

Topic: The Ten Commandments – Love Man (Not to Murder)

Note: The practical applications provided in the lesson are offered as suggestions to help the saints in their preparation. They are not meant to direct or limit the ways in which the focus of the lesson can be applied. The saints are encouraged to pray and contact the Lord to receive His burden and guidance in teaching and applying the lesson. Fellowship with other saints, and inquiring of the children themselves, may also bring out many helpful applications.

Elementary:

Verses: “You shall not kill” (Exodus 20:13).
“You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:39).

Focus: The sixth commandment is to love all men by not committing murder. God wants us to care for people, not hurt them.

Practical Application: God loves man and He does not want us to hurt (or kill) what He loves. This is why we must learn to keep our hands and feet to ourselves when we get upset with someone. We should not hurt people. Instead God wants us to love them just as we love ourselves. We should follow the rule of doing unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Intermediate:

Verses: “You shall not kill” (Exodus 20:13).
“...the kindness and the love to man of our Savior God appeared” (Titus 3:4).

Focus: The sixth commandment is to love all men by not committing murder. God created man and loves man. To love God is to love what He loves, which is man. We should be careful not to hit or hurt others with our words or with our actions.

Practical Application: Bring items or illustrations of items that are very fragile. Discuss how easy it is to break or damage those fragile objects but how difficult it is (or impossible) to put them back together. Point out that human life is very fragile. When we get upset we should be careful not to hurt others with our words or hit or strike them with our hands or feet. If those fragile items are valuable to you, you would treat them with special care. In like manner, because man is valuable to God, God has commanded us to love man and not to hurt or kill man.

Advanced:

Verses: “You shall not kill” (Exodus 20:13) *and* “Beloved, if God has loved us in this way, we also ought to love one another” (1 John 4:11).

Focus: The sixth commandment is to love all men by not committing murder. This commandment deals not only with the outward act of murder, but even with anger, the inward motive of murder (Matthew 5:21-22). We should not get angry with people or lose our temper with them.

Practical Application: Although we have never killed anyone, when we lose our temper or get angry with others, in God’s eyes we are still breaking this commandment. Even calling people stupid or good for nothing is unacceptable to God (Matthew 5:22). Touch the children’s conscience about how they truly feel inside when they lose their temper with someone. Expose them of their inward hatred or anger towards others. God loves us and because of this great love that He bestows on us, we can love others, even those who treat us poorly. We have the capacity to love all men because of God Himself. We must realize that God is the source of all love and that His love enables us to love all people.