

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

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:

Verse: “You shall not testify with false testimony against your neighbor” (Exodus 20:16).

Focus: The ninth commandment is to love others by not lying to them. We should always tell the truth.

Practical Application: There are many examples of how children can lie. One example: their mother says that they can have 2 pieces of candy and they take 3. When they are asked how many pieces of candy they took, if they avoid telling the truth by saying, “I took 2,” “I don’t know,” “I don’t remember,” or “I didn’t hear you,” these are all forms of lying. When we lie, it is to say something that we know is not true. We should always tell the truth. This shows that we honor and love others. The serving ones may consider telling the story of “The Boy Who Cried Wolf.”

Intermediate:

Verse: “Lying lips are an abomination to Jehovah, / But those who deal faithfully are His delight” (Proverbs 12:22).

Focus: When God commands us to not lie, He is commanding us to not say something which we know is untrue. If we have done something wrong, we should tell the truth about what we have done or said.

Practical Application: Discuss with the children different ways that people can lie (intentionally lying, keeping silent, exaggerating, flattery, half-truths, etc.). God’s commandment that we do not lie covers all these situations where the truth is not told. It does not matter if the lie is big or small. If we do or say something wrong and do not tell the truth about it, do not admit it, or keep silent about it, we are covering up the truth. We should follow our conscience and always speak the truth. If we have lied, we need to make known the truth. Suggested story: Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5.

Advanced:

Verses: “...because there is no truth in him. When he speaks the lie, he speaks it out of his own possessions; for he is a liar and the father of it” (John 8:44).

“But let your word be, Yes, yes; No, no; for anything more than these is of the evil one” (Matthew 5:37). (Memory Verse)

Focus: The ninth commandment to not lie is a reflection of God Himself. The one who is the source of lies is Satan. God commands us to stay away from Satan and to stay close to God. Also, in order to receive God’s salvation we must confess (tell the truth) about what we have done and not deny it (tell a lie).

Practical Application: God cannot lie and whatever God says is true (Heb. 6:18; Titus 1:2). Satan is the opposite; he is a liar and the father of lies. Ask the children, if they lie, are they following God or Satan? God’s commandment to not lie keeps us away from Satan and close to God. God delights in those who tell the truth (Psalm 51:6), so to be those who follow God and please Him, we must not

speaking lies or saying anything deceitful (Revelation 14:5). Our telling the truth is a serious matter. That is why in order to receive God's salvation, we must confess what we have said or done that is against God. Denying that we have said or done anything wrong is telling a lie, but confessing it is to tell the truth and leads us to God's salvation.