money to build roads and hospitals for the community to use. Zacchaeus took more than he was supposed to and kept it for himself. When Jesus came to his town Zacchaeus climbed up a tree so that he could get a good view of Jesus walking by. But he did not expect Jesus to call him down from the tree. “I want to go to your house today,” said Jesus. As Jesus talked with Zacchaeus at his house, Zacchaeus knew that he had done wrong. He felt unhappy. Jesus told him that he could be forgiven for what he had done. Zacchaeus wanted Jesus to forgive him. He felt happy to be forgiven. Zacchaeus decided that from then on he would be honest and not steal. He gave back the money he had stolen.

Stealing is taking something that does not belong to you. It is taking something without asking.

Sometimes we may want to borrow something that belongs to another person. That's OK, but we must ask the person first. If the person says "yes", then we can use it, but we must take good care of it. And we must be sure to return it when we have finished using it.

Question:

What would you do if you borrowed something from someone and it broke or got damaged while you were using it?

Story: Jona and the missing pencils

Jona arrived at school and took the things he needed from his school bag. Today he was finishing off his project on reptiles. So far he had done four pages of beautiful drawings, and a piece of information about each reptile. Jona loved drawing and was very good at it.

Recently Jona had received for his birthday, a beautiful set of coloured pencils. Jona was using his new pencils for the project.

Jona picked up his pencil case. Something was wrong. He quickly unzipped it. To his horror, nearly all of the pencils had gone. He counted them. Only 5 left! Jonathan cried silently, hoping that no one would see him. But someone did see him.

"What's wrong, Jona," asked his teacher.
Jona explained what was wrong.

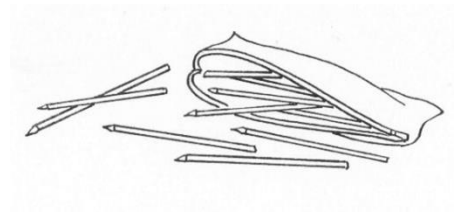
"I think we should pray and ask Jesus to show the person took the pencils, how wrong it was. Jesus knows how you feel too Jona. We must trust that He will turn this bad thing into something good," said his teacher kindly.

There was a new boy in the school. His name was Thomas. He used to get into lots of trouble at his old school. But all of a sudden, at this new school, he felt bad about doing the things he had done before. Something inside him said, "Take the pencils back." Finally, he could stand it no longer. "I'll creep back after school when no one is there," he thought, "and put the pencils back in Jona's pencil case."

After school, he crept into the classroom clutching the pencils. To his dismay, the teacher was working at her table.

"Can I help you, Thomas?" she asked. She saw the pencils, and knew immediately why he had come. But instead of punishing Thomas, the teacher said 'thank you' for returning the pencils. She also told Thomas about a special friend of hers who wanted to be Thomas's friend too. This friend, the teacher said, wanted to help Thomas. The friend, of course, was Jesus. Thomas was already sorry for what he had done. He told Jesus that he was sorry, and asked Jesus to be his special friend. The next day, Thomas also said sorry to Jona. In fact, they became good friends. Thomas no longer did the things that he did at his old school.

Jona was glad that his teacher had helped him to trust God at a time when things went wrong. He had seen how God could turn something bad into something good. Jona not only had his pencils back, but he had a new friend as well. And best of all, Thomas had found a new friend, Jesus.



Rule no. 9: “Do not tell lies”

Discussion

What does it mean to be honest?

We should be honest in what we say and what we do.

If we say we are going to do something, then we should do it. NOT to do it is being dishonest.

What is a lie?

Making people think something is true when you know it is not true.

Why do people tell lies?

- To make themselves look important
- To cover up something they have done
- To get someone else into trouble

Is there such a thing as a little lie?

We might think that some lies are little. But these lies keep growing. Count how many lies the girl told in the following little story.

A play reading for two people:

Mum: Where is the change from the milk that I asked you to buy at the shop?

Meri: There was a hole in my pocket and it dropped out.

Mum: Then I had better sew up the hole. Give me your dress.

Meri: It’s OK Mum, I’ve sewn it up already.

Mum: Let me have a look at your sewing. I didn’t know you could sew that well?

Meri: You can’t see it now because I gave my dress away to a girl who didn’t have many clothes.

Mum: Where does this girl live Meri?

Meri: I don’t know. She was walking past our house.

Mum: Oh, look what I found under your bed! There was no hole in your pocket!

Question: What do you think Meri did with the change from the milk?

Rule no. 10: “Do not envy the things that belong to another person”

What does envy mean?

It means that you are unhappy because you don't have what others have, and you get angry about not having it.

God gives us the things we need, like clothes, food, shelter and a family. But sometimes people are not happy with the clothes they have, or the house they have because they see that someone else has something better. They even start to hate the people that have better things that they do.

God wants us to be happy with what he has provided for us. If we really do need more food or better things, then we can ask God to provide, but we must not look at others and say, “It's not fair. I don't have as much as they do!”

Jesus' new rule: Love one another (Rule no. 11)

Ten Commandments were given to Moses in the Old Testament for all of God's people. But when Jesus came to live on earth He gave us a new commandment: to love one another. We can call this the 11th commandment.

Jesus said that if we truly follow this commandment we will be following the other commandments. If someone truly loves another person they will not lie to them, steal from them, or envy their things.

What is love?

Love is...

A special feeling that fills your heart

A special way of speaking and acting

Treating people and things with special care and kindness

Treating other people just the way you would like them to treat you, with respect

Matthew 7:12 Do for others what you want them to do for you.

Why do we show love?

Without love people feel alone

When they don't feel they matter to anyone people become unhappy

Everyone needs to be loved

Everyone likes to be treated kindly

To love someone is to show someone that they are special

God tells us to love others

How do we show love?

Think about how another person feels

Care for people

Share with people
Speak kind words to others
Be friendly
Smile
Try to help others if they have a need

How would you show love in these situations:

Your Dad is sick and you want to show him how much you love him
Your baby brother or sister is tired and cross and crying
Your teacher is worried because the classroom is untidy
Someone in your class has no lunch today
A new student comes to your class
A small child is being teased by some older children
A student in your class is not good at sport but they are part of your sports team.