

As Jesus' followers we are called to love others. What are some ways we can build up God's kingdom by showing love to those around us?

Jesus Calls Us to Love Others



Prayer

Loving Jesus, help us cooperate with one another to build up your Father's kingdom.

Relationships with Our Neighbors

The Ten Commandments give us rules for living in relationships with God and with others—family, friends, and neighbors. Neighbors are not just people who live in our neighborhood. Our neighbors are all those who are affected by our actions. We want to make decisions that demonstrate to our neighbors that we are Jesus' followers.

Commandments Seven through Ten help us to be good members of society.

7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not **covet** your neighbor's wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

adapted from Exodus 20:15–17



Commandments Seven and Eight

The Seventh Commandment teaches us that stealing is wrong. It also requires that we honor the promises we make. The Eighth Commandment calls us to be truthful. We want to be truthful in what we say, what we do, and how we live.

Commandments Nine and Ten

The Ninth and Tenth Commandments warn us not to envy or covet the good fortune or possessions of others.

Temperance is a virtue that can help us when we feel envious. Temperance helps us limit our desire for things that give us pleasure.

Commandments Advertisement

In the box below, design an advertisement for the Ten Commandments. Promote the Ten Commandments as a way to live in relationship with God and with one another.



GO TO
PAGE
252





Prayer

Go with God

Imagine that you are traveling with the Hebrews as they journey to the land God promised to them. One night you stop to camp along the Jordan River. Look at the people around you: everyone is tired but excited. You can see your destination across the river.

Listen for a moment. What do you hear? Are birds calling to one another? Are fish splashing in the river? Perhaps you hear the voices of people around you. Suddenly all is quiet. Moses has risen to his feet and is beginning to speak.

He reminds the people of their Covenant with God. “Obey the Ten Commandments, and love God and neighbor. The Lord will be with you, as before, to help you keep your promises and do what is right.”

You know these words are meant for you too. Now spend a few moments with God. Let him know you want to walk in his ways. Tell God you love him. Listen to what he says to you.



Follow God's Plan

When we are faced with difficult decisions about how to act, we can choose to follow God's plan for us by practicing the Ten Commandments.

In an e-mail message to her friend, Sarah describes how she and a group of girls made fun of a new student at recess.



Inbox



New Message



Send



Reply



Forward



Attach



Delete

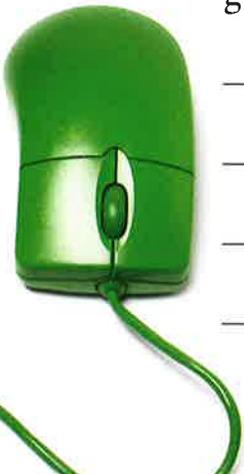
Remember that girl I told you about, the new one? She played kickball again with the boys at recess. I don't get it. Why do they let her play? Today they even made her captain, and she got first pick for her team. We decided to give her a new nickname, "Slugger," because she plays just as hard as the boys.

You should have seen us at recess. It was hilarious. We made our own mini-field and made fun of her as she played. Once she dropped the ball, and we all laughed out loud. I think it really made her angry because she refused to work in our group during math.



Send a Response

Imagine you are the friend to whom Sarah wrote her e-mail. Write a response in which you explain to Sarah how her e-mail goes against the Eighth Commandment.



Faith Summary

Commandments Seven through Ten help us live in good relationship with others. The Seventh Commandment teaches us that stealing is wrong. It also requires us to honor our promises. The Eighth Commandment tells us to be truthful in what we say and do. The Ninth and Tenth Commandments warn us about coveting what others have.



Words I Learned

covet
temperance

Ways of Being Like Jesus

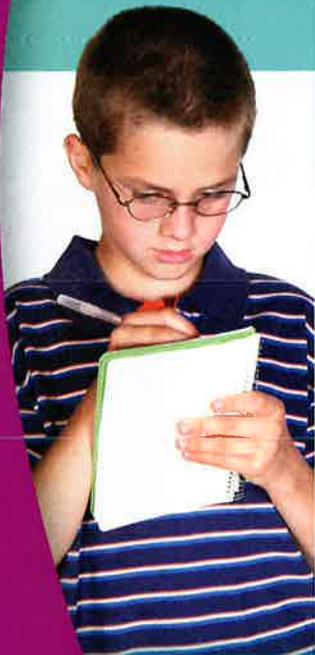
Jesus teaches us the importance of respecting others. *Show respect for others by treating their belongings as you would your own.*



Prayer

God, thank you for being generous with your gifts. Help us be content with what we have and share with others as you share with us.

With My Family



Activity We often make lists of what we want. Together make a list of things you have. Pray a prayer of gratitude, and make a plan to share what you have with others.

Faith on the Go Ask one another: *What are some things that you do not need, but want to keep? Why do you want to keep them?*

Family Prayer *Dear God, help us make choices that are moderated by temperance.*

