

BIG TRUTH: GOD GIVES US HIS LAW

Exodus 24:1-4; Deuteronomy 6:1; Joshua 1:7-8; Psalm 19:7-11; 119:92-93,105; Ezekiel 20:11; Romans 3:19-20; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 John 5:3

BIBLE VERSE: 1 PETER 1:16; LEVITICUS 11:44

"You shall be holy, for I am holy."

BIG IDEAS

- The law is a gift from God, not a burden.
- Honor your father and mother.
- Do not murder.
- Keep your marriage promises.
- Do not steal or take what is not yours.
- Do not make up lies about others for your own benefit.
- Do not want what others have.

BIBLE STORY: EXODUS 20:1-17

God's commandments are given to His people to help them, not to be a burden. God's commandments are a gift to all people because they point people to Jesus, God's Son and they show just how much people need God. No person is able in his or her own power to perfectly obey all of God's commands, but with the power of Jesus, he or she can. These commands are helpful to each person and are a gift from God. As God's people, we have a responsibility to obey God's commands and to seek help from Him when we struggle with them.

FOUNDATION: GOD IS HOLY—GOD GIVES THE LAW

God is holy. This means that He is separate from all of creation. There is nothing like Him in existence and nothing that can even be compared to Him. He is complete, perfect, and separate in every single way possible. God commands that His people are to "be holy just as He is holy." In our own imperfection, there is no way we can be holy, but in God's grace He gave His people the law. The law points us to who God is, our need for Him, and that our only hope to become holy like God is through the shedding of innocent blood on behalf of the guilty.

BIG AIMS**Every child should know:**

- God is perfect and holy
- The Ten Commandments

**Every child should feel:**

- Incapable of being holy on their own

**Every child should:**

- Define "good" by God's standard

**Every child should want to:**

- To be holy because God is holy

The Family Devotion on the next page is a weekly tool for the home. It is designed for you as family to gather for a few minutes on a set night of the week to unpack the Big Truth together. Use the model below and customize it to fit your family. As you continue to learn, love, and live out the Big Truth, some additional Hooks (next page) are provided that correspond to the Big Aims (see above). Use them to keep the conversation going throughout the week with your family.

GOD'S LAW IS A GIFT

On small pieces of paper write out several chores or jobs that you want your child to do, such as, "pick up your toys", "brush your teeth", etc. Wrap them in small boxes so that they look like gifts. Give them to your child and let him or her unwrap them. Talk with them about how the things you ask them to do are for their good and they are gifts to them. In the same way, God's law is a gift to His people. His law shows them their great need of Him and it is also for their good.

DISCOVER IT:

Read Exodus 20:1-17.

THINK ABOUT IT:

When God gave Moses the Ten Commandments, they were for the good of His people. They were a gift to God's people to show them just how much they needed Him. God's law is not a burden, though it may seem like one. It is actually a gift because it shows people their need of a savior. The law also shows people how to live in peace and harmony with one another. It shows people how to please God and most importantly, how to be holy like God. God's law is a sweet gift given to His children to lead them to Him.

TALK ABOUT IT:

- Why did God give the Ten Commandments to Moses? (He gave them to Moses to show the people how to live so they could please God.)
- How is God's law a gift to us? (It shows us that we need God and it shows us how to please Him.)

**KNOW**

As a family memorize 1 Peter 1:16. Write each word on a piece of paper and then hide them throughout the house. When you find each piece of paper, put the verse together and say it out loud.

**DO**

Create a ten-space hop-scotch board. Play a game of hop-scotch, saying the Ten Commandments out loud. Talk with your child about how God's law is a gift to us and not a burden. It shows us that we need God and it shows us how to be like Him.

**FEEL**

Trace your child's hands with their fingers spread out. Using small pieces of paper, write out the Ten Commandments. Help your child tape the commandments to their fingers, spending some time saying the commands out loud to help them memorize them.

**WANT**

As a family write out the Ten Commandments on a large piece of paper or a poster board. Spend some time decorating the paper. Display it somewhere around your house and throughout the week talk about each of the commandments. Remind your child that God's commands are not a burden to us. They teach us how to glorify Him and they show us that we need Him.