

GOD says

PLEASE NOTE!

The CD for this lesson series with PowerPoint, printable visuals and handouts in colour can be purchased from CEF of Ireland.

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GOD says

Manual originally prepared by *Child Evangelism Fellowship*® of Ireland

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Introduction



Helping teens discover what 'God Says'

The manual *God Says* was produced by *Child Evangelism Fellowship*® of

Europe for the Junior

Youth Challenge ministry. It is part of a 5-year cycle and provides enough material for 12 to 24 sessions.

The lessons were written for the 11-15 year olds but can be adapted for an older age group. It can meet the needs of both saved and unsaved teens. Some lessons give a clear presentation of the Gospel, others help young Christians in their walk with God, but several are a combination of both.

Aiming at heads, hearts & hands

Clear objectives are given at the beginning of each lesson, focusing on three aspects:



knowledge




emotions



actions.

It is vitally important to not only teach doctrine but also to apply it faithfully. Teens need to be encouraged to put the lessons into practice in their everyday life.

An additional objective is given  to indicate how the unsaved should respond to the teaching.

Using a variety of methods

Notes for the teachers are inserted in italics

in the lesson text. They provide

a variety of methods that can facilitate the teens' involvement: case studies, role plays, sketches, interviews, workgroups, etc.

Some methods require a lot of time. It is recommended to divide the lessons into two



parts in order to make full use of the methods. An icon indicates where to split the lesson. If the teacher needs to cover the lesson in one go, he will have to select the ideas that

will be the most useful to his group and leave the rest aside.

Preparing visuals & handouts

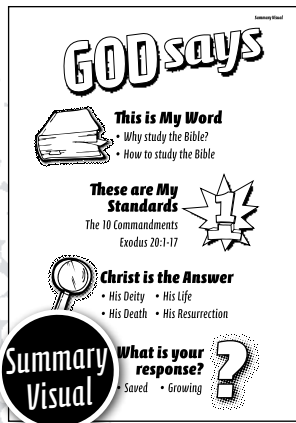
Visuals and handouts are supplied for all

lessons. They are numbered and

gathered at the end of the manual. The lesson text indicates when to use them. Please note that they are protected by copyright and can be used only by the owner of the manual.

If visuals are to be used in a small group, they can be enlarged on paper or card. In a larger group, it is better to photocopy them on acetate and use an overhead projector.

Some visuals should not be revealed all at once. The teacher can position covers and remove them progressively as he teaches the lesson. It helps keep the teens' attention. The "summary visual" should







be used to recap previous lessons and explain the progression. Again it is better to reveal it one section at a time.

The handouts should be photocopied and given out to the

teens. They include some creative ideas: wordsearches, crosswords, charts, questions, etc. Teens can fill them in during the programme or later at home. It will help them review the lessons and memorise the main points.

Why study the Bible?

Objectives: We would like the teens:

-  to understand why the Bible is a special book – God inspired it!
-  to realise that the Bible can greatly change their lives and mould them into the person God wants them to be.
-  to read the Bible regularly and seek God's instructions for their Christian life.
-  to find in the Bible the way of salvation.

Introduction: Sketch in a bookshop

Ask teens beforehand to prepare a little sketch in two parts, one for the introduction of the lesson and one for the conclusion. Give them a novel, a biography, a travel book and different kinds of Bibles.

- Suzie enters a bookshop: "I'm looking for a special book, something exciting!"
- Salesman: "Here is a fantastic novel. Once you start it, you won't be able to set it down."
- Suzie: "No, I want a true story that would challenge me."
- Salesman: "I see. Here is an excellent biography, very inspiring."
- Suzie: "No, I need something that can help me find my way in life."
- Salesman: "Oh, you need a travel book! Take this one and you will be ready for your next holiday trip!"

Suzie is disappointed. But we will meet her again at the end of the lesson. What book would you recommend to her? Is the Bible the special book she needs? Why? In our group we study the Bible. This book is at

the centre of all we do together. Let us think about why this book is different from any other book, and why we study it.

The Bible is God's Word



[Visual 1 - Show the newspaper and refer to the different headlines as you cover the next points of the lesson.]

1. Inspiration

The Bible was written by men, but they were chosen and guided by God. The Holy Spirit directed them so that the words they wrote were exactly what God wanted. Look up 2 Peter 1:21. The Bible is inspired by God (2 Timothy 3:16). It is God's Word!

2. Unity

As a result of inspiration, the Bible has a wonderful unity. The 66 books of the Bible were written by over 40 different people (shepherds, fishermen, kings, etc.) who lived at different times in history. Between the writing of the first book and that of the last, about 1,600 years elapsed. But, because they were inspired, the writers did not contradict each other and gave a harmonious teaching.

3. Accuracy

God's Word is precise and exact. This was confirmed through the years by different discoveries. Example: Luke 3:1 speaks about Lysanias as being the Tetrarch of Abilene.

For many years scholars thought that Luke was wrong because it was common knowledge that Lysanias was the ruler of Chalcis about 50 years earlier than Luke described. But an archaeological inscription has since been found, saying that Lysanias was the tetrarch in Abilene near Damascus at the time that Luke said. It turns out that there had been two people name Lysanias.

The exactness of the Bible can also be seen in the fulfilment of Old Testament prophecies. It is especially striking as we consider prophecies about the Lord Jesus.

Method: Workgroups on prophecy

Divide the teens into groups of three or four.

Hand out to each group a copy of

Psalm 22:7-21 and Matthew 27:35-46.

Ask them to find the correspondence between the Old Testament prophecy and the New Testament record of Christ's crucifixion. Make sure you will have enough time to use this method. It might not be the case if you plan to teach the whole lesson in one go.

4. Preservation

Through history many people tried to eradicate the Bible but never managed to. God's Word is everlasting – Isaiah 40:8. We also know that it has been faithfully transmitted through generations. In the winter of 1946-1947, a shepherd made a great discovery close to the Dead Sea. He found jars full of scrolls. These scrolls contained old copies of the Old Testament. As these texts were compared to our recent versions of the Bible, they were found to be very similar. This was a great confirmation that the Bible we have is reliable.

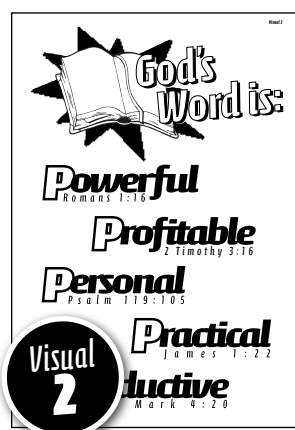
So, why study the Bible? The obvious answer is because it is God's very own Word! What a privilege it is to be able, at any time, to open

the Bible and discover what God has to say to us. If you were to receive a letter from someone really famous you would be excited about it. How much more excited we should be to have access to God's own Word!



If you plan to teach this lesson in two parts, stop here.

The Bible can change your life



[Reveal visual 2 progressively as you go through the second part of the lesson.]

The Bible can make a real difference to your life. As you study the Bible you will find that it is:

1. Powerful

Method: Sword drill and questions

Ask the teens to "draw their swords" (hold their Bible up high). Give a Bible reference – e.g. "Romans 1:16." Have them repeat it. Then command, "Attack!" and they compete to find the verse. The first teen to find it stands up. Give a few moments for others to find it, and then ask the winner to read the verse aloud. Some questions will help the group examine the verse. What does the word "Gospel" refer to? What power does the Gospel have? Who can be saved? (You may use the same method as you deal with key verses in the rest of the lesson).

The Bible shows you how you have sinned and fallen short of God's standards (Romans 3:23), but it also shows how God has provided you with a way of forgiveness through Jesus Christ (Romans 5:8).

The Gospel is powerful – by turning from your sin and putting your faith in Christ, you can be saved. As you study God’s Word, God the Holy Spirit can speak to you through it and show you your need of salvation. If God speaks to you through His Word, obey Him.

2. Profitable

For those of us who are Christians, studying the Bible is profitable because we will learn things that will be of benefit to us. [*Sword drill for 2 Timothy 3:16.*] In what ways can the inspired Scripture be profitable to us? Pick out four key words.

- ✦ Doctrine (teaching) shows what is right.
- ✦ Reproof (rebuking) points out what is not right.
- ✦ Correction shows how to get it right.
- ✦ Instruction (training) teaches how to stay right.

God’s Word helps us learn more about what we believe. It can show us areas of our lives where we are going wrong. It can help us get things right and keep them right.

3. Personal

In any relationship, we learn more about people as we listen to what they have to say. When we allow God to speak to us through His Word, we get to know Him better as we discover things about Him that we had not known before. As we draw near to God by reading and submitting to His Word, He draws near to us and our personal relationship with Him is strengthened (James 4:8).

God can use His Word to speak to us personally. As we read, we may discover a truth that can help us deal with a specific situation we are facing. God knows all our needs, and so is able to speak to us

personally and guide us through His Word. [*Sword drill for Psalm 119:105.*] According to this verse, what does the Word do? Does God light up the whole path of our lives, or does He guide step by step? How does this strengthen our relationship with Him?

4. Practical

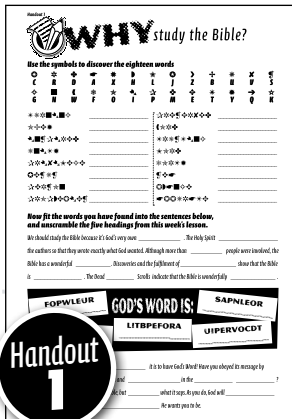
As you study at school you learn many things that you need for exams, but which do not make any difference at all to the type of person you are. God’s Word is not like that! It is practical, affecting our everyday lives. [*Sword drill for James 1:22.*] What piece of warning do we find in this verse? Can you think of areas in which we find it hard to put God’s Word into practice?

When we discover something in God’s Word, we must seek to put it into practice. Do you believe that God wants you to obey your parents? Then do it! This instruction comes from a God Who loves you and Who knows what is the best for you. Is God telling you to share the message of Jesus with your friends? It is so important to do what He says!

5. Productive

Studying the Bible and obeying what it says will prove productive by making us the sort of people God wants us to be. [*Sword drill for Mark 4:20.*] What is the Word compared to in this verse? If you receive the seed, what should happen? What kind of fruit is the verse talking about?

God expects Christians to grow and He has told us the kind of “fruit” He wants to see in our lives (Galatians 5:22). Young Christian, is your life producing “fruit”? It will only do so if you are willing to spend time studying God’s Word.

Method: Handout

Photocopy handout 1 for all the teens. They could fill it in during the programme or later at home. It will help them review the lesson and memorise the main points.

Conclusion: Second part of the sketch

- Suzie: "No, no, I don't need a travel book or a biography or a novel. I'm afraid I don't know myself what I am looking for!"
- Another customer in the shop: "Excuse me, I happened to overhear your conversation. I personally read a book that does me good and helps me find my way in life. Have you ever read the Bible?"
- Suzie seems interested: "I must say I never read the Bible even though I hear a lot about it."
- Salesman: "Come over here. We have different kinds of Bibles ... and some special offers!"

Isn't it awesome to know that we have God's Word available to us at any time! What part does God's Word play in your life? Have you discovered the way of salvation it reveals and placed your faith in Jesus Christ? If so, make sure that day by day you set aside time to study the precious Word of God. Only then can you hope to grow into the type of person God wants you to be. ●

HANDOUT 1 ANSWERS

Symbol puzzle: Turning; Obey; Inspired; Unity; Privilege; Jesus; Person; Prophecies; Preserved; Word; Trusting; Lord; Forty; Sea; Change; Accurate.





Fill in the blanks 1: Word; Inspired; Forty; Unity; Prophecies; Accurate; Sea; Preserved.

Unscramble: Powerful; Practical; Profitable; Personal; Productive.

Fill in the blanks 2: Privilege; Turning; Trusting; Lord; Jesus; Obey; Change; Person.

How to Study the Bible

Objectives: We would like the teens:

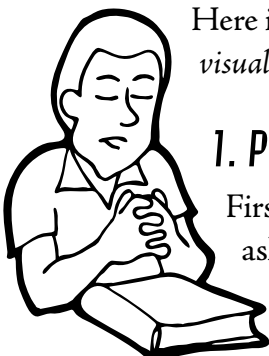
-  to understand that the Bible must be carefully interpreted.
-  to realise that the Holy Spirit enables the Christian to grasp Bible truths.
-  to get acquainted with some important study tools and use them in their daily quiet time.
-  to accept God in their lives. Only then will they experience the Holy Spirit's enlightenment and will fully benefit from the Bible.

Introduction: Open a nut

Ask three volunteers to come up to the front. Each one of them tries to open a nut. The first one has to do it with a screwdriver, the second one with a blunt knife and the third one with a nutcracker. Doesn't it work much better with the nutcracker? There is nothing more frustrating than not having the right tool for a job! This is also true when we study the Bible.

In our last lesson we said that the Bible is God's Word and it can change our lives. Can you remember the five words beginning with "P" which were used to describe the Bible? [Let the teens recap.] We have many reasons to study the Bible, but how do we do it? We need the right method and the right tools.

Here is what you can do. [Reveal visuals 3 and 4 progressively.]

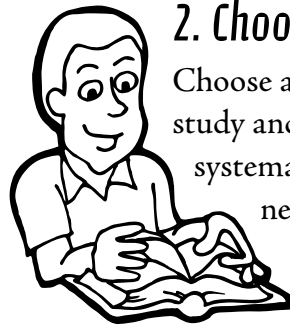


1. Pray

First of all you should pray and ask for God's help. Always remember that the Bible

is no ordinary book – it is God's Word. If you don't understand a book in school, you might think to yourself, "It would be great to know the author of this book, he could explain it to me." The wonderful thing about studying God's Word is that, if you are a Christian, the Author is right there with you!

God the Holy Spirit, Who inspired the words of Scripture, will help you understand it (John 15:26 and 16:13). Giving understanding of Scripture is a vital role of the Holy Spirit in the Christian's life (1 Corinthians 2:10-12). You can count on God's help. Be open to what God has to say. Allow God to teach you as you study. Even if the passage is familiar, always be ready to learn something new from it.



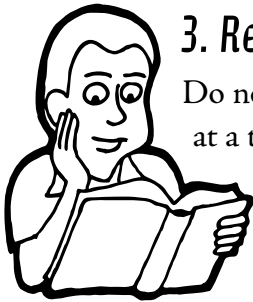
2. Choose

Choose a passage or book to study and work through it systematically. If you have never done this before, I suggest you start with the Gospel of Luke. Later you might want

to follow a year plan and use quiet time notes. [Show the group a plan and notes that are suitable for 11-15 year olds.]

Method: Sharing experience

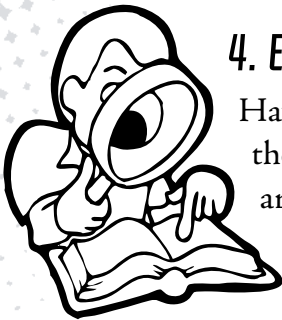
You could approach some members of the group before the study and ask them if they would like to share with others what Bible book they have read recently and what they especially enjoyed about it. This may be a great encouragement for teens who do not yet have a daily quiet time.



3. Read

Do not try to read too much at a time. It is better to study a few verses carefully rather than rush through a long passage.

Consider the passage in its context. In other words, find out what comes before and after. Do not take verses or parts of verses by themselves, because they can be used to assert something very different from what they were meant to. For example, according to Psalm 14:1, “there is no God”! But, as we look at the whole verse, we see that these are the words of the fool. Always take God’s Word in context.



4. Examine

Have a close look at what the passage says. Here are some special tools that might help you examine it. *[This part is very detailed.]*

If you feel the teens are not ready to discover all these tools, leave some out and deal with them another time.]

Break up verses into small sections

– especially when you are confronted with a long or complicated one. To do so, look out for repetitions of the same word or phrase, or for joining words like “but”, “and”, etc.

John 1:1 is a good example. “In the beginning was *the Word*, and *the Word* was with God, and *the Word* was God.” Examine each part separately. John is talking about Jesus Who is “the Word” and teaches three important truths about Him.

Do not be put off by unusual words! No matter what subject you study—biology, maths, computers, etc.—you will have to

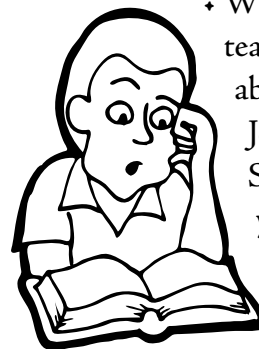
learn specialised words. In the Bible you will come across difficult words such as “justification” and “sanctification”. If you have access to a Bible dictionary *[show the teens a sample]*, you can find out their meaning, or you can ask an older Christian to help you.

Look out for picture language. For example in John 6:35 Jesus said He was the “bread of life”. When we come across picture language we must ask ourselves what the writer really meant.



5. Question

Ask yourself some questions as you study:



- What does the passage teach about God? It can be about God the Father or Jesus the Son or the Holy Spirit. Make a list of all you can find.

- What does the passage teach about man? You might read something about a sin (disobeying God) or you might find an example to follow.
- Are there other Bible passages that could help me understand this one? Some Bibles have cross references in the margins you can look up.

Asking yourself questions like these will help you grasp the meaning of the passage and will prepare you to put the passage into practice in your own life.

Use study books to help you. You might find a good commentary on the Bible book you are reading. *[Show the teens a sample.]* These resources will help you understand what the Bible is saying – but be careful, never let other books take the Bible’s place.



6. Apply

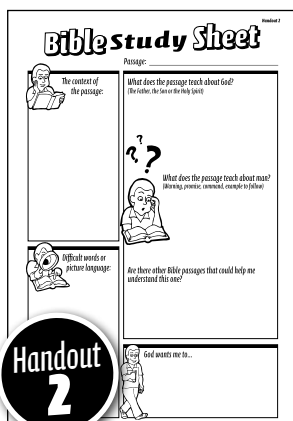
Finally you should think about what God wants you to do. In the previous lesson, we already spoke about the importance of putting into practice what we read in Scripture. Be ready to obey whatever God says to you through His Word. You cannot expect God to teach you new things if you are not doing what He has already told you.



If you plan to teach this lesson in two parts, stop here. Start the next meeting with a little review. Then use the following method to give the teens the opportunity to try out some study tools.

Method: Group study

Divide young people into small groups to study a Bible passage. Give handout 2 to all the participants. Have a capable leader in each



group. The leader should have received the handout answers well in advance (you can photocopy the answers, shown to the right) and be well prepared. He or she will guide the teens, help them dig into the

passage and get them to fill in their worksheet. You can decide what passage the groups will work on – Luke 5:1-11 for beginners or John 10:7-15 for experienced teens.



HANDOUT 2 ANSWERS

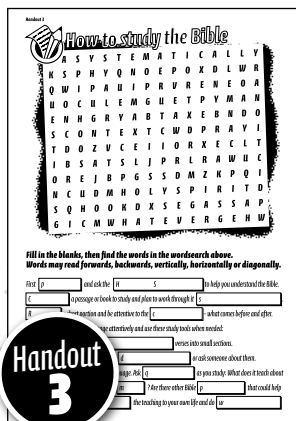
Answers for Luke 5:1-11

- **The context of the passage:** Before: Jesus is preaching in Galilee. After: He cleanses a leper, forgives and heals a paralytic.
- **Difficult words or picture language:** "You will catch men" – you will preach the Gospel to men and win them for Christ.
- **What does the passage teach about God?** Jesus taught the Word of God (1). He is the Master (5). He has authority over nature (4-6). He is Holy; He is the Lord (8).
- **What does the passage teach about man?** He needs to hear the Word of God (1). He should do whatever the Lord tells him, even when he doesn't understand (5). He is sinful and needs the Lord (8). He should be a fisher of men (10). He must follow Jesus as the disciples did (11).
- **Are there other Bible passages that could help me understand this one?** Matthew 4:18-20, Mark 1:16-20 – other records of the calling of the disciples to become fishers of men. John 21:1-14 – Jesus accomplished a similar miracle after His resurrection and the disciples recognized Him.
- **God wants me to:** Let the teens fill in this part themselves.

Answers for John 10:7-15

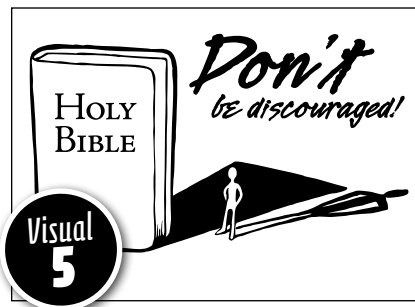
- **The context of the passage:** Before: Jesus gives sight to a blind man and teaches about true vision. After: He gives more teaching about the shepherd and Jews want to stone Him.
- **Difficult words or picture language:** "I am the door" – Jesus says He is the way of salvation; "I am the good shepherd" – Jesus cares for those who trust in Him; "Thief", "wolf" – pictures of Satan who seeks to destroy lives.
- **What does the passage teach about God?** Jesus is the way of salvation (7, 9). He came so we may have abundant life (10). He protects and cares for His followers, He knows them personally (13-15).
- **What does the passage teach about man?** The person who trusts Christ is saved and has abundant life (9-10). We should be aware of Satan who wants to destroy lives (10, 12-13). Believers can have a personal relationship with Jesus (14).
- **Are there other Bible passages that could help me understand this one?** Psalm 23 – speaks of the shepherd's care for his sheep. Matthew 18:12-14; Luke 15:3-7 – the parable of the lost sheep.
- **God wants me to:** Let the teens fill in this part themselves.

Method: Wordsearch



Photocopy handout 4 for all the teens. They could fill it in during the programme or later at home. It will help them review the lesson and memorise the main points.

Conclusion



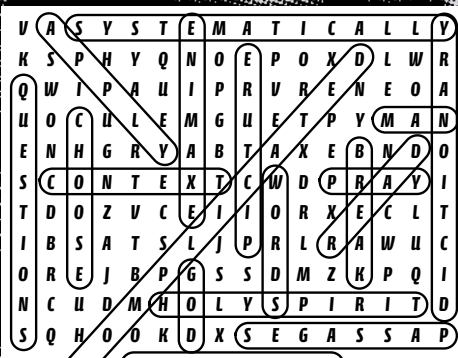
As we try to study the Bible on our own at home, we may sometimes

feel discouraged. [Show visual 5.] It seems too big a task for the little man on this visual. But notice that the light is shining on him and makes his shadow much bigger. This illustrates the fact that with God's light, we will be able to face the challenge. If you are God's child, remember that His Holy Spirit is at work in you and will enable you to understand His Word.

Don't try to open a nut with a screwdriver or a knife. Use a nutcracker. With God's help, use the methods we suggested in this lesson. Try these study tools in the coming days. In Psalm 119:103-104, the Psalmist says how sweet the Word is to his mouth, how much he loves it and how greatly it affects his life. If you are a believer, these verses should reflect your attitude too. Do you love the Word and will you study it? ●





HANDOUT 3 ANSWERS

Fill in the blanks: Pray; Holy Spirit; Choose; systematically; Read; context; examine; Break; complicated; words; dictionary; picture; questions; God; man; passages; Apply; whatever.

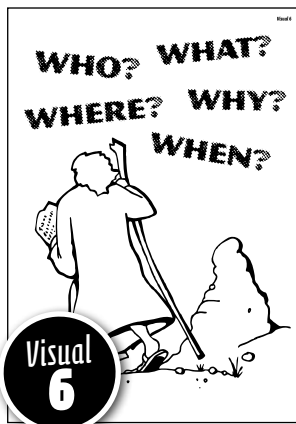


The 1st & 2nd Commandments

Objectives: We would like the teens:

-  to understand that God should have first place in their lives.
-  to realise that friends, sport, money, etc., can be dangerous idols.
-  to make sure they have their priorities right and that nothing comes between them and God.
-  to repent and give God first place in their lives.

Introduction: Explore the visual



Show visual 6 at the beginning of this lesson and ask a few questions to help the teens reconstruct the historical set-up in which the Ten Commandments were given.

- Who is the Bible character represented on this visual?
- Where is he going?
- What does he have in his hands?
- Why are these tablets very important?
- When did this situation take place?

The Ten Commandments - Exodus 20:1-17

God's special people, the children of Israel, had been set free from years of slavery in the land of Egypt. Now they were making

their way across the wilderness towards the land God had promised them, a land in which they would settle and become a nation in their own right. At this crucial time in their history, God revealed the laws by which His people must seek to live. These laws are known to us today as the Ten Commandments.

Many years later, the Lord Jesus Christ was asked which of God's laws were the most important. He replied by summarising the Ten Commandments – that we should love God and love our neighbour (Matthew 22:37-39). This summary divides the commandments into two parts – our duty towards God and our duty towards other people.

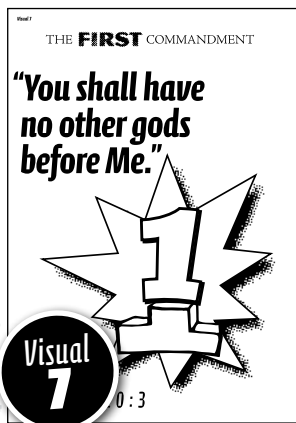
Let us read Exodus 20:1-17. As we read, try to count how many commandments concern our duty towards God and how many our duty towards men. [You might need to tell that verses 4-6 are considered as one single commandment.]

Over the next few weeks we will study the Ten Commandments. As we do so we will discover that they remain as relevant to us today as when they were given almost 3,500 years ago. God still says to us today, "These are my standards."

The first commandment

"You shall have no other gods before Me" (Exodus 20:3).

Egypt, the country the Israelites had just left, was a land where many gods were worshipped. Now God was making it clear to His people that they must worship only Him.



[Show visual 7.]

He demanded first place in their lives. No-one and nothing were to be allowed to take His place. The first commandment made it clear to the Israelites that the most important

thing in life was their relationship with God. Still today people worship idols instead of giving God the place He should have. I asked six of you to act out some of these people.

Method: Mr and Mrs (1st part)

Six teens (you have spoken to beforehand) will come up. Each one has a different name written on a badge: Mr Stadium, Miss Company, Mr Website, Miss Fashion, Mr Reggae and Miss Wallet. You will interview them using the following questions.

1. **What is your great passion in life?** (Mr Stadium "Football!"; Miss Company "Friends!"; etc.)
2. **What is the first thing you do every morning?** (Mr Stadium "I wonder what football match will be on television today"; Miss Company "I read the text messages on my mobile phone"; etc.)
3. **What can be a great disappointment for you?** (Mr Stadium "When my favourite team loses"; Miss Company "When I have no boyfriend"; etc.)
4. **Is there something you would very much like to buy?** (Mr Stadium "A ticket for the cup final"; Miss Company "A new computer I could send e-mails with"; etc.)
5. **What is your supreme goal?** (Mr Stadium "To become a football player!"; Miss Company "To have lots of friends and live with them"; etc.)

If the microphone were turned on to you, how would you answer these questions? What is number one in your life? Football, friends, etc. are not wrong in themselves but they should be in the proper place. You need to realise that what comes first affects your choices, your goals, your use of money, etc. You need to make sure that God has the very first place in your life. When God created you, it was so that you would love Him and live for Him.

Maybe you have not put Him in this key position yet. Perhaps you fear what your friends would say, or if you became a Christian you might lose them altogether. Maybe you know that becoming a Christian would mean giving up some of the things you do or the places you enjoy going to now. Maybe you are not willing to give God first place in your life because you feel there is too much to give up.

But listen to what the Lord Jesus said in Mark 8:36. What good will these things be to you if you lose your own soul? We have broken the first commandment. We do not love God and live for Him the way we should. We do not give Him the first place. We all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). But God has made it possible for us to be forgiven by sending the Lord Jesus to die on Calvary (Hebrews 9:22). By turning from your sin and trusting in Jesus you can be made right with God. Then not only will you have the right relationship with Him and be ready for eternity, but you will also discover true joy and meaning in life now (John 10:10). Whatever is holding you back is not worth it. Get rid of those things that are coming between you and God and give Him first place in your life.

Method: Mr and Mrs (2nd part)

Go back to the five questions used in the interview. Ask the teens how a Christian should answer these questions. Let them make some suggestions before reading the following ones.

1. "I love the Lord Jesus above all. There are many other things I enjoy, but Jesus comes first."
2. "I read my Bible and pray every morning. It's not easy but it is the best way for me to start the day."
3. "I don't want to disobey the Lord. When it happens, I know I can ask God for forgiveness and He grants it."
4. "I would like to get a new bicycle. I could ride to school and youth group with my friends."
5. "I have many goals in life but my top one is to serve the Lord and be more and more like Him!"

If you are a Christian, ask the Lord to help you continually obey this first commandment. You have already made the decision to live for God, but is your life totally yielded to Him? Sometimes we Christians can allow possessions, hobbies, money or friends to come between us and God. Things which are not sinful in themselves become sinful if we allow them to take the place in our lives which rightfully belongs to God. We need to remember that our relationship with God is the most important thing in our lives. Nothing must be allowed to take His place.

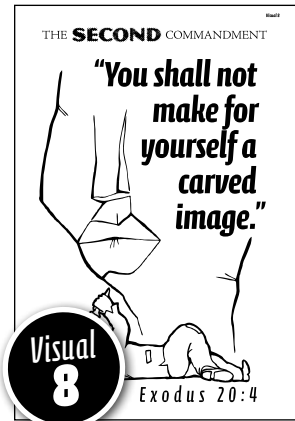


If you plan to teach this lesson in two parts, stop here. The teaching on the second commandment is shorter but you can extend the method used in the second part.

The second commandment

"You shall not make for yourself a carved image" (Exodus 20:4).

In their new land, the Israelites would be surrounded by nations that made images of their gods from wood and stone, but they were forbidden to do this. God forbade



them to use images to worship Him. This is still happening today. [Show visual 8.]

Why did God forbid it? Because He is the almighty, eternal, all-powerful God. No image,

no matter how great, could ever give a true reflection of what He is. Instead it would provide a false picture. To make or worship any image would be to dishonour God.

In order to worship God the right way, we need to have a true picture of what He is like. Sadly many people have an inaccurate understanding of God's character. What kind of picture do they have in mind? An old grandfather? Santa Claus? To many, God is a weak, helpless figure. To others, He is simply a God of love Who will not punish us no matter what we do. We all are in danger of having an incomplete view of God, creating an image of God in our mind. Thus we don't worship Him the right way.

God wants to be worshipped in truth (John 4:23). This is why it is so important that we should study the Bible to discover more about His character, to get to know Him better. God reveals Himself through His Word.

Method: Workgroups on "The God we worship"

Divide the teens into groups of three or four and hand out the following verses. They will look up the verses and write down in their own words what they find out about God. If you teach the lesson in two parts, you might want to extend the list of verses.

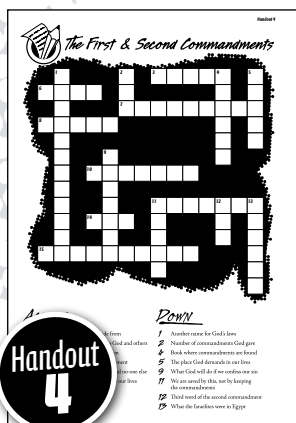
The God we worship ...

1. _____ (Psalm 103:19)
2. _____ (Jeremiah 32:17)
3. _____ (Romans 1:18)
4. _____ (Romans 6:23b)

Answers: He is in control of all things; He can do anything; He is full of wrath against sin; He provides a way of forgiveness through Jesus Christ.

When the groups have finished, let them share what they have found. This method could also lead to a time of worship in which the teens could pray according to these verses.

Method: Crossword



Photocopy handout 4 for all the teens. They could fill it in during the programme or later at home. It will help them review the lesson and memorise the main points.

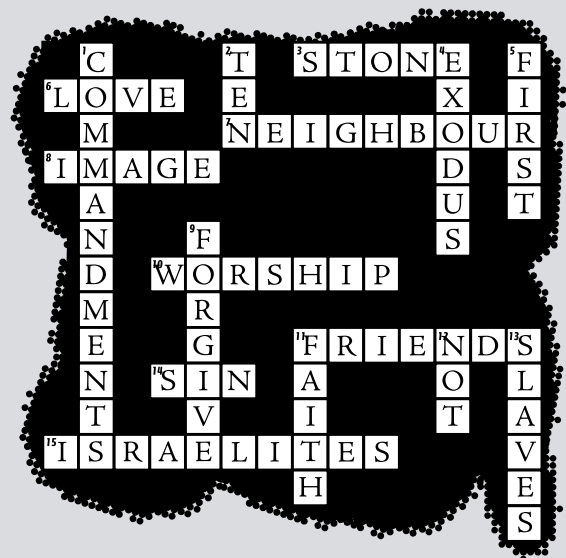
Conclusion

God gave these commandments not only to Moses and the people of Israel. He also gave them to us. The first and second commandments challenge us. They set a high standard for our relationship with God. He is to be given first place in our lives and we are to honour Him through our worship.

We must face the truth: we do not love God the way we should. You and I have broken God's Law. But you also know that God has provided a way for you to be forgiven through Christ Jesus. You can never live up to His standards by your own efforts but, by turning from your sin and trusting in Jesus, you can be made right with God. Do not continue to go your own way. Come to the Lord Jesus today. ●







HANDOUT 4 ANSWERS



The 3rd & 4th Commandments

Objectives: We would like the teens:

-  to understand that God's name must be respected and that Sunday should be a day of rest and worship.
-  to realise that these two commandments are disregarded in today's society - they must be careful not to follow the crowd!
-  to watch their tongue carefully and to make appropriate use of their time on Sundays.
-  to admit their incapacity to fully obey God's Law and repent.

Introduction: How to please

Suppose you would like to do something special to please your dad. What would you do? Here are a few suggestions. Tell me which one you find suitable. [You might need to adapt this introduction according to the family situation of the teens in your group. They could also think about how to please their mother or uncle.]

- ✦ Give him a bunch of flowers!
- ✦ Wash his car!
- ✦ Paint his study pink!
- ✦ Order a pizza with his credit card!
- ✦ Buy him a newspaper!
- ✦ Go out with him for a bike ride!
- ✦ Tell him that you love him!
- ✦ Any other suggestions?

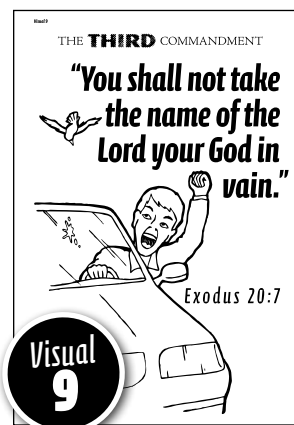
In this lesson we want to think about how to please God. At our last meeting we began to consider the first section of the Ten Commandments. We saw that we should give God the first place in our lives and that

we should worship Him in the proper way. The next two commandments teach us how we can please Him by using our tongue and our time in the right way.

The third commandment

"You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain" (Exodus 20:7).

In Old and New Testament times, the Jewish people had a tremendous respect for God's name. Scribes, whose job it was to make hand-written copies of the Scriptures, would take a new "pen" each time they came to write the name of God, such was their respect for it. Treating God's name lightly was considered a very serious offence.



How things have changed in our world today! [Show visual 9.] Nowadays the name of Jesus Christ is a commonly used swear word. It is almost impossible to watch a programme on TV without

hearing God's name used wrongly. Even children and young people break the third commandment regularly as they "take God's name in vain".

Always be on your guard so that you do not become guilty of misusing God's name. If you find yourself in a situation in school where those in your class constantly take God's name in vain, it can be all too easy for you to do the same. Be careful what you

say. Remember that God makes it very clear that He will deal with the sin of those who misuse His name (Exodus 20:7b).

Method: Thumbs up

Submit a difficult situation to the teens: "Daniel is a Christian. He is chatting with a group of friends at school and one of them swears and uses the Lord's name. What could we advise Daniel to do?"

Read the following suggestions one by one and ask the teens to use their thumb. If they believe it's a good piece of advice, they should put their thumb up. If they think it's a bad one, they should put it down. They can also put it in an in-between position.



As you use this method, make some comments yourself, give some guidance and stress how important it is to take a clear stand for the Lord even though it is difficult (suggestions 4 and 8).

1. "Don't get into trouble, just ignore it!"
2. "Wait and see if he does it a second time!"
3. "Pray for your friend that he will realise what is wrong!"
4. "You need to say something to honour the Lord and help your friend!"
5. "Why don't you write a letter to your friend!"
6. "Just wait until you are alone with him and explain!"
7. "Speak with authority and refer to the Ten Commandments!"
8. "In a gentle way tell him that God's name shouldn't be used that way."

Any one of us can face such a situation. If you are a Christian, how will you react? Will you just ignore what was said, perhaps

pretending you have not heard? Or will you have the courage to speak up, making them aware that the name of the Lord is precious to you and should not be used in such a way? A quiet word from a Christian can cause people to think about what they are saying. Do not be ashamed to stand up for the Lord's name.

Most Christians would never use God's name as a swear word. But have you ever considered that there is another way in which you might take His name in vain? As a "Christian" you have taken upon yourself the name of the Lord Jesus. You claim to be someone who belongs to Him. Does your life measure up to what you claim to be (2 Timothy 2:19)? We must always remember that the behaviour of God's people reflects upon the name of their God. Do others see you living in a way that is pleasing to God? If not, you may be guilty of taking the Lord's name in vain. Remember God's warning - anyone who takes His name in vain is guilty before Him.



If you plan to teach this lesson in two parts, stop here.

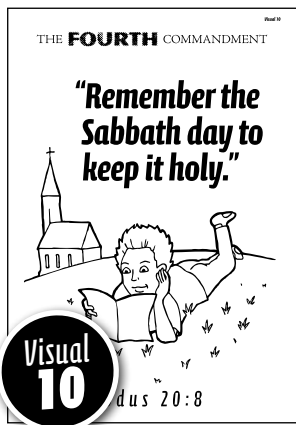
The fourth commandment

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8).

God created the universe in six days and rested on the seventh day. In this commandment God again reminds us of that fact and commands us to keep the Sabbath day "holy". The word "holy" means "different" or "set apart". God's special day is to be different from the other days of the week.

In the New Testament we discover that, following the resurrection of the Lord Jesus on the first day of the week, Christians

began to keep the first day special instead of the seventh day. This special day became known as “the Lord’s Day” (Revelation 1:10). Although for us as Christians the actual day has changed from Saturday to Sunday, the principle remains the same – that one day of the week is to be kept “holy” or “different” from the others. How should we keep Sunday different from other days?



[Show visual 10.]

It should be:

A day to rest

Look up Mark 2:27. Why did God make the Sabbath day? He did it for us, for our good. He knows how our bodies function (Psalm

103:14). It has been proved that a 6:1 ratio of work to rest is ideal for the human body.

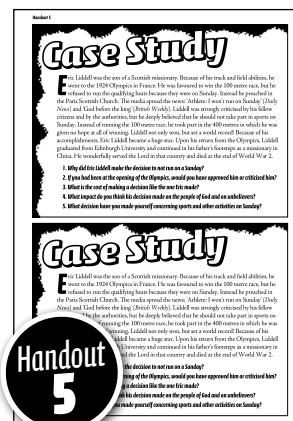
Is Sunday a day of rest for you? In order to make it possible to rest on Sunday, you may need to plan your programme better during weekdays – for example, doing homework or assignments on other days so that you can rest on the Lord’s Day. This is one way of keeping Sunday “holy” or “different”.

A day to worship

Having one day in the week free from the pressures of work or study gives us an opportunity to worship God. Look up Hebrews 10:25 – what should we not neglect? Assembling ourselves. Each Sunday take the opportunity to attend church. Keeping Sunday free from other things also gives time for Bible study or for reading good Christian books. It is important to have time to think about all the Lord has done for us, and to praise Him for His goodness to us.

Is Sunday a day in which you take the opportunity to worship God? Or have you allowed it to become just like any other day, so busy with other things that you have little time for God? Remember, when God said we should keep the Sabbath day holy, He was not just giving us a suggestion – He was giving us a command.

Method: Case study on Eric Liddell



Divide the teens into groups of four or five. Give handout 5 to each of the groups and have them read the case study and discuss the questions. (Another possibility would be to show part of the film Chariots of Fire.)

Conclusion

The third and fourth commandments teach us that our love for God will be displayed by how we show reverence for His name and how we respect His day. How does your life measure up? Is God pleased with the way you are responding to these commandments?

Method: Quiz

Idea 1: You will need a big paper ball and a waste paper basket. Divide the teens into two teams and ask questions to each team alternately. Award 100 points for a correct answer. The person answering the question then gets three opportunities to gain further points. Hold the waste paper basket in front of you. From a distance of approximately three meters, the young person throws the ball, gaining 10 points if the ball falls into the basket.

Then hold the basket on top of your head for another attempt worth 20 points. Finally hold the basket behind you and lean forward a little for a last shot, worth 30 points.







Idea 2: You will need two saucers as well as drinking straws and peas. Ask questions to the two teams alternately, awarding 50 points for a correct answer. The person answering the question then has thirty seconds to transfer peas from one saucer into the other using a drinking straw. Award one extra point for each pea successfully transferred.

Questions:

1. In which chapter of Exodus are the Ten Commandments? (Chapter 20)
2. How should Christians react when they hear God's name being taken in vain? (Challenge those concerned about their use of God's name)
3. As well as swearing, how else might we take God's name in vain? (Claim to be Christians but live in a way that dishonours God)
4. How did God set us an example regarding our use of the Sabbath Day? (He rested after six days of creation)
5. What does "holy" mean? (Different or set apart)
6. Why do Christians keep the first day of the week special instead of the seventh? (It is the day of the Lord's resurrection)
7. How might you need to plan your weekly programme if you are to rest on the Lord's day? (Do school work etc. on other days)
8. As well as rest, what else should we do on the Lord's Day? (Worship Him) ●

The 5th, 6th & 7th Commandments

Objectives: We would like the teens:

-  to understand what attitude God wants them to have towards parents, peers and towards the opposite sex.
-  to realise that they need not only to watch their conduct but also to keep their mind clear from anger, revenge, lustful thoughts, etc.
-  to have a loving and respectful attitude, and to guard their minds and reject any evil thoughts.
-  to recognise that they don't obey God's commandments and need to ask the Lord Jesus to save them and sanctify their minds and attitudes.

Introduction: Pick out ten people

You have relationships with so many people: parents, brothers, sisters, other family members, school teachers, music teachers, sport coaches, friends, neighbours, church members, bus drivers, etc. What a list!

[The following text should be on a poster or transparency. Read the ten points one by one, and ask the teens to think on their own who they would pick.]

Among all these people who would be ...

1. the one who knows you best?
2. the one you would like to see disappear?
3. the one you find difficult to obey?
4. the one you feel very close to?
5. the one who would always forget your birthday?
6. the one you would never go on holiday with?

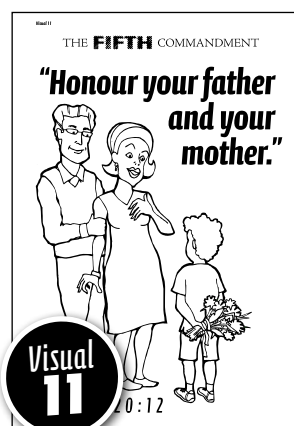
7. the one you would go to for help?
8. the one you fight with on a daily basis (almost)?
9. the one you would be ready to follow anywhere?
10. the one whose love is unquestionable?

If we are Christians, we should love God – the first four commandments. But our love for God should influence the way we treat others. As we study the fifth, sixth and seventh commandments, let us ask the Lord to challenge us about our attitude to others.

The fifth commandment

“Honour your father and your mother” (Exodus 20:12).

“To honour” means to prize highly, show respect, treat as precious – as the little boy does on this visual. [Show visual 11].



Your parents are valuable to you. Think of all they do and have done for you. They work hard to provide things like food, clothing, housing. They even give you things you do not need but like to have. Think about

the last special treat or birthday present they gave you. They warn you of many dangers and guide you when you have to make decisions. They are a great gift from God to you!

You may tend to forget all this when you have difficulties with your parents. Sometimes they forbid you doing what others are allowed to do. They don't always understand what is important to you. Their opinion concerning hairstyle, clothes, music is often different. Some decisions they make seem unfair. Your complaints may be justified. It's true that parents are not perfect but they try their best. Don't forget all they do for you. They are valuable.

God wants you to honour them. You can do that by obeying them, by being kind to them, by speaking about them with respect. Think about the way you refer to your parents when talking with others. When you disagree with your parents, talk with them respectfully. You can explain how you feel. Listen carefully to their point of view. Then you need to accept whatever decision they make. Perhaps you have substitute parents or parents you live with only part of the time – God wants you to honour them too.

For example your parents set a time for you to be in which is much earlier than that of your friends. If you are to "honour" them how should you react? You may talk with them about it, but accept their decision. Do not complain about them to your friends. Come back at the time they say. If because of unexpected circumstances you will be late, give them a call to explain the situation. People who honour their parents are people who please God and receive His promise of blessing (Ephesians 6:1-3).

Method: Role-play

In order to help the teens put into practice the fifth commandment, set up a little role-play.

"Imagine you are invited to a special party. Most of your friends will be there and they plan to stay overnight all together. You don't want

to miss such an occasion! You know that your parents will probably not like the idea of you sleeping there, but you decide to go and talk with them about it."

Find three volunteers (you could include a leader) willing to take part in this role-play. Two of them will act the mother and father (not convinced their child should sleep there but open to discussion). The third volunteer will try to put into practice the fifth commandment in this situation. This will help the group think about appropriate ways to communicate with parents and will prepare them to accept respectfully whatever decision is made or whatever instructions are given.

Teaching the lesson in two parts would allow you to spend more time on the role-play and get the best out of this method. It may be interesting to play the situation not just once but two or three times and with different actors. After each attempt, talk with the group about what could be improved. The sixth and seventh commandments would be studied in the next meeting.



Method: Group discussion

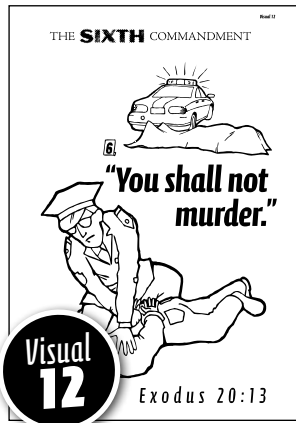
Divide the teens into groups of five or six and have a leader in each group. They will discuss the sixth and seventh commandments in the light of Jesus' teaching. Give the group leaders the questions and the answers in advance so they come well prepared. Provide them with visuals 12

DISCUSSION SHEET	
The sixth commandment: "You shall not murder" (Exodus 20:13).	
1 Why do many people not feel concerned by this commandment?	
2 Read Matthew 5:21-26. How do Jesus' words change the way we consider this commandment?	
3 Your friends are angry with a girl in your class whose behaviour got the whole class into trouble. They are looking for a way to get her back. What should you do?	
The seventh commandment: "You shall not commit adultery" (Exodus 20:14).	
4 Thinking you feel that the word "adultery" applies to other married people. How do Jesus' words in Matthew 5:27-28 apply this commandment to marriage?	
5 "Bad" thoughts are wrong. What can you do to avoid these kinds of thoughts?	
6 The widely held view that there is no harm in sex outside marriage?	

and 13 and enough copies of handout 6 for the teens. Allow approximately 20 minutes for the discussion, then have a brief report back time.

The sixth commandment

“You shall not murder” (Exodus 20:13).



[Show visual 12.]

1. Why do many people not feel concerned by this commandment? Because they feel they are unlikely to murder anyone. They see it as something done by

terrorists or psychopaths.

2. Read Matthew 5:21-24. How do Jesus' words change the way we consider the sixth commandment?

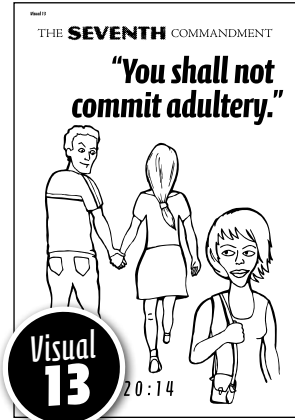
Jesus speaks about angry and bitter words being the same as murder – in both cases we break God's Law. He makes us think about our motives. While we may not go as far as murder, do we have hatred in our hearts for others? If so, we are guilty of breaking God's Law.

3. Your friends are angry with a boy in your class whose behaviour got the whole class into trouble. They are looking for a way to get their own back. What should you do?

Avoid the temptation of getting involved in bitter words or plans of revenge, even though it may seem justified. Show by your manner and attitude that you see things differently. If possible, try to encourage them to stop seeking revenge. Pray about the situation and seek God's help to act in a way He would be pleased with.

The seventh commandment

“You shall not commit adultery” (Exodus 20:14).



[Show visual 13.]

1. Perhaps you feel that the word “adultery” applies to older, married people. How do Jesus' words in Matthew 5:27-28 apply this commandment to everyone?

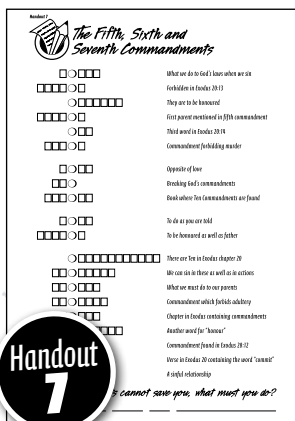
Again Jesus focuses on thoughts, not just actions. Lustful thoughts and adultery are equally reprehensible in God's eyes.

2. Jesus is saying that lustful thoughts are wrong. What can you do to avoid these kinds of thoughts?

When tempted, ask God to help you focus your thoughts on something else. Be careful in your choice of books, magazines, videos, films, music and TV programmes. Do they fill your mind with bad thoughts? If so, avoid them. Instead focus your mind on things which will help you please God (Philippians 4:8).

3. How should Christians respond to the widely held view that there is no harm in sex outside marriage?

Christians must oppose this view. God's Word makes it clear that His plan for sex is within marriage only. The Greek word “fornication” refers to sexual intercourse between a man and woman who are not married (adultery is one type of fornication). It is mentioned several times in the New Testament (e.g. 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5) as something we should abstain from.



Conclusion

As you consider these commandments, you realise that only God can enable you to do these things. But if you have confessed your disobedience and given Him the control of your life, you can now count on Him. As you will meet with many people in the coming days, the Lord will enable you to love them and respect them. ●





HANDOUT 7 ANSWERS

Fill in the spaces: break, murder, parents, father, not, sixth, hate, sin, Exodus, obey, mother, commandments, thoughts, honour, seventh, twenty, respect, fifth, fourteen, adultery.

Fill in the blanks: *repent, and, be, converted.*

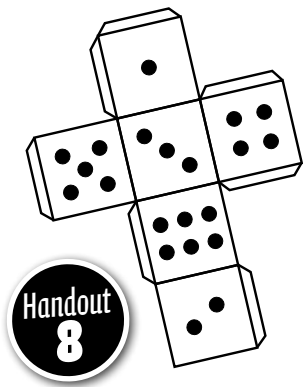
The 8th, 9th & 10th Commandments

Objectives: We would like the teens:

-  to understand the implications of these three commandments on stealing, lying and coveting (e.g. we must not steal possessions, but also reputations, time, etc.)
-  to realise that only God can enable them to obey these commandments.
-  to learn honesty, truthfulness and contentment.
-  to repent and put their trust in the only One Who can save them from sin.

Introduction: The dice test

Make dice and hand them out to the teens at the beginning of the lesson. You can make



photocopies of handout 8 on thick paper, cut the dice, fold them and glue them together.

Will you accept a little test? In the coming days, examine your life

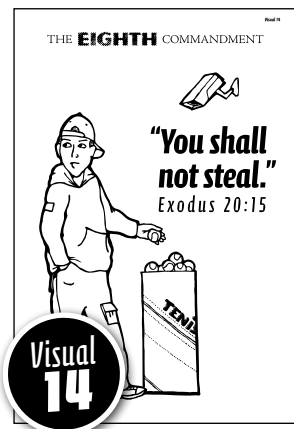
attentively. When you disobey one of God's commandments, set the dice up somewhere in your bedroom at number 1. When it happens a second time, turn the dice to number 2 and so on. See at what stage of the week you reach number 6. [In the conclusion you will show that the dice can turn into a cross.]

As we study the Ten Commandments, we want to examine our lives, understand what God expects from us, how we can better love Him and others. Seven of the Ten

Commandments have been studied so far. Can you list them? Now we shall look at the final three commandments.

The eighth commandment

"You shall not steal" (Exodus 20:15).



[Show visual 14.] Here we have one of the shortest of the Ten Commandments. It is very simple and straightforward – God's people must not steal. This commandment

obviously forbids us to steal possessions. We must be honest with what belongs to others. It is clearly wrong to take money from someone's wallet, or to steal a bar of chocolate from the sweet shop.

Of course, not only Christians hold to this standard. Even people who have no time for God accept the principle that it is wrong to take what does not belong to them. But many people would tolerate a more subtle way of stealing. There are other things that shouldn't be stolen, as we will find out in the following sketch.

Method: Sketch: "Found guilty!"

A sketch may help the group understand the implications of this commandment. Four people are taken to court for stealing, but they believe they haven't done anything wrong! The judge will help them realise in what way they did steal from others.

- **Judge:** “Please be seated. Case number 1. Mrs A, you are accused of stealing from your neighbour. Do you admit the facts?”
- **Mrs A:** “Your honour, I don’t understand. I haven’t taken anything from my neighbour!”
- **Judge:** “According to witnesses, you have stolen her reputation by revealing something important about her past. Do you admit the facts or not?”
- **Mrs A:** “Well, I did tell a few friends what she did but it wasn’t that confidential, was it?”
- **Judge:** “It was. You are guilty. You will have to pay 100 euros (use your currency). Next case.”

Characters B, C and D will also go through judgement. B stole his employer’s time by often slipping away from work early. C stole from a music company by making copies of a CD for her friends. D stole from the government by not declaring some of his income in order to pay less tax. The sketch may raise some reactions from the teens. Take time to discuss with them about these different ways of stealing.

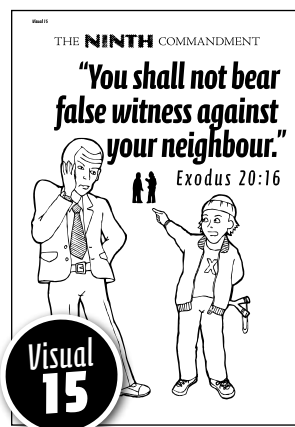
When we steal we do not just sin against others, we sin against God (Psalm 51:4). Indeed it is possible for us to steal directly from God by failing to give God what is rightfully His. God’s Word tells us that a tenth of our income belongs to Him (Malachi 3:8-10). This does not just apply to those in full-time employment. It also applies to your pocket money or wages from a part-time job. Are you guilty of stealing from God?

The ninth commandment

“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour” (Exodus 20:16).

God never lies (Titus 1:2). He is completely trustworthy, and wants His people to

be the same. Obviously we break this commandment when we say things that are untrue. Perhaps a homework is not handed in on time, and a lie is told as an excuse. Or perhaps we realise that something we have done is going to get us into trouble, and so we deny having been involved.



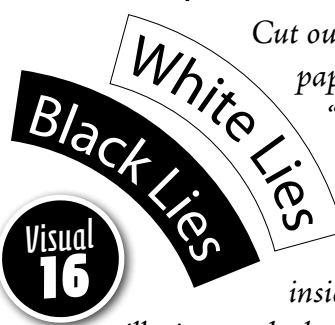
[Show visual 15.]

What do you think is happening on this visual?

By telling a lie, we break the ninth commandment and displease God, Who wants His people to be truthful (Proverbs 12:17).

However, it is not only blatant lies that God forbids, but also telling half-truths that give a false impression, or staying silent when we hear someone relating a story that we know to be untrue. God demands complete truthfulness in every part of our lives (Psalm 51:6).

Method: Optical illusion



Cut out the two strips of paper on visual 16 – “White Lies” and “Black Lies”. Be careful to cut the strip “white lie”

inside the border. The illusion works better without the line.

Show the two strips to the teens, holding “White Lies” above “Black Lies” and ask which one is smaller? “White lies” looks smaller. But as we put the two strips together we find out that they are exactly the same size!

Sometimes we try to make excuses for the lies we tell. We talk about “little white lies”,

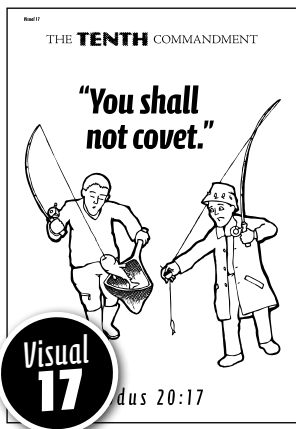
which we claim do not really matter. But this is not what God thinks. His Word makes it clear that He hates dishonesty (Proverbs 6:16-17).



If you plan to teach this lesson in two parts, stop here.

The tenth commandment

“You shall not covet” (Exodus 20:17).



[Show visual 17.]

What do you think is happening in the mind of the fisherman standing on the right? Covet means to envy something that belongs to someone else. Is our mind focused on a friends’

possession? We feel we have to get it or buy the same, and we will not be satisfied until then. That is coveting.

It is a very challenging commandment because it concerns the way we think, not just the things we actually do. Coveting in our minds is a sin in itself, but it also easily leads to other sins in action like stealing.

We face many temptations to covet. Advertisements continually tell us that there are things that we absolutely must have. Let us examine some of them.

Method: Advertisements in newspapers

Ask the teens to split up in groups of three. Give each group a newspaper or magazine. They have to look for advertisements and choose one that particularly catches their

attention. After two minutes, they show it to the whole group and identify two things.

- *The product we are encouraged to buy.*
- *The “hook” used to make us do so.*

Can you think of Bible characters who struggled with this? Ahab coveted Naboth’s vineyard (1 Kings 21), and was prepared to lie, kill and steal in order to get it. David coveted Uriah’s wife, and it led him to commit adultery and murder (2 Samuel 11). Coveting doesn’t only concern possessions. We can covet others’ relationships, social position, appearance, talents, etc.

We must always be on our guard against covetousness. It is a serious sin because it displays ungratefulness to God. When we covet something it is as if we are saying, “Lord, I am not satisfied with what You have given me.”

The Bible gives you ...

- **A promise in Matthew 6:31-33:** the Heavenly Father knows what you need and will provide it.
- **An instruction in Hebrews 13:5:** you should be content with what you have.
- **An example in Philippians 4:11:** the apostle Paul learned to be content in whatever state he found himself.

Remember the promise, obey the instruction and follow the example given by Paul!

Conclusion

Now that we have covered the Ten Commandments, are you ready for the dice test? Each time you disobey God’s Law in the coming week, turn the dice to the next number. But when you get to six, you may open the dice and you will discover the shape of a cross! *[Demonstrate it.]*

You and I cannot live a sinless life. We are just not able to, because of our sinful nature. As we are, we cannot live in the holy presence of God (Romans 3:23). But God loved us so much that he sent His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. He did not sin. He kept the Law perfectly during His whole life. When He was punished on the cross, it was not for His sins but for ours so that we could be forgiven (1 Peter 3:18).

Have you turned away from your sins and accepted Jesus as your Saviour and Lord? He will then help you as a Christian to keep His commandments. In our next Bible studies we will talk more about Who Jesus is and what He has done for us.





Method: Alphabet quiz

Divide the teens into two teams. When you call a letter, the first person to bring you an object beginning with that letter (e.g. C – a coin; P – a pen; W – a watch) earns the right to answer the question beginning with that letter. A correct answer earns ten points. Call the letters at random. If no object can be found, ask the question to both teams and allow the first person that stands up to answer it. If wrong, the question is passed to the other team.

- What “A” coveted Naboth’s vineyard? (**Ahab**)
- What “B” are we forbidden to do to an idol? (**Bow**)
- What “C” is envying something that belongs to someone else? (**Coveting**)
- What “D” comes after “Lord’s” and “Sabbath”? (**Day**)
- What “E” is the country the Israelites had escaped from? (**Egypt**)
- What “F” is the place God demands in our lives? (**First**)
- What “G” describes all who break God’s commandments? (**Guilty**)
- What “H” describes someone who does not lie? (**Honest**)
- What “I” is forbidden in the second commandment? (**Image**)
- What “J” summarised the Ten Commandments by saying that we should love God and love our neighbour? (**Jesus**)
- What “L” does the ninth commandment forbid? (**Lying**)
- What “M” does the sixth commandment forbid? (**Murder**)
- What “N” is the third word of seven of the commandments? (**Not**)
- What “P” must always be honoured? (**Parents**)
- What “R” is the first word of the fourth commandment? (**Remember**)
- What “S” is the commandment that forbids idols? (**Second**)
- What “T” is the chapter in Exodus that contains the Ten Commandments? (**Twenty**)
- What “W” should God’s people do on His special day? (**Worship**)
- What “U” did David murder in order to get his wife? (**Uriah**)
- What “V” should God’s Name never be taken in? (**Vain**) ●

His Deity

Objectives: We would like the teens:

-  to discover the many evidences of Jesus' deity.
-  to realise the fact that God Himself came down to earth.
-  to be strengthened in their faith in Christ and praise Him.
-  to put their trust in the One Who can save them.

Introduction: an investigation

Have you ever wanted to be a detective? Today we will conduct an investigation on somebody. Our goal will be to find out what this person's true identity is. In movies, we watch detectives making such inquiries. How can a detective gather information in order to determine somebody's identity? [Let the teens come up with a few ideas, then add a few others.]

- ✦ Meet with this person and ask questions.
- ✦ Examine his passport, birth records, bank records, etc.
- ✦ Question people who know him.

All the information gathered should reveal the truth. Today our enquiry will be concerning Jesus. We want find out Who He truly was.

Let us first remember what we studied over the past weeks. We looked at two very important subjects - the Bible and the commandments. We discovered that the Bible is relevant to us today, and the Ten Commandments showed us how far short

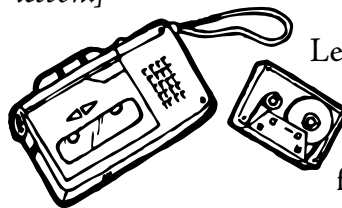
of God's standards we fall. We cannot keep the commandments in our own strength. So what is the answer to our sin problem and to the challenge of living the Christian life? God says, "The Lord Jesus Christ is the answer!" This is why we will have several studies on Jesus today and in the coming weeks.

We will not enquire about Jesus' existence. It is widely admitted that He did live on earth 2,000 years ago. There are more writings about Jesus than about Julius Caesar! But people don't all agree on Who Jesus truly was. This is what we want to investigate.

Some people say He was just a man who made a great impact by his teaching and way of living. Others say Jesus was far more than a man, He was and is God the Son. To believe that Jesus is God is to believe in His "Deity". The investigation we will now make is vitally important because if Jesus wasn't truly God then He couldn't have died for our sins.

1. An amazing claim

[Reveal visual 18 progressively through the lesson.]



Let us take our note pad and our tape recorder and first find out what

Jesus Himself had to say about His identity. One day while speaking to the Jews, Jesus made an amazing statement. "Before Abraham was I AM" (John 8:58). This statement contains two important things.

- ♦ **"I AM."** To understand the meaning of these words, we need to turn to Exodus 3:13-14. God revealed Himself to Moses through a burning bush and said, "I am who I am." So Jesus introduced Himself the same way as God did. By using identical words, Jesus claimed to be God!
- ♦ **"Before Abraham."** Jesus also declared that He existed before Abraham. He is eternal. He always was God, is God, and always will be God in the future. The Jews listening to Jesus understood what He declared and they were about to stone Him!

2. A miraculous birth

We heard what Jesus said about Himself. What would a good detective do next?

Maybe make some research about this man's origins. A well known passage in Matthew 1:18-25 tells us two important things concerning Jesus' birth.

- ♦ He was conceived by the Holy Spirit (v18-20).
- ♦ He was born of a virgin (v23-25).

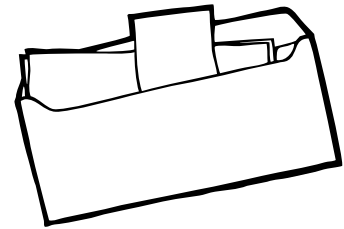
This is an incredible miracle. The word used to describe it is "incarnation" which means that God in the form of the Lord Jesus, became a person and lived among men.

Sometimes our portrayal of the Christmas story makes Jesus seem too weak and sentimental. We need to understand that, even though Jesus was a normal baby, He also was the eternal and all-powerful God. It is a mystery and an amazing truth! The incarnation was a demonstration of power but also of true love for mankind. God so loved us that He came into the world to save

people from the punishment they deserved for their sin. The name "Jesus" means "Saviour" (Matthew 1:21).

3. Prophecies fulfilled

A good detective would examine more documents in order to double-check what he discovered. Let's take our magnifying glasses and turn to the Old Testament. It tells us a lot about Jesus.



Method: Chart

Reproduce the following chart on a board. Ask the teens to look up the verses and have a volunteer come up and fill it in.

	Old Testament Prophecies	New Testament Prophecies
Place of Birth	Micah 5:2	Matthew 2:1
Arrival in Jerusalem	Zechariah 9:9	John 12:12-15
Crucifixion	Isaiah 53:12	Matthew 27:38
Identity	Isaiah 7:14	John 12:45

Some of these prophecies about Jesus were written more than 1,000 years before He came. The exact way in which the prophecies were fulfilled gives us tremendous confidence that Jesus is God. The probability of all these prophecies being fulfilled in one person is extremely low. This is marvellous evidence of Jesus' deity.

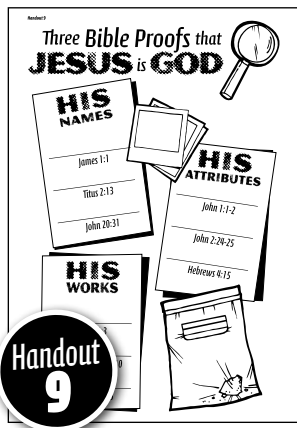


If you plan to teach this lesson in two parts, stop here.

4. Names, attributes and works

We have heard Jesus' claim, enquired about His birth and examined prophecies about Him. But a detective wouldn't leave any information aside. This time we will divide into groups to make further research.

Method: Workgroups



Divide the teens in groups of four or five and give them copies of handout 9. They will have 10 minutes to look up the verses and fill in the sheets. Then gather the whole group, give opportunity for feedback and make

some additional comments.

His names tell us He is God.

- James 1:1 - LORD - reminds us that He is Divine.
- Titus 2:13 - GOD AND SAVIOUR - only He can save.
- John 20:31 - SON OF GOD - Jesus is the Eternal God, the Son.

His attributes tell us He is God.

- John 1:1-2 - ETERNAL - "Word" means the Lord Jesus.
- John 2:24-25 - ALL-KNOWING - knows all men and all about them.
- Hebrews 4:15 - SINLESS - tempted but never sinned.

His works tell us He is God.

- John 1:3 - CREATOR - nothing was made without Him.
- 2 Corinthians 5:10 - JUDGE - only God can judge and be entirely just.
- Matthew 9:6 - FORGIVER OF SINS - only God can forgive sin.

5. Devoted followers

We have almost reached the end of our enquiry on Jesus. There is one last step in our research – listen to those who have known Jesus. Maybe you can identify with some of them.

- Peter was one of Jesus' disciples who listened to Him, watched Him, lived with Him 24 hours a day. Jesus asked him and His other disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" Peter answered: "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God" (Matthew 16:16). He was certain that Jesus was the One announced by the prophets and was truly God. Do you also believe this?
- Paul was among those who did not believe that Jesus is God. But he met with Him on the road to Damascus. His convictions and life were radically changed. Now he knew that Jesus was God and that He came to die for him (Philippians 2:5-8). Have you made the same discovery?
- After Jesus died, Thomas was full of doubts despite all he knew about Jesus. Maybe you feel the same. But the Lord appeared to him and to the other disciples. When Thomas saw the print of the nails on his hands and the mark on his side he said, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28).

Conclusion

If up to now you have never believed that Jesus is truly God, what can you say when faced with this overwhelming evidence? Surely it should make you realise that He is divine, and that you should come to Him for salvation. Peter, Paul and Thomas did not believe at first but then found out Who Jesus truly was. Not only that, they put their

trust in Him for salvation. They discovered Jesus was the answer to all their needs because He is God.

If you are a Christian, then what we have studied should strengthen your faith in the Lord Jesus and cause you to worship and praise Him. You have a Saviour Who is truly God, so trust Him for everything. ●

His Life

8

Objectives: We would like the teens:

- ✚ to consider the life of Jesus – He taught with authority, prayed in every circumstance, cared for people and was willing to go through much suffering.
- ♥ to realise that Jesus set a perfect example for them to follow in order to succeed in life.
- ✚ to imitate Christ especially among unbelievers – witnessing, praying and caring for them despite opposition.
- ➡ to realise their lives are meaningless and to ask Jesus to save them and give them clear direction.

Introduction: They have marked history!

Give the teens a name, e.g. “Albert Einstein”. They must say whatever comes to their mind about this famous person, e.g. “ $E=mc^2$! Great scientist! Amazing discoveries!” Do the same with a few other names – Marco Polo, Pablo Picasso, Mozart and Napoleon.

Notice that we remember these people for what they accomplished during their lifetime. They marked world history in different ways. But the One Who made the greatest impact on history is the Lord Jesus! Today we want to think about what He did during His lifetime.

So far we investigated Jesus’ deity. [Mention the five headings from the last lesson]. What we already found out should fill us with wonder. But let us take it a step further and consider the practical life of Christ. What did He do during His life on earth? What is He remembered for? Probably many things come to your

mind. What was He really like? How can we learn from His life? How does His example affect us today? The life of the Lord Jesus had many aspects. Today we will think about four important characteristics of His life.

1. A life of teaching



[Show the first part of visual 19.] Jesus taught on many occasions. In Mark 1:21-22 we are not told what He said in the Capernaum synagogue but the people who heard Him were amazed. He taught with a new authority, not gained from His Jewish background but from the fact that He is God. He drew crowds to Him everywhere as He put the truth across to people by parables, searching questions and Old Testament Scripture.

Jesus was not only concerned about getting across information – He wanted a response to what He said. Remember what Zacchaeus decided to do after he heard Jesus’ teaching (Luke 19:8-10). The Lord Jesus commended Zacchaeus’ response. Jesus Himself was at the centre of His teaching and He wanted people to be born again, not just to know facts. His teaching was not to entertain but a rock on which to build our lives. He pointed out our great need of Him. Our

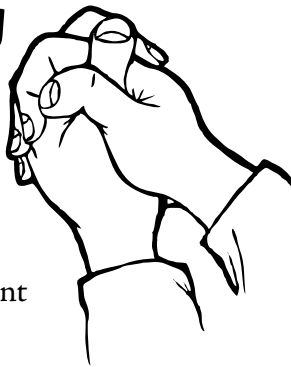
understanding of His teaching does not depend on our education, ability or brains but on the openness of our heart.

Is your heart open to the Lord and His teaching? If you have trusted in the Lord and been saved, can you explain the message of Christ to others in need of Him? Jesus was our perfect example of witnessing. We can never witness as well as He did. But we can try to explain the Gospel to our own age group through our own testimony, by questions about the direction of the other person's life and through the Scriptures. You need Jesus' teaching to affect your life and so do your friends.

2. A life of praying

[Show the second part of visual 19.]

Jesus' life was also a life of prayer. He prayed in many different circumstances.



Method: Workgroups

When and how?
Did Jesus pray?

Matthew 4:2-3	For Peter that his faith would not fail
Luke 6:12-13	At the beginning of His preaching ministry, to prepare to face temptation
Mark 1:35-39	Even though He was in demand and had to preach
Luke 22:32	When He had to make decisions such as choosing the disciples
Luke 22:42	Still today for us if we are believers
Hebrews 7:25	For our protection from the evil one
John 17:15	That His Father's will would be done in all things, especially on the cross

Handout 10

Divide the teens into small groups of three to five and give them handout 10. They will have to link the Bible references on the right to the information in the second column.

We need to pray to help us face

temptation, to make decisions, to increase our faith and the faith of others, and to make us strong against Satan. We especially need to pray when we are busy, and if we are not so busy then we should take the opportunity of having longer prayer times.



HANDOUT 10 ANSWERS

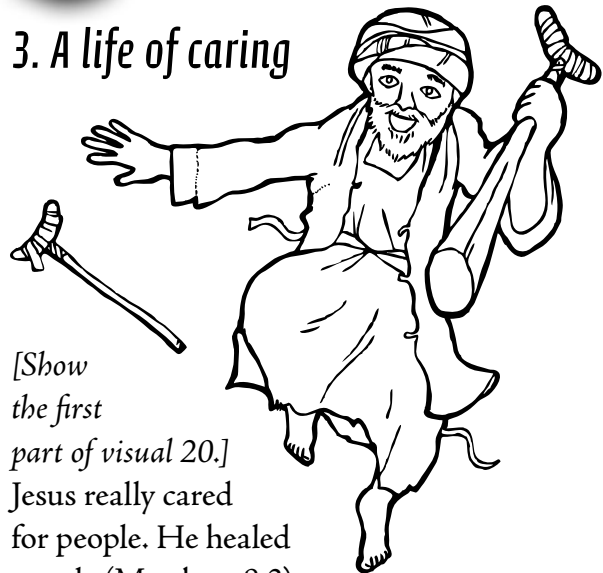
- Matthew 4:2-3 ○ For Peter that his faith would not fail
- Luke 6:12-13 ○ At the beginning of His preaching ministry, to prepare to face temptation
- Mark 1:35-39 ○ Even though He was in demand and had to preach
- Luke 22:32 ○ When He had to make decisions such as choosing the disciples
- Luke 22:42 ○ Still today for us if we are believers
- Hebrews 7:25 ○ For our protection from the evil one
- John 17:15 ○ That His Father's will would be done in all things, especially on the cross

Above all we need to pray that God's will would be done. Luke 18:1 reminds us we should always pray and not give up.



If you plan to teach this lesson in two parts, stop here.

3. A life of caring



[Show the first part of visual 20.]

Jesus really cared for people. He healed people (Matthew 8:3), cast out demons (Mark 1:26) and raised people from the dead (John 11:43-44). As He treated people He often explained the need of their souls. Physical healing was often accompanied by the forgiving of sins (Matthew 9:1-8). This was the greatest way Christ showed compassion for anyone.

He was also the friend of all. He was the friend of outcasts, which caused the Pharisees to complain (Luke 15:2). He dined with Zacchaeus who was hated in Jericho. He befriended some of the Pharisees and wealthy Joseph of Arimathea. He treated all equally and spoke of condemnation for any who would not follow Him, regardless of their background (John 3:18).

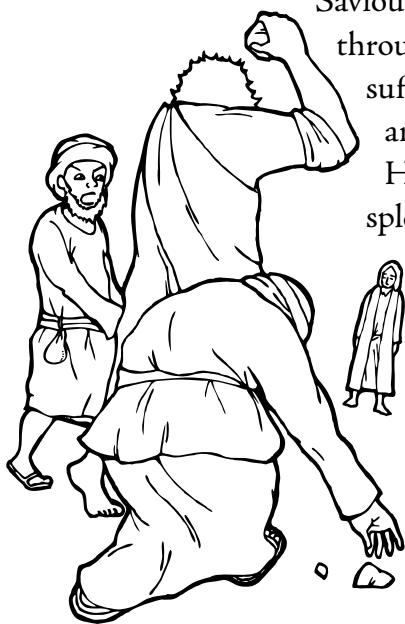
How sad that people still reject His love and care! He cares about your greatest needs and problems and you can bring them all to Him. If you trust in Him, do you in turn care for others? You could visit an elderly person who lives alone and offer to help in any way you can. Perhaps you could help someone who is being bullied at school or spend time with someone who has few friends. Do you care enough about the unsaved to tell them about their need of the Lord Jesus?

4. A life of suffering

Jesus experienced times of joy and sadness – He was a man, as we already said in the previous lesson. He was deeply saddened by Mary's grief and Lazarus' death (John 11:33,35). But, as the Son of God and the

Saviour, He went through more suffering than any man.

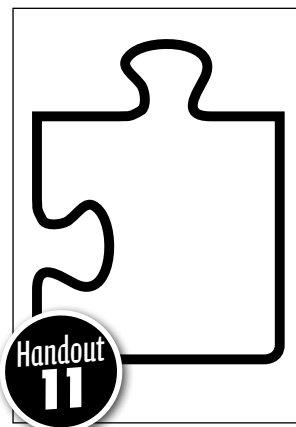
He left the splendour of Heaven for you and me to suffer the humiliation of this earth. [Show the second part of visual 20.]



He suffered rejection from the Jews. They even tried to stone Him. Jesus grieved over Jerusalem when they would not come to Him (Luke 13:34). He agonised in prayer on the Mount of Olives (Luke 22:44). Christ suffered even more as we shall see in the next lesson.

Are you ready to suffer for His sake? How might your suffering come? Perhaps through a little teasing, isolation by others or having to say “no” to certain things which you would probably enjoy, but which you know are wrong. We should be glad because in our suffering we, in some amazing way, share in the sufferings of Christ. What a privilege!

Method: Jesus' life puzzle



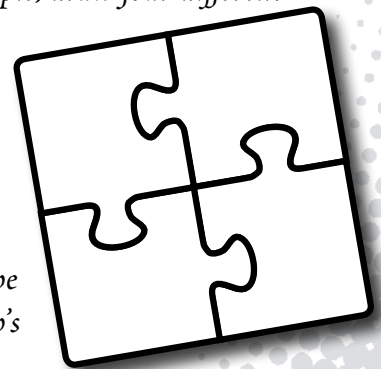
Provide colour pencils or painting material. Make copies of handout 11 on cardboard and give one to each teen.

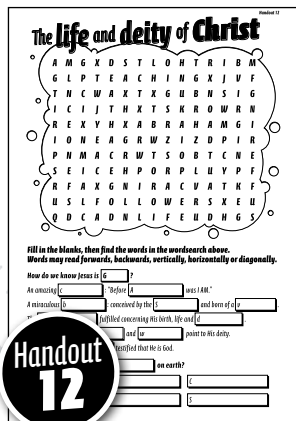
Ask the teens to divide into groups of four and prepare a puzzle presenting

four different aspects of the life of Christ. The idea is to put all the pieces together to make a nice poster. Each group needs to think about the orientation of each piece of their puzzle before starting to draw or paint. Some groups might lack inspiration. Be ready to give them some ideas. For example, draw four different parts of the body:

teaching = a mouth;
praying = knees;
caring = hands;
suffering = a heart.

All the posters could be displayed in the group's art gallery.



Method: Quiz

Photocopy handout 12 for all the teens. They could fill it in during the programme or later at home. It will help them review the lesson and memorise the main points.

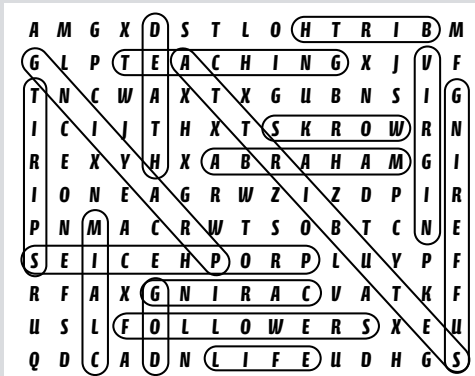
Conclusion

In summary we could say that Jesus' life was a life of giving. The Lord Jesus Christ is remembered for the way He continually poured out His life for those around Him. He gave through teaching, praying, caring and suffering.

What will your life be remembered for? Jesus has set a wonderful example for you to follow. Will you walk in His steps? Will you witness? Will you pray and care for others? Are you ready to suffer for His name? Follow His example. Learn to give yourself to God and to others. ●

HANDOUT 12 ANSWERS





Fill in the blanks: God; claim; Abraham; birth; spirit; virgin; prophecies; death; attributes; works; followers; life; Teaching; Praying; Caring; Suffering.



His Death

9

Objectives: We would like the teens:

-  to understand that sin makes us slaves, but Jesus' death can set us free.
-  to rejoice in God's wonderful way of salvation.
-  to praise God and be comforted in their assurance of salvation.
-  to repent from their sin and put their faith in Jesus.

Introduction: Crucial events in history

Ask the junior teens what were the most important hours in the world's history.

- Man's first step on the moon?
- The fall of the wall in Berlin?
- The first heart transplant?
- The discovery of electricity?

All of these great events have little significance compared to the six hours during which the Lord Jesus bore our sins and died on the cross of Calvary. Let us read Mark 15:25-38. As we look at the death of Christ let us guard against familiarity with what is the pivotal event in history and the heart of Christianity.

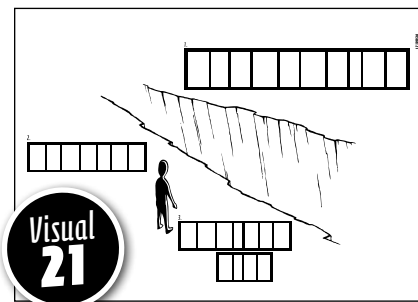
Over the past two studies we have laid the foundation for what we are going to think about in this study. We have looked to see if Jesus Christ really is God and then we have looked at His life to see what God the Son was really like while on this earth.

The obvious question that must be answered is, "If Jesus Christ is God and lived such a perfect life then why did He have to die?" The answer rolls off our tongue all too

easily... "Because of our sin." He was born with the objective of saving us from our sins (Matthew 1:21). So what is so serious about our sin that the Lord Jesus had to die for us?

The Need for Salvation

Method: Sketchboard sermon



Visuals 21 and 23 are to be used as sketchboard sermons. Key words should appear

in the squares during the lesson. If you are not familiar with this method, you will need to practise to know how to fill in the squares before you do it in front of the group. This way of writing catches the teens' attention very well. An additional idea would be to reduce the visual and hand it out to the teens so they can try themselves.

1. Sin separates us from God

Ever since Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden, everyone in the world has been born with a sinful nature. The most terrible result of

SEPARATION

sin is that it cuts us off from God (Isaiah 59:2). To know God is the most important and wonderful thing in life – that should be our purpose. But God is righteous and holy and cannot have sin in His presence

(Habakkuk 1:13a). Therefore we know that sinful people, while still in their sin, can never approach a holy God. If we stay in our sin, this separation will be eternal and will be spent in hell (Romans 6:23). We know from the Bible that we are separated from God, but we also know this from experience. Our thoughts and actions show us we are far from God. We are inwardly discontented and will remain that way until we know God.

2. Sin makes us slaves

Not only are we separated from God because of our sin, we are also in captivity because of our

SLAVERY

Sin is not just

an outward mistake or habit – it is a deep inward corruption. We cannot get rid of it on our own. Our outward sins are symptoms of an inward disease. We need to realise what we are like but, far more importantly, we need our lives to be changed by Christ and set free from this slavery.

3. Sin spoils our lives

God's priority for our lives is that we love God first, others second and self last. Sin

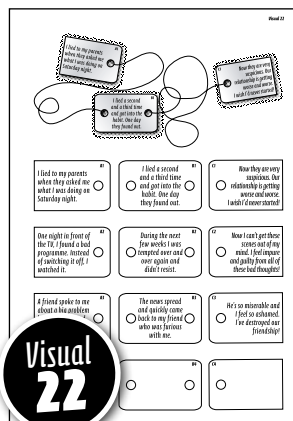
SPOILED LIFE

is reversing this order and putting self first. God has also given us a set of standards, the

Ten Commandments. When we break them this spoils our lives and the ugliness of sin can be seen in us.

Method: Sin and its consequences

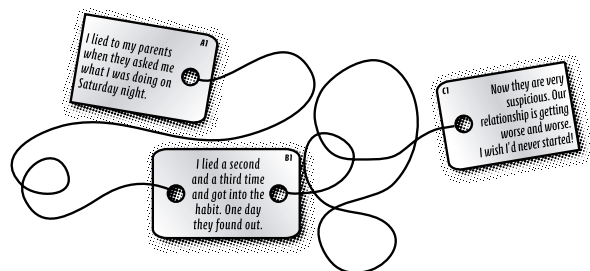
This method will help the teens think about how sin can affect their lives and relationships and spoil them. Photocopy visual 22 on



Visual 22

cardboard. Cut the different pieces and attach them with some string as on the picture below: A1 with B1 and C1, A2 with B2 and C2 etc. It would be good to have strings of various lengths from 5 to 30 cm. Put

them all in a large envelope with only cards A sticking out. A young teen will come up, will pick up an A-card, read it and then pull the string in order to find the consequences on cards B and C. Notice on visual 2 that A4, B4 and C4 are blank. You can ask the teens themselves to find an example and write it down.



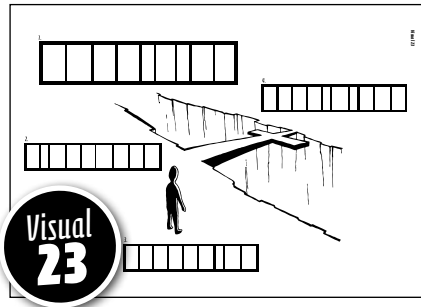
Jesus spoke very clearly of our true nature (Mark 7:21-23). This picture of sin spoiling our lives is so different from the glamorous way sin is often portrayed in the media.

So, sin separates us from God, makes us slaves and spoils our lives. This has exposed sin for what it is and shows us how serious it is. We cannot do anything about our sin by ourselves. But God did something. He sent the Lord Jesus to die for our sin.



If you plan to teach this lesson in two parts, stop here.

The Way of Salvation



Four words can be used to describe what Jesus accomplished on the cross [use visual 23].

1. Sacrifice

The Lord Jesus was a sacrifice. Let us read Hebrews 9:26. The Old Testament helps us to understand this idea of sacrifice. A

SACRIFICE

perfect little lamb had to be killed

and its blood shed. This was the sacrifice commanded by God to make atonement for sin. In other words, the people were “at one” with God. There was of course, no salvation in the blood of animals (Hebrews 10:4), but they pointed forward to the sacrifice of Christ on the cross (1 Peter 1:18-19). Those who have faith in Christ are no longer separated from God by their sin but are “at one” with God.

2. Sinbearer

Christ was our sinbearer. Again in the Old Testament we have the idea of those who do not obey the Lord bearing their own

SINBEARER

sin (Leviticus 5:17). It is the same today. If

we break the law of God we deserve our just punishment. But the Lord Jesus, the One Who is God and Who lived a perfect life, took the punishment of our sin and so He became our sinbearer. Let us read 1 Peter 2:24. If we do not accept Christ and His finished work on the cross then we will bear

the punishment for our sin for all eternity (Romans 6:23).

3. Suffering

Through all this Christ obviously suffered for us. Let us read 1 Peter 3:18. We saw the suffering of His life, but the agony Christ suffered from

SUFFERING

the third hour to the ninth hour is beyond the power of words to describe. There was the physical suffering of the crown of thorns, the plucking of His beard, the beating, the spitting, the mocking, the rejection, the nails in His hands and feet, and the excruciating pain of hanging on the cross. But this is nothing compared to the anguish of being the sacrifice and sinbearer for mankind. He became sin for us, despite the fact He had never sinned (2 Corinthians 5:21). He was forsaken by God (Matthew 27:46). He bore the equivalent of Hell. How God can be forsaken by God is impossible to understand – but the amazing thing is that He did it for us! Then, in Luke 23:46, we read that He died. He did all this voluntarily – He gave Himself for us. He endured the penalty of separation from God that our sins deserved.

4. Sufficient

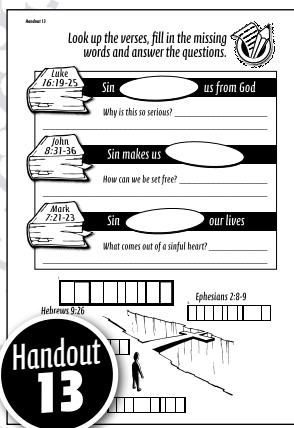
A final and vitally important aspect of Christ's death is that it was sufficient. We are saved by grace not by works. Look up Ephesians 2:8-9. Yet we still think

SUFFICIENT

we have to merit our salvation. 1 Peter 3:18 makes it clear that what Christ did is sufficient. It will never need to be repeated and cannot be improved on or added to. It is complete. Jesus' final words on the cross

were, "It is finished!" (John 19:30). No good deeds, attending God's house, Christian parents, penance, religious sacraments, or anything else can add to or take away from Christ's sacrificial death on the cross. To suggest this is an offence to God, because Jesus' death was totally sufficient for the atonement for our sin. We know Jesus did not stay dead – God raised Him again, thus proving that His sacrifice was sufficient in God's eyes (Romans 4:24-25).

Method: Worksheet



Photocopy handout 13 for all the teens. They could fill it in during the programme or later at home. It will help them review the lesson and memorise the main points.

Conclusion





The hours Christ spent on the cross are without doubt the most important hours in world history. He made it possible for us to be saved from our sins and reconciled with God. How can you be saved? Through coming to the Lord Jesus, putting your faith in Him (Acts 16:31) and repenting from sin (Acts 3:19). Have you done that? If you have you are forgiven and have a right relationship with God. Perhaps you do not care about what Jesus did on the cross for you. Or perhaps you have heard about it many times but have never responded. Come to the Lord Jesus Christ today. All He did was for you. ●

HANDOUT 13 ANSWERS

Fill in the blanks: Separates; There is a great gulf between hell and heaven that can't be crossed; Slaves; Only Jesus who is the Truth can free us from the bondage of sin; Spoils; Evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, etc.; Sacrifice; Suffering; Sinbearer; Sufficient.

His Resurrection

Objectives: We would like the teens:

-  to understand that Christ's resurrection is well established and that the opposing theories are inconsistent.
-  to realise that the resurrection is a foundation of the Christian faith – it certifies the Deity of Christ, but also salvation and eternal life through Him.
-  to be ready to explain to others why they believe Jesus is alive and why it is so important.
-  to turn to the living Saviour.

Introduction: Mr Doubt and Miss Sure

Prepare a little sketch. Mr Doubt and Miss Sure meet.

- Miss Sure: "Happy Easter, Mr Doubt! Isn't it fantastic to know that Jesus is alive?"
- Mr Doubt: "Well, Miss Sure, some people do not believe Jesus rose from the dead. I am not too sure myself..."
- Miss Sure: "Are you not? What do these people say?"
- Mr Doubt: "Some say Mary went to the wrong tomb. Others believe Jesus didn't die – He only fainted. It could also be that somebody stole Jesus' body. I don't know what to think about all this..."
- Miss Sure: "You need to find out what truly happened! If Christ is not risen, our faith is in vain! Can I suggest that you read John chapter 20?"

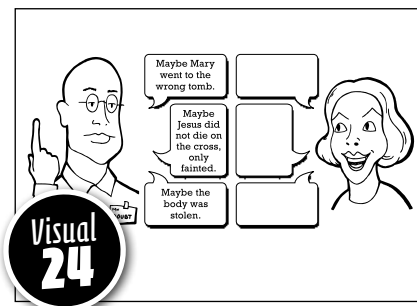
Miss Sure quoted 1 Corinthians 15:14, "If Christ is not risen, then our preaching is

empty and your faith is also empty." We must have faith in Christ and that means believing in the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead. We need to exercise our faith but there is also overwhelming evidence to back up this supernatural event. Let us read John 20:1-8. This passage gives four proofs of the resurrection.

1. The tomb was empty – almost!

Mary Magdalene, Peter and John all found that the stone had been moved and the tomb was empty. This is such good proof of the resurrection that unbelievers invented a number of theories to attempt to explain it away. Maybe you have heard about some of these theories – like Mr Doubt – and you were a bit confused.

Method: speech bubbles



You want the group to imagine that Mr Doubt and Miss Sure continue their

conversation about the resurrection. Show visual 24. Read Mr Doubt's first statement and have the teens think about what Miss Sure could answer. A volunteer can come up and write the answer in Miss Sure's speech bubble. Do the same with the next two statements.

- One theory is that the women went to the wrong tomb. Even if this were true it is unlikely that Mary would

have returned later in daylight to the wrong tomb. It is also too much of a coincidence that Peter and John would have made the same mistake.

- Others say that Jesus did not die on the cross, only fainted. But the Roman soldiers in charge of the execution would be well used to judging if people were dead or not. The spear in His side would certainly have killed Him.
- Others say the body was stolen – but by whom? Neither thieves nor the disciples could have done so because of the strong Roman guard (Matthew 27:62-66). If the authorities had taken the body, they would have produced it at some stage to stop the disciples preaching. They actually made up a lie about the body being stolen, which Jews believe to this day (Matthew 28:15). The body of the Lord was not removed by men, it was raised by God!

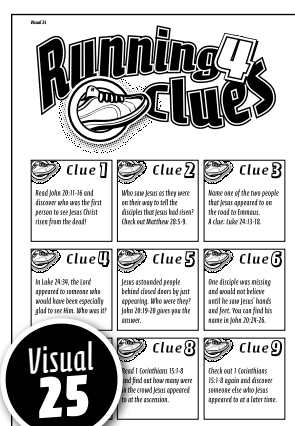
Something, however, was in the tomb – the grave clothes, still folded as they had been round the body. No grave robber would have left them like that! There was something so striking about them that when John saw them he believed (John 20:6-8).

2. The Lord appeared to witnesses

Jesus appeared at least ten times to people on their own, in pairs, or in large groups. Again critics look for ways to argue against this and say that everyone was looking for Jesus and mistook other people for Him. But this is untrue. How were the disciples feeling? They were afraid, doubting, in despair and scattering. Thomas would not even believe his fellow disciples until he saw Jesus for himself. The two on the road to Emmaus were sad at the events of the crucifixion and were returning home (Luke 24:17). They had heard of His resurrection

(Luke 24:22-24), but no record is given of them going to check, such was their unbelief. What made Mary, Thomas and the two on the road to Emmaus believe? Someone else telling them? No! Only the appearances of the Lord Himself made them believe. The Lord Jesus says to us, “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed” (John 20:29).

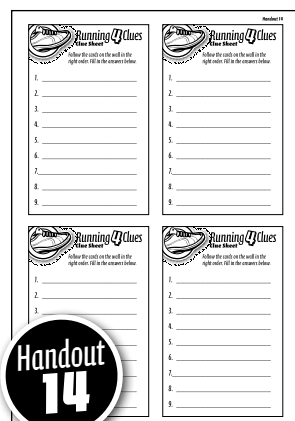
Method: Running for clues!



Because this game is long and exciting, you might prefer to keep it for the end of the lesson and not break up the flow of the study. Divide the teens into groups of three. They are going to find out who the risen Lord appeared

to after the resurrection. Photocopy visual 25 on cardboard and cut out the nine cards. Position them around the walls, although not in the

correct order. Photocopy handout 14 and give each group a “clue sheet”, a pen and a Bible. Start the groups at 30 second intervals. They will have to run around, read the cards and fill in their sheet as quickly as possible.



3. The disciples were transformed

Peter had been one of the first to grasp Who Jesus was when He made the tremendous statement, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16). Peter said he would never deny that he was a follower

of Jesus, but he did so three times. After the crucifixion his faith was really shaken. That night he was hiding behind closed doors. Yet a few weeks later he preached in front of thousands. In Acts 4 Peter stood in front of the Sanhedrin (Jewish leaders) and spoke for the Lord. It was the resurrection that made a difference and from that point on the preaching of the Gospel centred on the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus.

Would the disciples have preached a fairy tale? Would they have suffered and died a martyr's death, as most of them did, for a fabricated story? No! They saw the Lord and that made the difference.

4. The day of worship was changed

The Jewish Sabbath was ingrained into Jews for generations. To set aside the seventh day was fixed in their religious tradition. Yet from the beginning we see Christians, though Jews, starting to worship on the first day of the week. The only explanation is that Jesus rose on the first day of the week. History could only be changed by an historic event!

These are some proofs of the resurrection.

Sir Edmund Clarke, KC (Kings Counsel, the highest office in law in Britain) wrote the following. "As a lawyer I have made a prolonged study of the evidence for the events of the first Easter day. To me the evidence is conclusive, and over and over again in the High Court I have secured the verdict on evidence not nearly so compelling. I accept it unreservedly as a testimony of truthful men of facts they were able to substantiate."

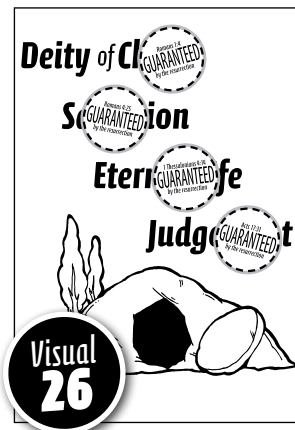
The evidence is very strong but you must also believe it by faith.



If you plan to teach this lesson in two parts, stop here.

It is vital to believe that Jesus rose from the dead. Many truths we believe in stand or fall with the resurrection. The resurrection is a guarantee on these truths. We will look at four of them.

Method: Stamps



Enlarge visual 26 on paper and cut out the four circles that are at the bottom of the page. Glue them onto labels and give them out to four teens. At the appropriate time, they will have to read the verse indicated on the label and then

stick the label on the visual at the right place. It is like stamping these truths to indicate they are guaranteed by the resurrection.

1. The guarantee on the Deity of Christ

We have already looked at the proofs of the Deity of Christ from the Scripture, but if He rose from the dead then that really would put a final seal on His claims. Paul, who knew that Jesus was raised from the dead, writes in Romans 1:4 that Jesus was "declared to be the Son of God with power ... by the resurrection from the dead." Paul is simply saying that, since Jesus rose from the dead, He is God. In Matthew 12:38 the rulers asked for a sign and Jesus replied, "As Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the

heart of the earth" (Matthew 12:40). Jesus fulfilled that promise by rising three days after the crucifixion.

2. *The guarantee on salvation*

We have looked at how Christ died as our sacrifice, but how do we know if that sacrifice was acceptable to God? In Romans 4:25 we read that Jesus "was delivered for our offences [put to death for our sins], and was raised because of our justification [for our salvation]." Therefore the resurrection is God's declaration that He has accepted the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for men's sin. For three days the question remained unanswered, and then God raised the Lord Jesus from the dead. Jesus now has His exalted position at the right hand of the Father.

3. *The guarantee on eternal life*

The resurrection is proof that death is not the end. The Lord Jesus has promised us the following two things.

1. He will come again for those who have trusted in Him (John 14:3).
2. The bodies of those who are believers and have died will be resurrected to be with Him forever (1 Thessalonians 4:14).

When He rose again He proved all this is possible. The Lord Jesus also said some very encouraging words to us who know Him as Lord and Saviour: "Because I live, you will live also" (John 14:19).

4. *The guarantee on judgement*

Acts 17:31 contains a very serious warning that the world will be judged by the Lord Jesus Whom God has raised from the dead. Christ also spoke of the final judgement, claiming He would be the judge. The resurrection is proof that He fulfilled His claims. Men rejoiced at His death. They thought they had dealt with Him once and for all, but one day they will have to face Him again. And so will you and I (Hebrews 9:27).





Conclusion

These are four great truths of the Gospel, for which the resurrection is a guarantee. When we look at the evidence for the resurrection it surely points to the fact that we can believe in these truths.

None of this will benefit you, however, if you have never put your trust in the risen Saviour. He is the answer to your needs. We have looked at His Deity, His life, His death and His resurrection. He lives today and you can be with Him forever. The question is, "Will you?" ●

Are You Saved?

Objectives: We would like the teens:

-  to compare the young ruler and Nicodemus and think about their own response to the Gospel.
-  to realise that things may keep them from following Christ – as money did for the young ruler.
-  to be like Nicodemus, a disciple that takes a clear stand for the Lord.
-  to put their faith in Christ and receive a new and eternal life.

Introduction: What next?

Begin the study by acting like a reporter. Without warning the teens in advance, go to them as if they were famous people and ask them questions. Use a microphone you can point at them.

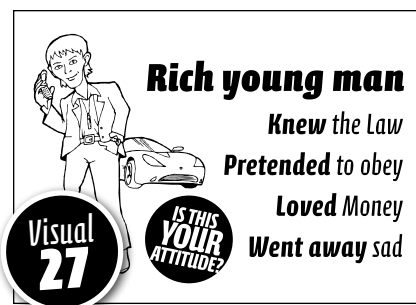
- ✦ Congratulations! You have just won the 100 metre race and broken the world record. What do you plan to do next?
- ✦ You must be so relieved! You went through heart surgery and it was a success. What will you do when you come out of hospital?
- ✦ The whole country envies you! You just won a fortune in a TV show! What are you going to do with this money?
- ✦ You have spent a whole year in this group. What will you do as a response to the teaching you received?

This year we have looked at some very important truths! Which ones? [Let the teens mention a few. Then make a quick review using the summary visual.]

- ✦ The Bible is not a dry, out-of-date book, but it is the up-to-date message of the living God. It is powerful, profitable, personal, practical and productive.
- ✦ We have spent some time discovering that the Ten Commandments are still very relevant to us. They show us how sinful we are and reveal our need of a Saviour.
- ✦ We have studied the deity, life, death and resurrection of Jesus. He is the One Who can save, because He is God the Son and He kept the commandments perfectly.

What is your response to all of this? Have you really thought about it? We are going to look at two people who did think about their response.

Rich young man: Mark 10:17-22



[You should reveal the text of visual 27 progressively as you make comments on the

passage. Show the drawing only when you make the application to the teens' life.]

One day just after Jesus had spent some time with a group of parents and children, a young man ran up to Him. The young man fell on his knees before Jesus and asked what he must do to have eternal life. Let us read Mark 10:17-22.

Jesus directed the young man to some of the Ten Commandments and to one of the great commandments. [Read again Mark 10:19 and refer to Matthew 19:18.] The young man knew the Law and claimed he had kept it since he was a boy. By claiming this he showed that he had little understanding of the commandments. We have discovered that they show us how sinful we are and that it is impossible for us to keep them all. But he thought or pretended he had kept them. How foolish!

Even though the young man had just told the Lord Jesus something wrong, the Bible tells us that Jesus still loved him. Always remember that even though you have fallen short of God's perfect standard, God still loves you and wants you to come to Him. God loved this young man and wanted the best for him. But as we read the Bible narrative we find that something was keeping him back from God.

The Lord Jesus told him to go and sell everything he had and give the money to the poor, then to come and follow Him. The man, even though he was young, was already very rich and he loved his money. Mark 10:22 is one of the most tragic verses in the whole Bible. It tells us the young man's face fell and he went away sad. He had got it all wrong. He thought that keeping the commandments would make him right with God. The reality was that he had an idol that he was not prepared to give up. That idol was money. Instead of turning away from the idol he turned away from God. He wanted eternal life but was not prepared to put aside an earthly idol and put God first. Nowhere in the New Testament do we read of this young man again.

This tragic story has a very serious message for us. Still today many people have a high opinion of themselves and believe they can

earn their salvation. Do you think this way? Remember you cannot fully obey God's Law.

Money is still an idol that has turned lots of people away from God. Is there something in your life that stops you from following the Lord? Make sure there is not! Don't let anything keep you from following Christ.

Method: Mixed-up words

Reproduce these mixed-up words on a board and have the teens try to identify them. It will make them think about what can keep them from living for Christ. Answers: friends, money, popularity, career, family, possessions.

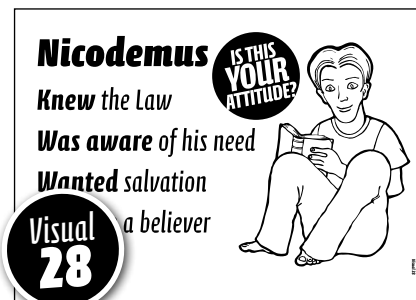
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If you plan to teach this lesson in two parts, stop here.

Nicodemus: John 3:1-21

[You should reveal the text of visual 28 progressively as you make comments on the passage. Show the drawing only when you make the application to the teens' life.]



Early in Jesus' ministry on earth there was another man who was

interested in Him and what He had to say. His name was Nicodemus. Read John 3:1-4.

Nicodemus was a religious leader and would have known the commandments very well. He was trying to live to please God, but he knew something was missing. He realised that there was something special about Jesus and that God was with Him. So one night Nicodemus sneaked through the streets of Jerusalem to speak to Jesus about these important things.

Is this your attitude? Maybe you realise that something essential is missing in your life. You admit that you are unable to obey God's commandments. Listen to the Lord Jesus as Nicodemus did.

Jesus had an answer to Nicodemus' problem, but not quite the one he expected. Jesus told Nicodemus he needed to be born again. Nicodemus thought it was impossible for someone who is old to be born again. Jesus explained what He meant. Nicodemus did not need to become a baby again, but instead to have new spiritual life. He needed to be made right with God. Let us read verses 16-18. Nicodemus could have this new life only by putting his faith in the Son of God. It would be life that would last forever.

The Lord told Nicodemus that those who believe in Jesus are not condemned. He also told him that those who do not believe are condemned. We do not read that Nicodemus put his faith in Christ then. However we do know from other references to Nicodemus in the New Testament that the Lord changed him.

Method: Group search

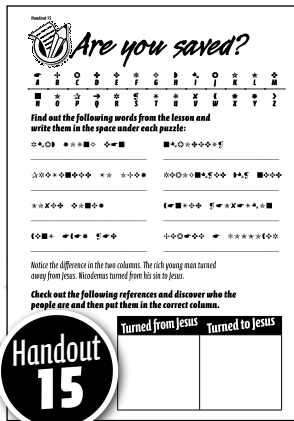
Divide the teens into groups of three or four. They will have to read John 7:45-52 and John 19:38-42 and answer two questions. What did Nicodemus do in these difficult circumstances? What does his attitude reveal about his spiritual life?

Nicodemus stood up for Jesus in the synagogue in front of his colleagues who hated Jesus. While others were hiding, Nicodemus was not ashamed to take the body of the Lord Jesus from the cross and place it in a tomb. He was definitely changed from the time he sneaked through the streets of Jerusalem for a secret meeting with Jesus. Now he was an open follower of Christ.

Nicodemus had turned away from trying to gain his salvation by being a very religious person. He turned from sin to the Lord Jesus, trusted Him for salvation and was a changed man.

Method: Interview

You could invite a Christian and have him share his testimony with the group. To make it more lively, do it as an interview. Ask some questions related to the study, e.g. "When you came to Christ, was there something difficult to give up? What changes took place in your life when you were born again?" The visitor needs to get the questions in advance in order to prepare his answers. Choose somebody who can communicate well with teens. If you don't find anybody available, you could give your own testimony and be interviewed by one of the teens.

Method: Worksheet

Photocopy handout 15 for all the teens. They could fill it in during the programme or later at home. It will help them review the lesson and memorise the main points.

Conclusion

Which of these two men are you like? They were similar in many ways. They both knew God's law and tried to keep it. They both recognised Jesus as someone to question about life and eternity. They both came and spoke to Him. There the similarity ends. They both had very different responses. One turned away from God and was lost. One turned to God and was saved.

Perhaps you are making the same mistake they both made at the start. Perhaps you think that trying to keep the commandments, or being good, or attending church will earn your salvation. Now you know it does not. You know the only way to be saved is through turning from sin and trusting in Christ. Knowing about Jesus is not enough. Like the rich young man and Nicodemus, you have a response to make. Which one are you going to be like? Be like Nicodemus! Trust in the Lord and then really live for Him. ●

HANDOUT 15 ANSWERS





Fill in the blanks: Rich young man; Pretended to obey; Loved money; Went away sad; Nicodemus; Recognized his need; Wanted salvation; Became a follower.

Turned from Jesus: Herod; King Agrippa

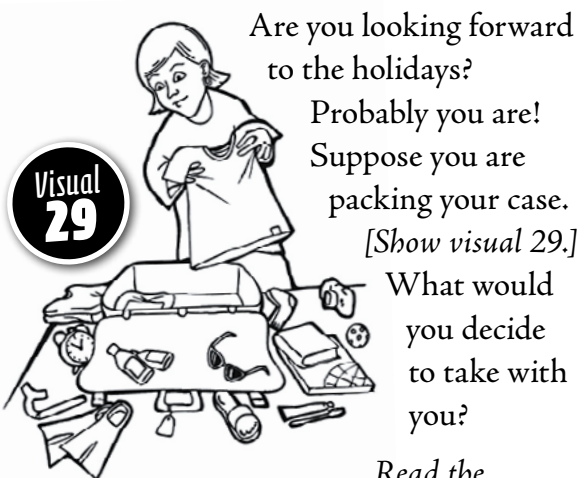
Turned to Jesus: Saul; Lydia

Are You Growing?

Objectives: We would like the teens:

-  to understand God's purpose for His children: He wants them to remain close to Him and to grow continually into His image.
-  to realise that the summer holidays can be a critical time when friends and media have a stronger and often negative influence.
-  to have a daily quiet time with God and to serve Him during the summer period.
-  to turn to God for salvation.

Introduction: Packing your case



Read the following list of objects and let the teens tell you which ones they would take on holiday: alarm clock, pocket money, school books, sun glasses, mobile phone, perfume, Bible, parents' phone number, tennis shoes, Gospel tracts, swimsuit, TV programme guide ...

What you take depends on what you plan to do. Today I want to encourage you not to forget your relationship with the Lord in the coming weeks. Summer can be a difficult time, especially for those of us who will

have less fellowship with Christians and less teaching from God's Word.

If you are trying to live your life for the Lord you know it is not always easy. Just as an athlete has to work hard to reach his goal, so the Christian has to work hard to reach the goal (Philippians 3:14). But what is the goal? 2 Peter 3:18 gives part of the answer. We are to grow to be like Jesus.

We are going to look at four ways God uses to help young believers to grow in their faith. This should help you in your Christian life over the summer months when we don't meet as a group.

Quiet Time

If you want to know God and grow to be like Jesus, then you must spend time with Him. We call time spent on an individual basis in God's presence our "quiet time", our devotional time spent with God. We can spend time talking to God through prayer. He can also speak to us through His Word as we spend time reading and thinking about the Bible. So it is a two-way communication.

A suggestion to help get some order into your prayer life is to keep a prayer diary. This is a booklet divided into the seven days of the week. [Show a sample.] Each day record several things you want to pray for. Some things will be there every day, others perhaps twice each week and others once. You can record answers to prayer and add new requests as they come up.

It is also vital that we discipline ourselves to read and study the Bible. [Refer briefly to the main points from lesson 2.] We must

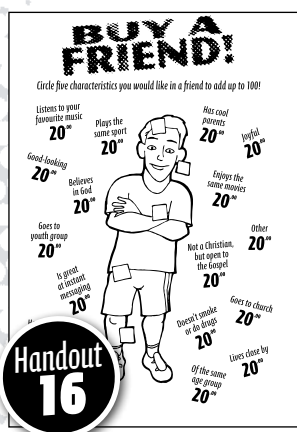
persevere in Bible reading so we may grow and achieve the Christian's goal. So don't forget your Bible as you pack your case!

Remember that Satan does not want you to get to know God in this way. He will try and convince you that your quiet time is not going well. He will try to make your mind wander and think of other things. He will suggest that you are wasting your time. Do not listen to him! Instead keep going and look to the Lord to bless you through your quiet time. Let us read Psalm 119:15-16. This is the determination we need to have. We will not grow to be like the Lord Jesus without spending time with Him.

Good friendships

Our friends have a strong influence on us. We usually go where they go, do what they do, listen to the jokes they listen to ... All of these things mould your life, so be careful that their influence is good.

Method: Buy a friend!



Make copies of handout 16 for all the teens. Suggest that they "buy" a friend! They will have to determine what kind of friend they want by selecting some of the characteristics given on the handout. The total cost must not

exceed 100 euros (or whatever currency is used in your country).

Have the teens think about it individually and circle their five choices on the sheet. Then give them opportunities to share. Encourage them to explain their criteria. This should lead to an interesting discussion within the group.

The best for a Christian is to have a believer as his closest friend. He or she will have similar interests, for example going to church (Hebrews 10:25). Close Christian friends can encourage you in so many ways. These are the kinds of friendships God wants you to establish. Friends like this will help you grow to be like the Lord.

It is also good to have some friends that do not yet know the Lord. You can look for opportunities to share the Gospel with them. If you only talk to them when you want to witness, they will probably not listen. So keep a healthy friendship with them. But you need to make sure they don't have a bad influence on you. Be careful especially as you meet new friends over the summer. You want to establish relationships that are pleasing to God.

When you are old enough to have a boyfriend or a girlfriend make sure that he or she is a Christian. Indeed not just any Christian, but the Christian of God's choice for you. This is a vital aspect of friendships that must be thought about and prayed about very carefully.



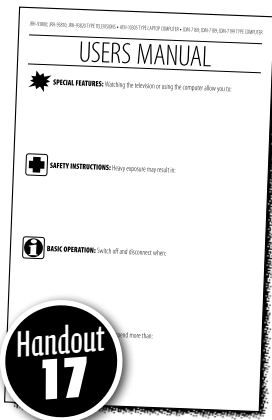
If you plan to teach this lesson in two parts, stop here. You will be able to spend more time on the methods that are suggested.

Healthy activities

On holiday it is nice to have plenty of time available but it is easy to make a bad use of it. You could be tempted to spend the day watching television or playing computer games or surfing the Internet. Be careful not to fall into this trap. There are so many other things you could do. Make sure you get enough exercise and enough rest. You want your body and mind to get ready for another school year.

If you plan to watch TV or use a computer, set yourself a limited amount of time you will spend in front of the screen. And be careful what you watch – or what your friends make you watch! Satan can use the media to try to capture your mind. God wants you to meditate on things that are true and pure (Philippians 4:8).

Method: User's guide



Make copies of handout 17 for all the teens. Divide them into groups of five or six. They will have to prepare instructions on how to make good use of the television and computer. When they have finished, gather them, listen to their

suggestions and give them some more advice. Some ideas are:

Special features: Watching TV or playing computer allow you to ... *relax, have fun, learn, get information, etc.*

Safety instructions: Heavy exposure may result in ... *a lack of exercise, sleep and concentration, less time spent with family and friends, etc.*

Basic operation: Switch off and disconnect when ... *there is violence, sex, on-going advertisements, etc. Avoid channel-hopping.*

Warning indicator: Don't spend more than ... *1 hour (or 2 hours) per day on this.*

Opportunities to serve

One of the greatest helps in growing to be like Jesus is to serve Him. Do you realise that it is the responsibility of all Christians to reach out with the Gospel message? In Mark 16:15 the Lord Jesus commands

all His followers to witness for Him. It is good for you to get involved in the church meetings and outreach. It would encourage church members to see you there. You could also get involved in helping in an organisation like *Child Evangelism Fellowship®* and take part in an outreach to children.

Method: Promotional spot

Take some time to present to the group different opportunities of service with churches or mission organisations. You could show some photos or slides, or invite someone who could present a project, or simply hand out some leaflets and answer questions the teens may have.

We know how important it is to talk to others about the Lord Jesus. If you are ready to take opportunities to witness, God will bring those opportunities to you. A lot of people you know will not come to church to hear the message, but they meet you. Live the Christian life before them and when the opportunity comes to share your faith depend on the Lord to help.

Serving the Lord is not an option – it is a command! You should also want to serve Him out of love for lost souls around you. You are not too young to warn others of the danger they are in without the Lord Jesus. You may be nervous, filled with apprehension, or even worried about serving the Lord. The God Who saved you is the God Who can help you. So look out for and then take the opportunities to serve Him.

Conclusion

During this summer, make sure you put the Lord first in everything. As you pack your case, don't forget your Bible and your prayer diary – you need to have a daily quiet time with the Lord to get to know Him better and grow in your faith. Also put God first

in your relationships – establish friendships that are pleasing to God. If you plan to watch TV or play on the computer, don't forget the list of instructions we prepared together. You can also put God first by serving Him – find opportunities to witness to others. Whatever you do this summer, make God the first consideration. He will keep you close to Him and help you grow and walk in His ways (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Method: True/false quiz

Have the teens stand in the middle of the hall or room. Read one statement as listed below. They must decide if it is "True" or "False". If they think it is true they move to the side of the hall to your right. If they think it is false they move to the left. Those who get it wrong have to sit down and watch. Those who get it right come back to the middle and you read another statement, repeating the process until you have only one or two left. Have a little prize for the winners. Then play a second time with everyone using the next statements.

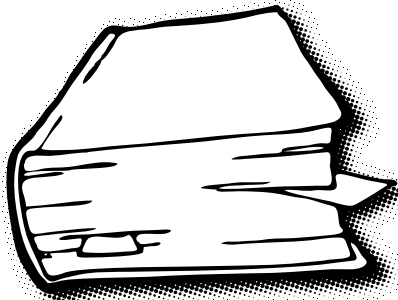
- The Bible is powerful. (**True**)
- 2 Timothy 3:16 tells us about doctrine and reproof. (**True**)
- The Fruit of the Spirit is listed in Colossians 5:22. (**False**)
- The Holy Spirit helps us understand the Bible. (**True**)
- Other study books are as important as the Bible. (**False**)
- The first commandment is found in Exodus 20:2. (**False**)
- Having an incomplete view of God results in creating an image in our mind. (**True**)
- Romans 6:23 reminds us that we fall short of God's standard. (**False**)
- A Christian telling lies is misusing God's name. (**True**)
- Holy means different. (**True**)
- The fifth commandment instructs us not to kill. (**False**)
- The sixth commandment involves attitudes as well as action. (**True**)
- Television affects our attitude to the seventh and other commandments. (**True**)
- Copying a CD is breaking the ninth commandment. (**False**)
- Advertisements encourage us to break the tenth commandment. (**True**)
- Jesus' amazing claim was that He was like Moses. (**False**)
- The name "Christ" means "Saviour". (**False**)
- The time of Jesus' birth was prophesied. (**False**)
- Jesus prays for believers today. (**True**)
- Jesus had human feelings and was still God. (**True**)
- Hebrews 12:26 speaks about Jesus' sacrifice for sin. (**False**)
- Jesus was once forsaken by God the Father. (**True**)
- Peter got to the tomb before John on resurrection morning. (**False**)
- Most of the disciples were martyred. (**True**)
- The Jews worship on Saturday. (**True**)
- Jesus made it easy for the rich man to accept Him. (**False**)
- Nicodemus put Jesus' body in his own tomb. (**False**)
- After listening to Jesus, the rich young man and Nicodemus both went away. (**True**)
- As a Christian we should have no unsaved friends. (**False**)
- Proverbs 3:5-6 tells us that God's Word is a lamp unto our feet. (**False**) ●

Visuals

Appendix

1

GOD says

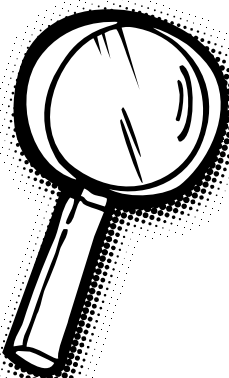
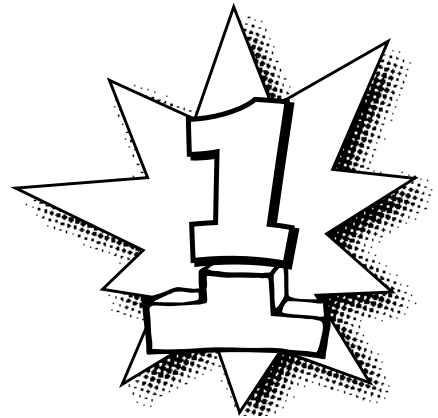


This is My Word

- *Why study the Bible?*
- *How to study the Bible*

These are My Standards

The 10 Commandments
Exodus 20:1-17



Christ is the Answer

- *His Deity* • *His Life*
- *His Death* • *His Resurrection*

What is your response?

- *Saved* • *Growing*



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Chosen and guided: a writer speaks

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Luke Correct!

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KINGS AND SHEPHERDS

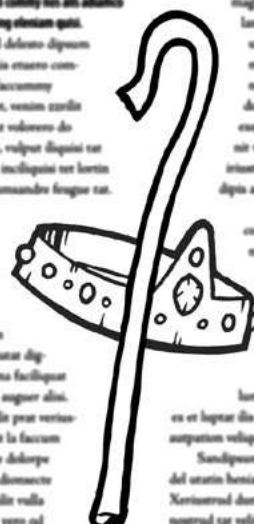
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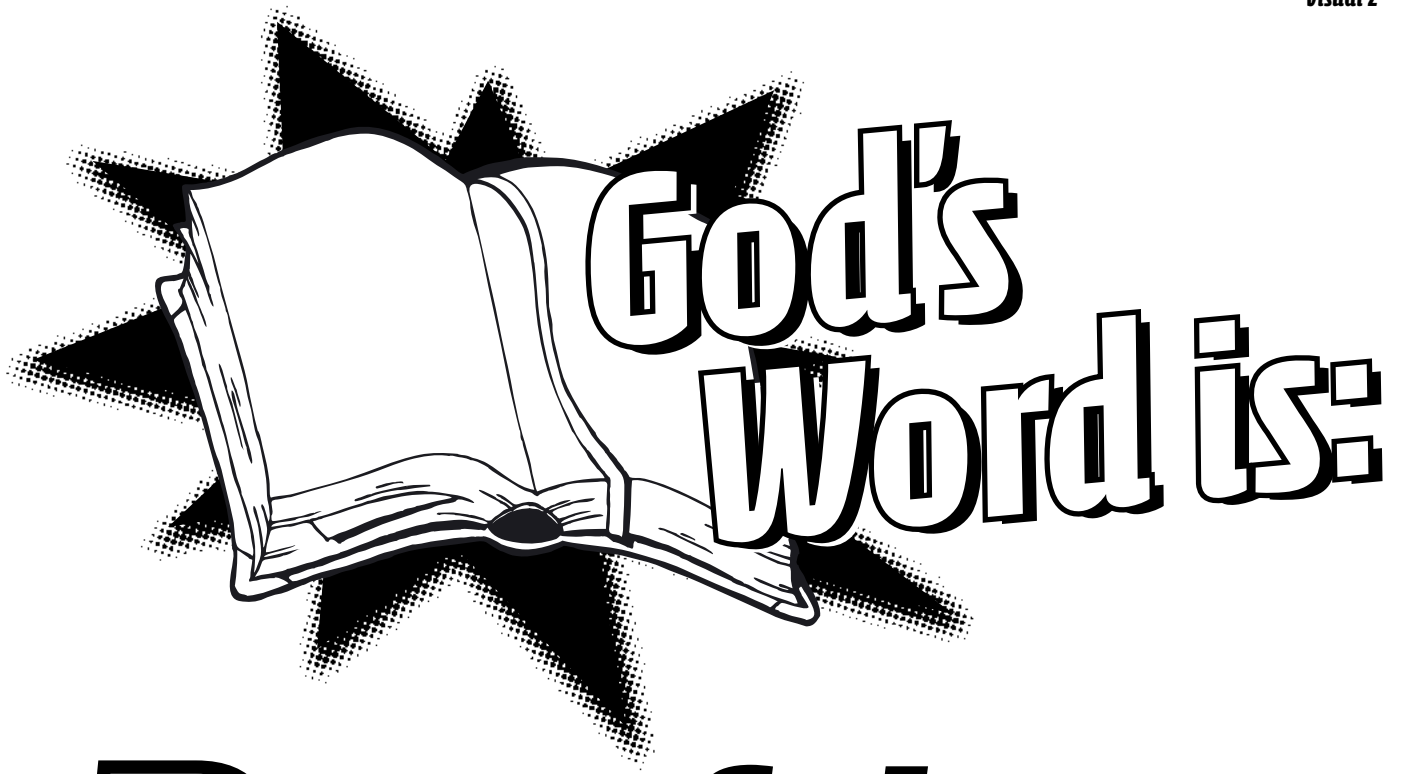
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Powerful
Romans 1:16

Profitable
2 Timothy 3:16

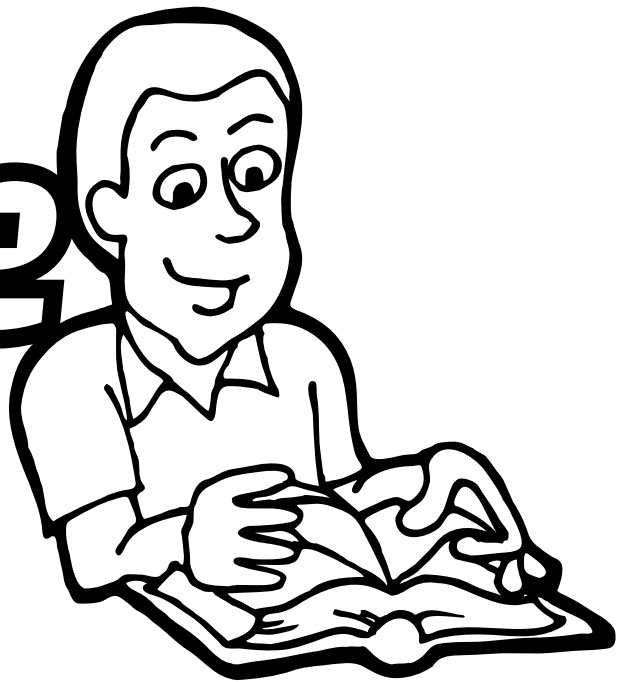
Personal
Psalm 119:105

Practical
James 1:22

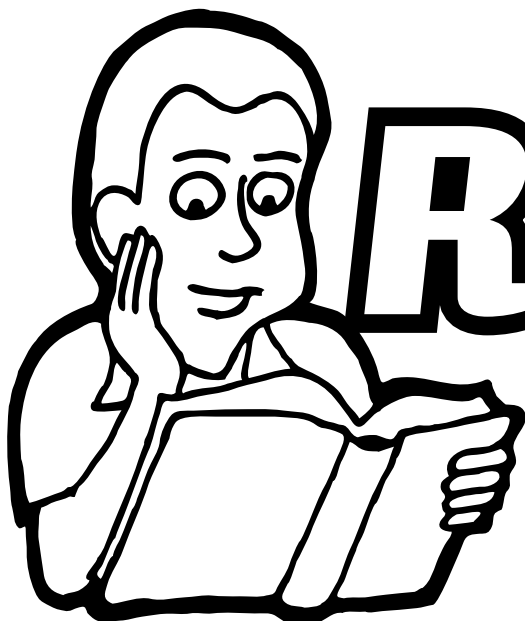
Productive
Mark 4:20



Pray



Choose



Read



Examine

Question



Apply

Don't
be discouraged!



WHO? WHAT?
WHERE? WHY?
WHEN?



THE **FIRST** COMMANDMENT

***“You shall have
no other gods
before Me.”***



Exodus 20:3

THE **SECOND** COMMANDMENT

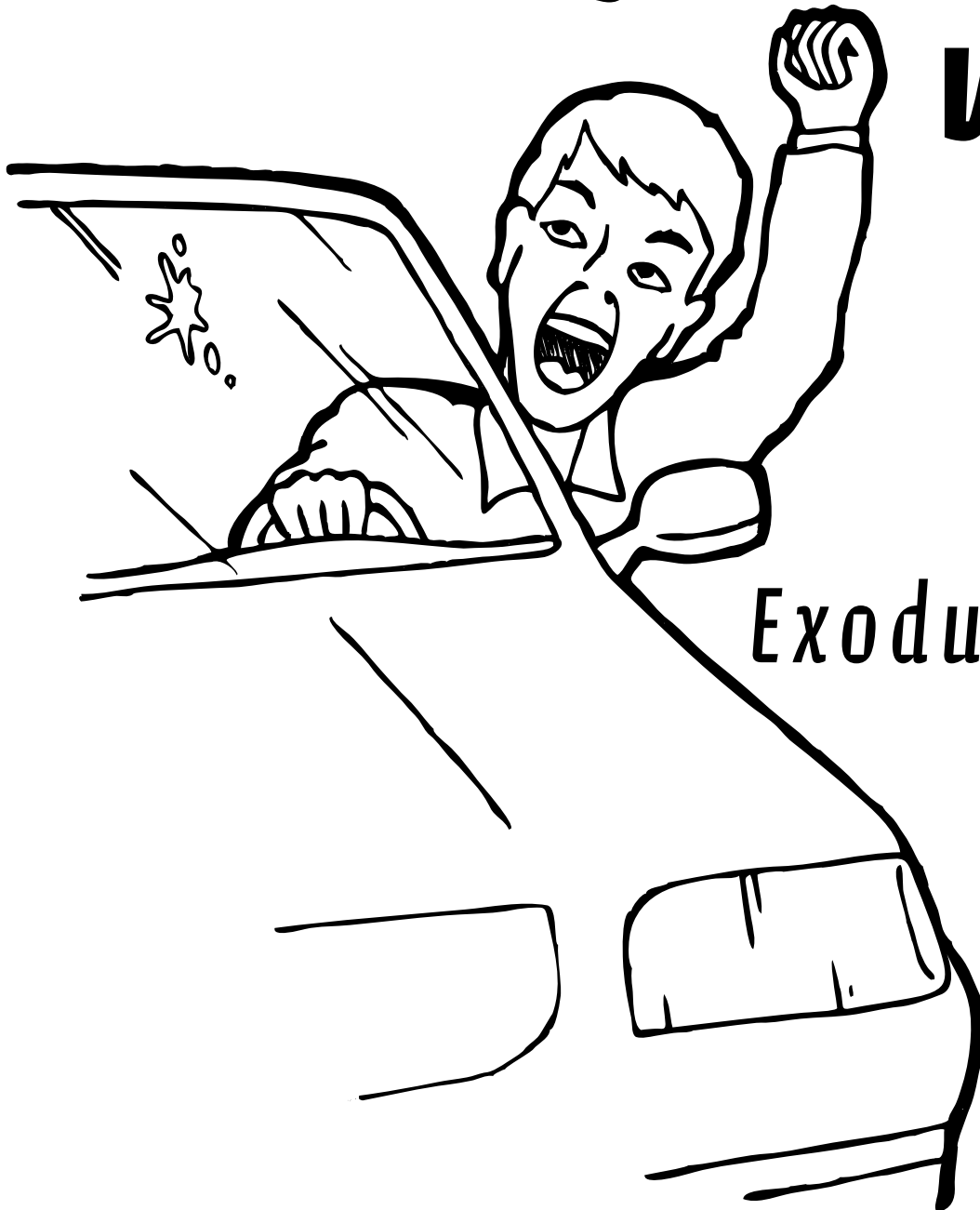
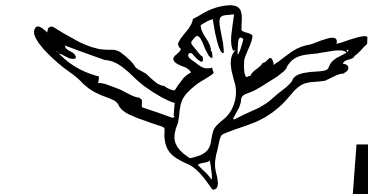
***“You shall not
make for
yourself a
carved
image.”***



Exodus 20:4

THE **THIRD** COMMANDMENT

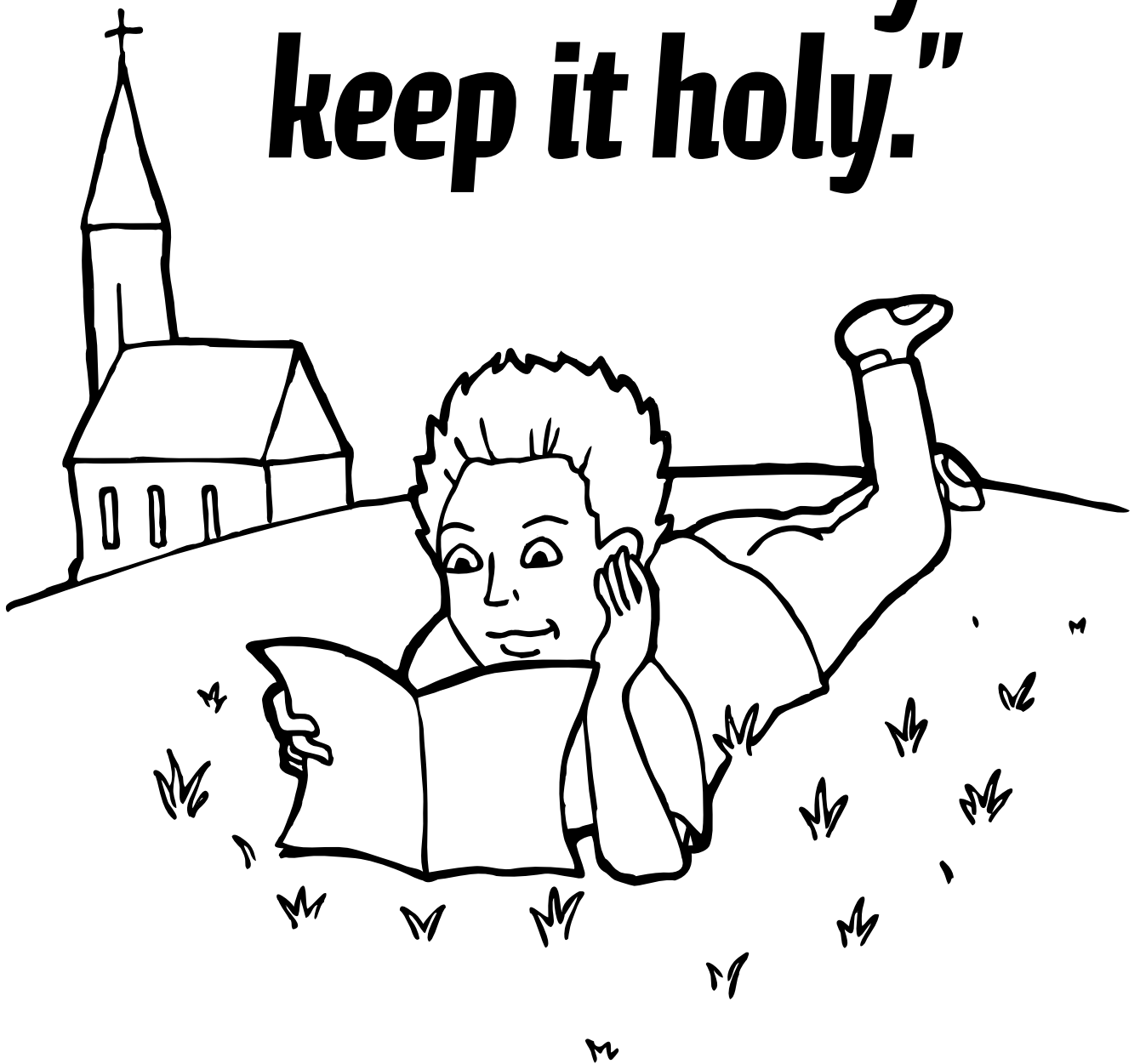
***"You shall not take
the name of the
Lord your God in
vain."***



Exodus 20:7

THE **FOURTH** COMMANDMENT

***“Remember the
Sabbath day to
keep it holy.”***



Exodus 20:8

THE **FIFTH** COMMANDMENT

***“Honour your father
and your
mother.”***

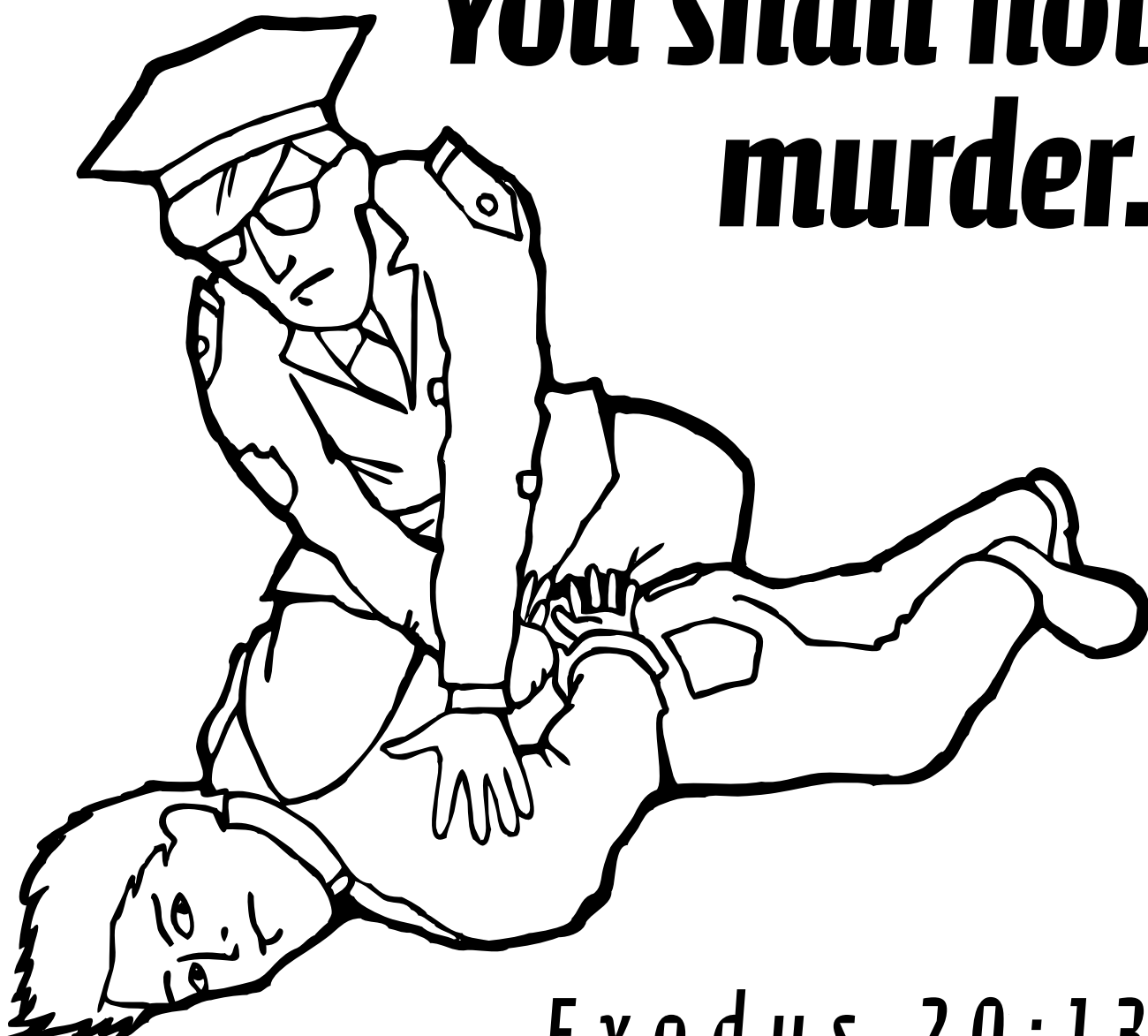


Exodus 20:12

THE **SIXTH** COMMANDMENT



***“You shall not
murder.”***



Exodus 20:13

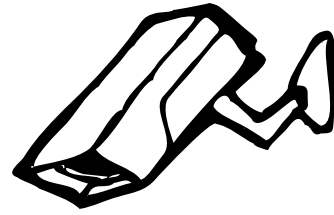
THE **SEVENTH** COMMANDMENT

***“You shall not
commit adultery.”***

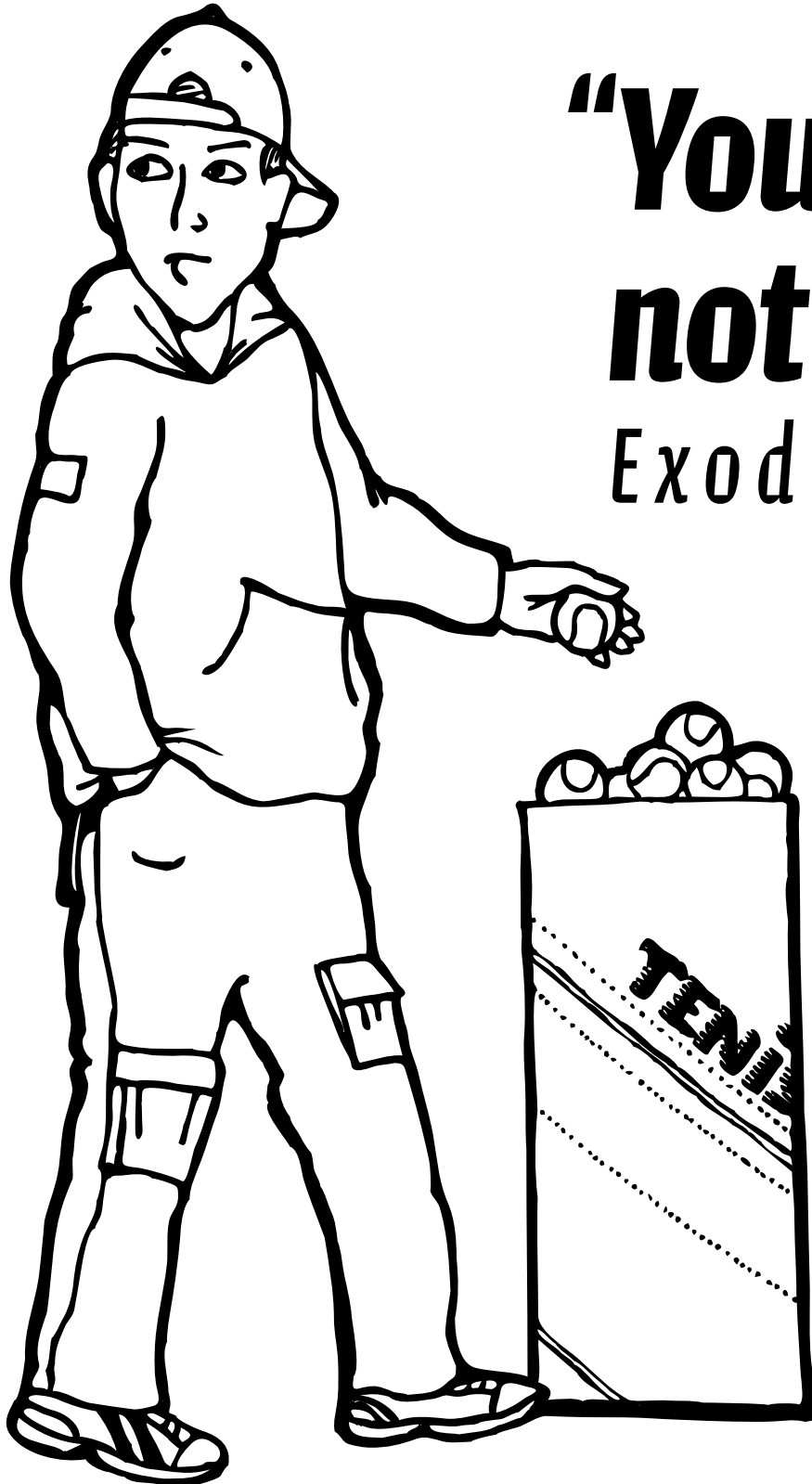


Exodus 20:14

THE **EIGHTH** COMMANDMENT



***"You shall
not steal."***
Exodus 20:15

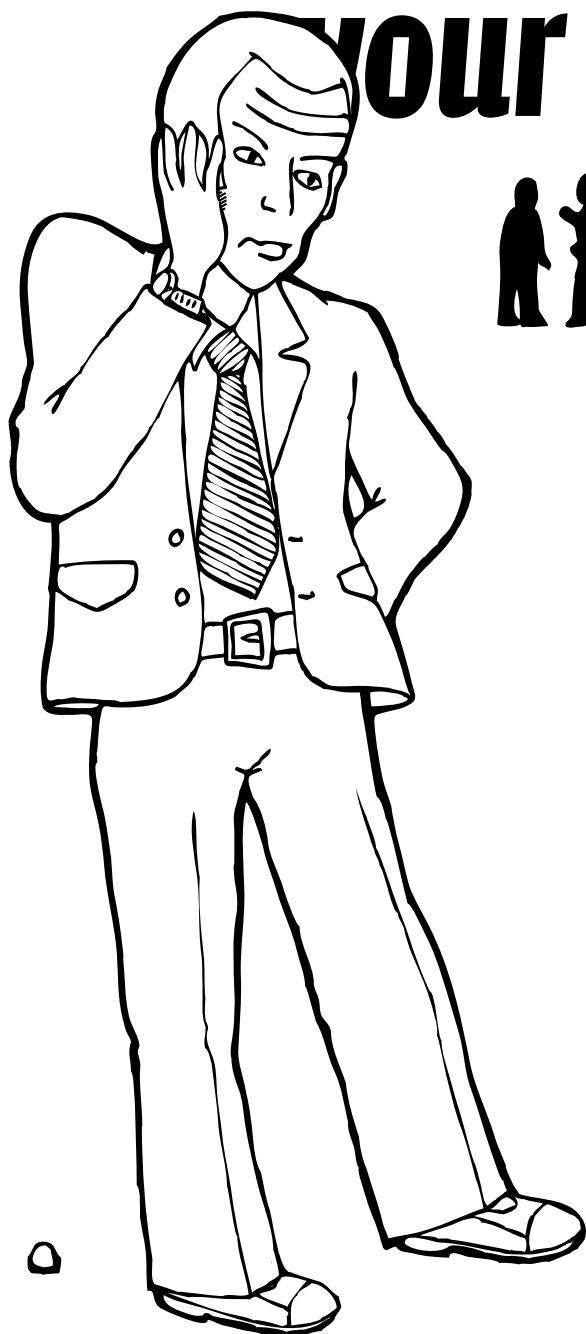


THE **NINTH** COMMANDMENT

***“You shall not bear
false witness against
your neighbour.”***



Exodus 20:16



White Lies

Black Lies

THE **TENTH** COMMANDMENT

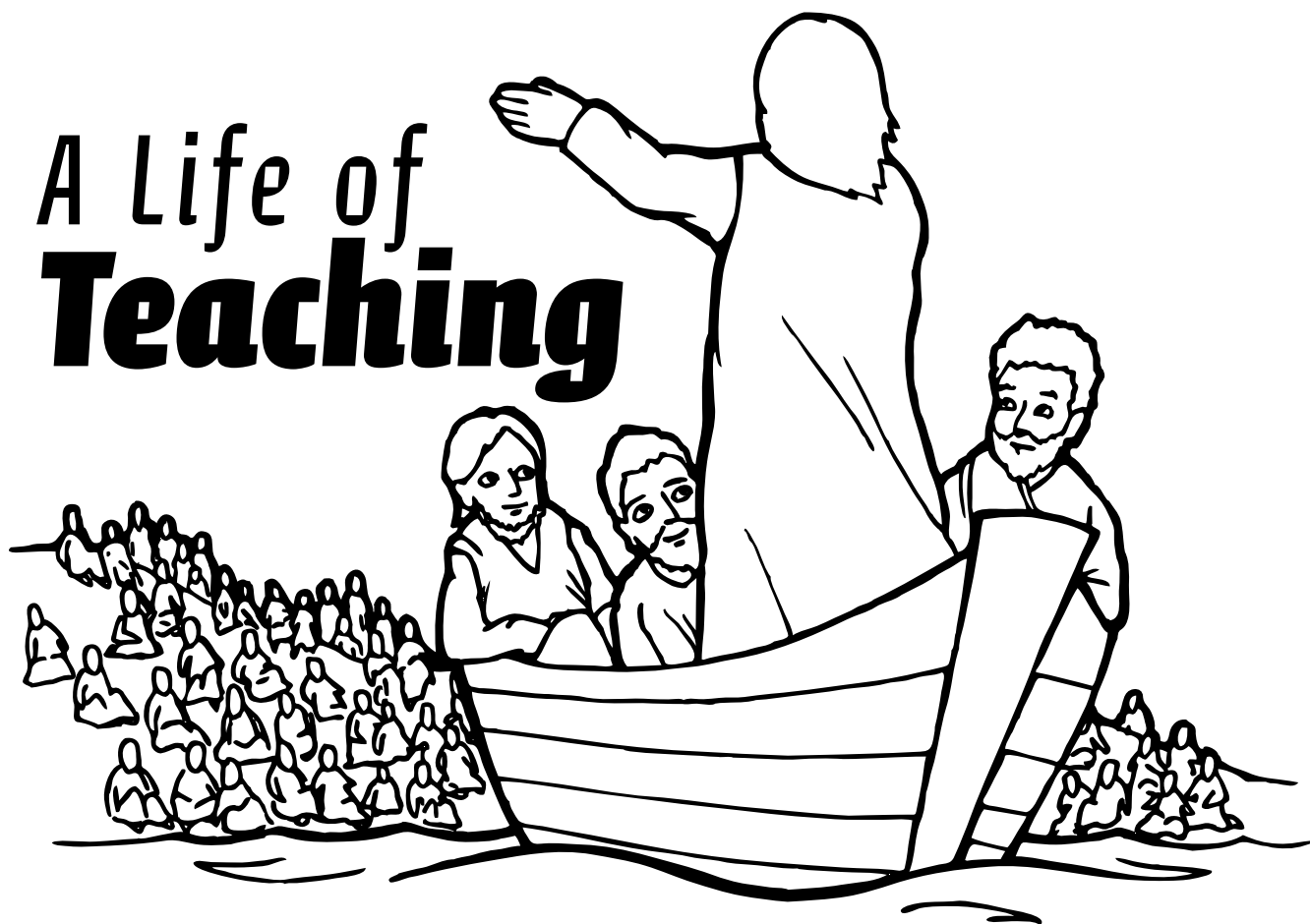
***“You shall
not covet.”***



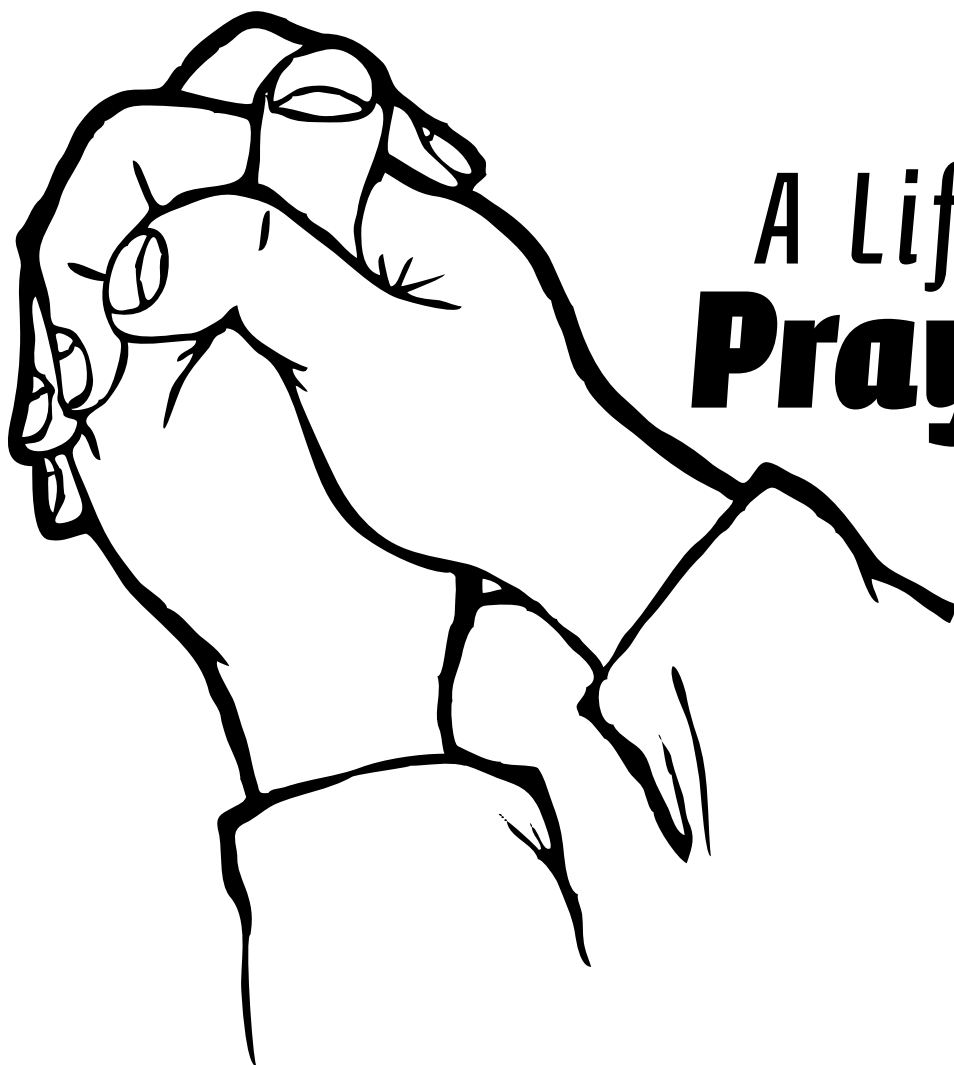
Exodus 20:17



A Life of **Teaching**



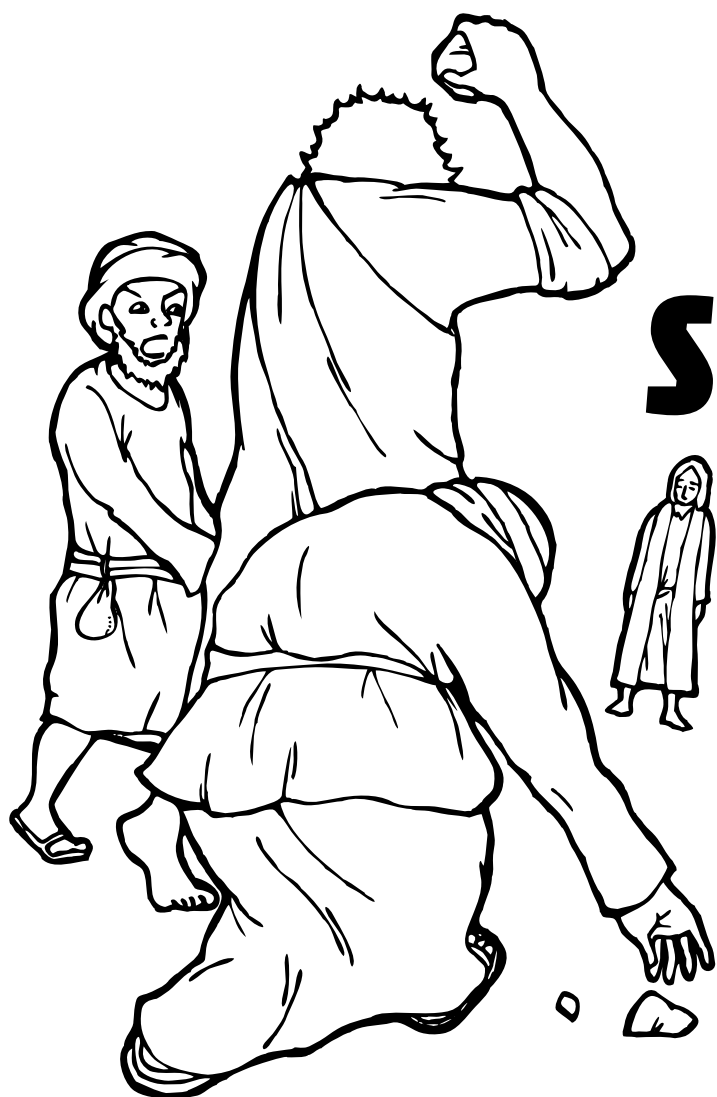
A Life of **Praying**



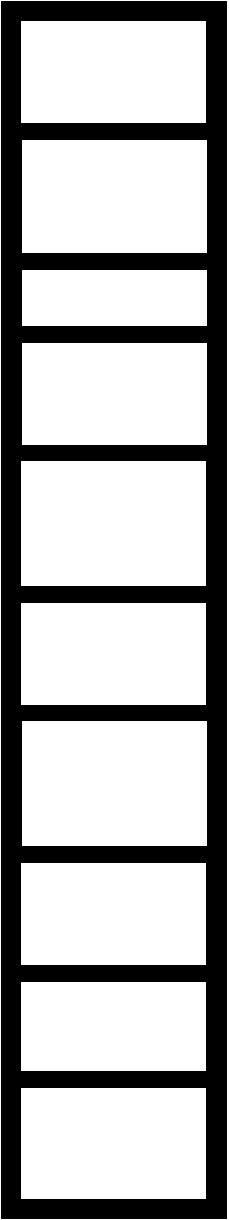
A Life of **Caring**



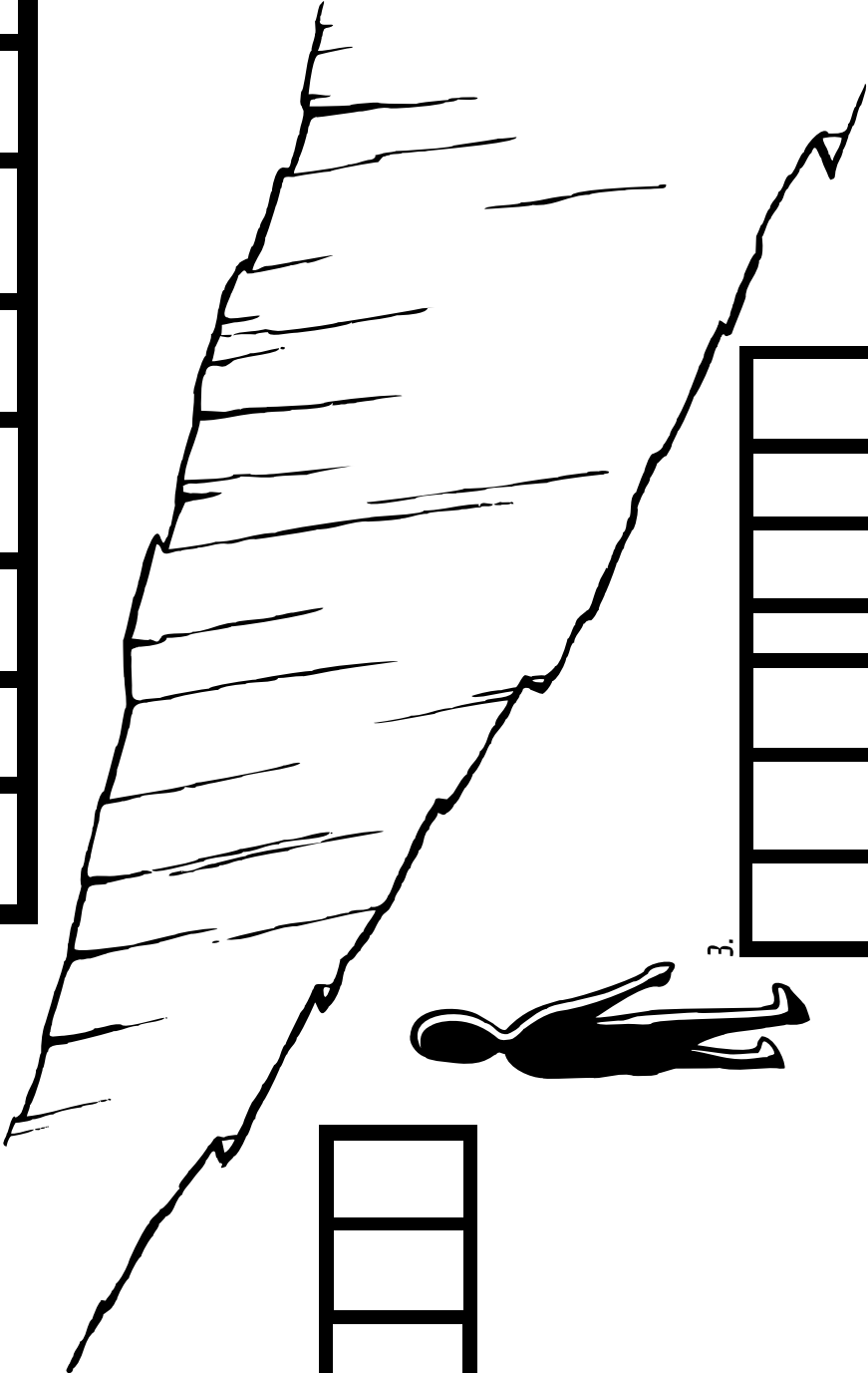
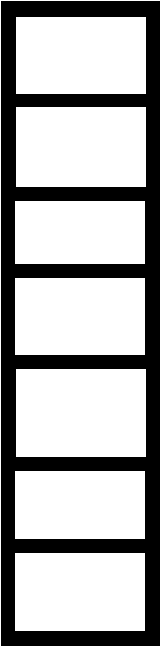
A Life of **Suffering**



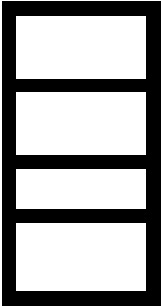
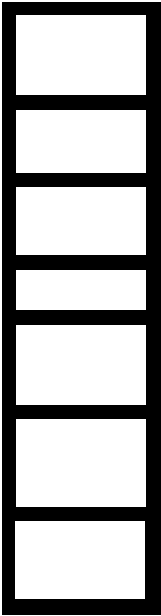
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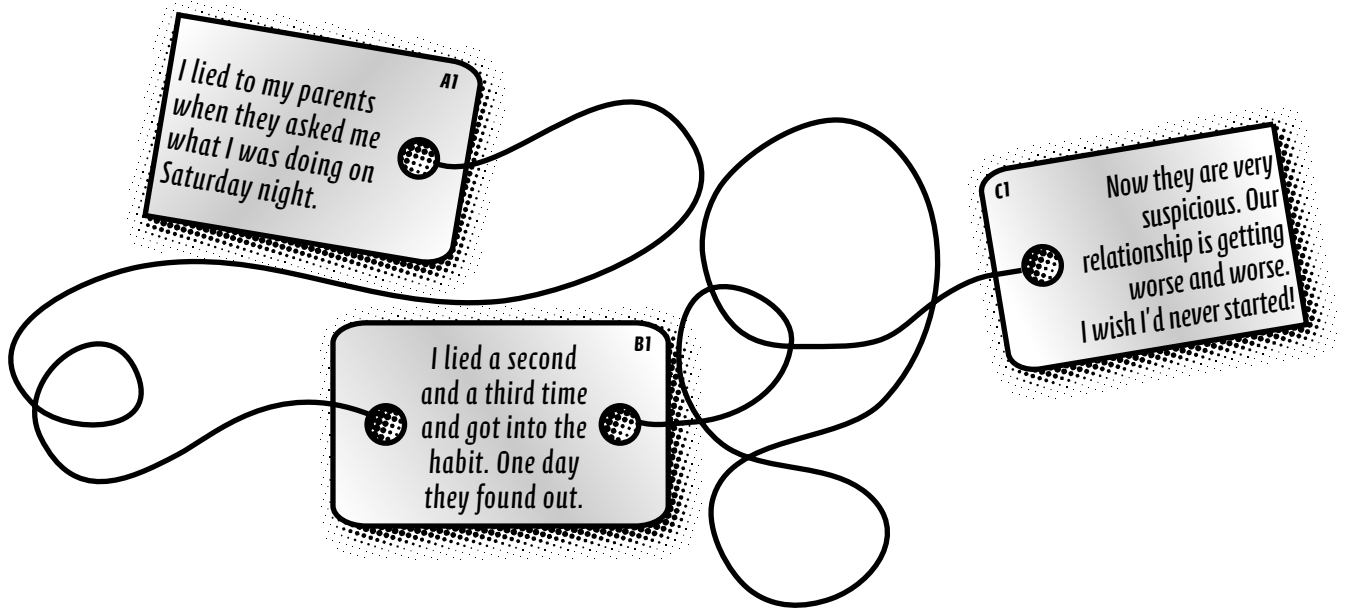


2.

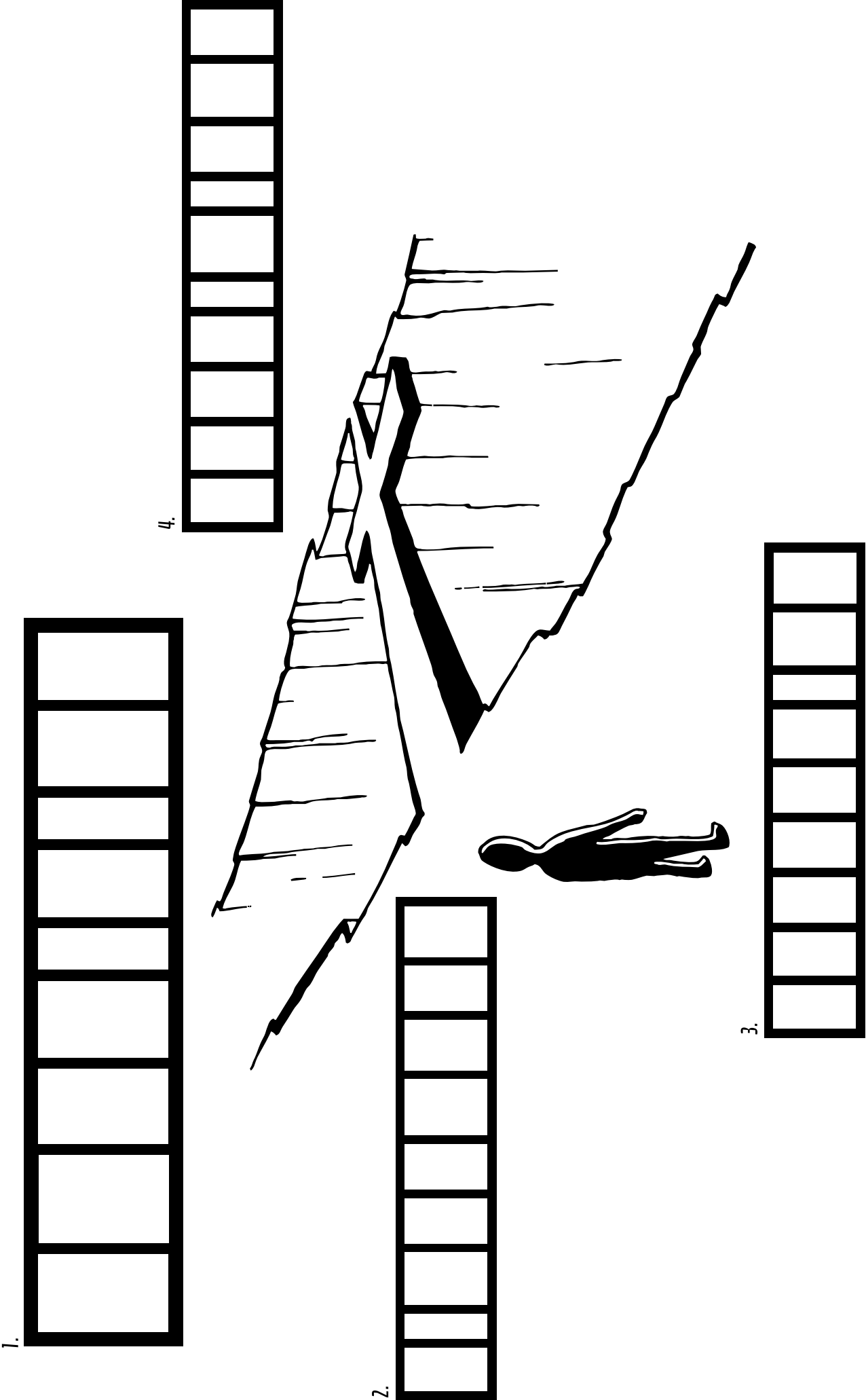


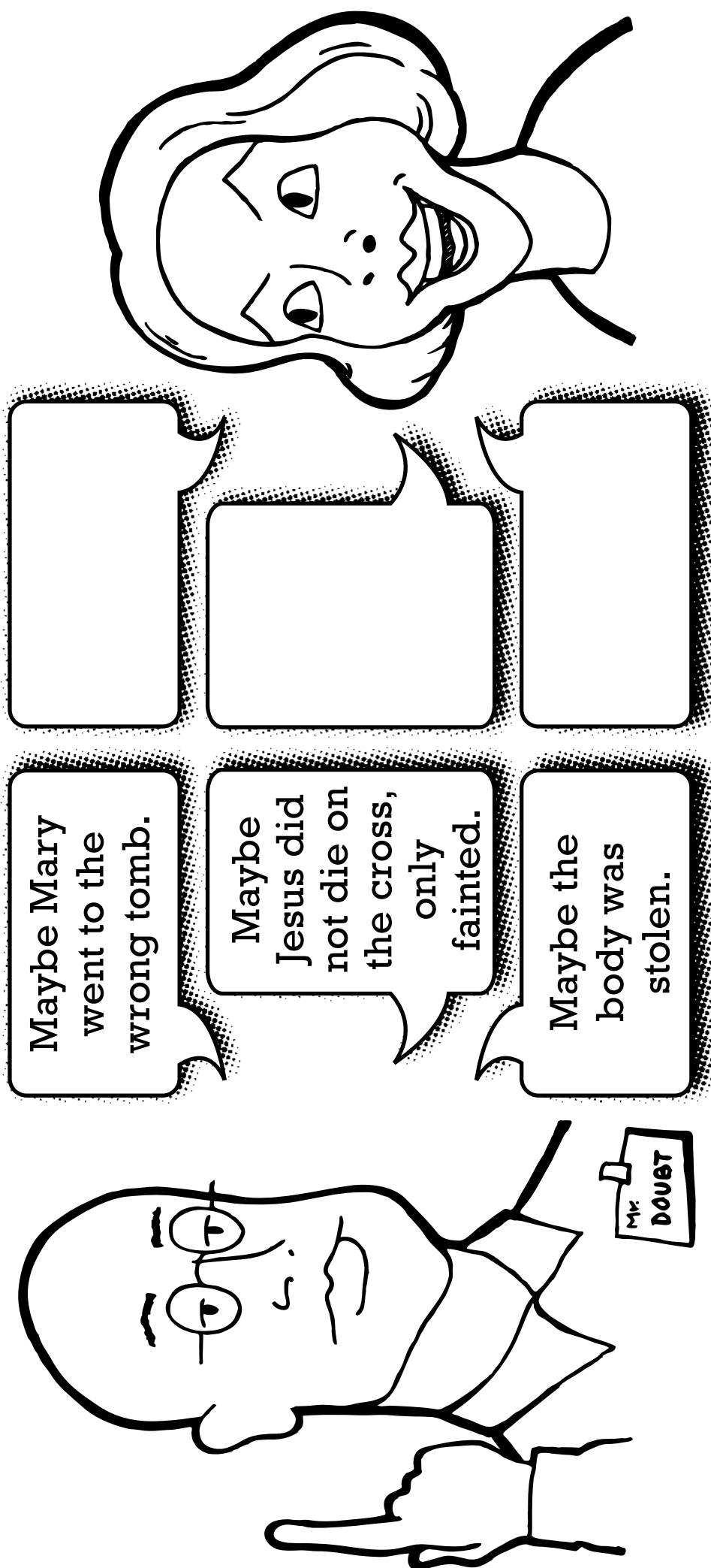
3.





<p>A1</p> <p>I lied to my parents when they asked me what I was doing on Saturday night.</p> <p><input type="radio"/></p>	<p>B1</p> <p>I lied a second and a third time and got into the habit. One day they found out.</p> <p><input type="radio"/></p>	<p>C1</p> <p>Now they are very suspicious. Our relationship is getting worse and worse. I wish I'd never started!</p> <p><input type="radio"/></p>
<p>A2</p> <p>One night in front of the TV, I found a bad programme. Instead of switching it off, I watched it.</p> <p><input type="radio"/></p>	<p>B2</p> <p>During the next few weeks I was tempted over and over again and didn't resist.</p> <p><input type="radio"/></p>	<p>C2</p> <p>Now I can't get these scenes out of my mind. I feel impure and guilty from all of these bad thoughts!</p> <p><input type="radio"/></p>
<p>A3</p> <p>A friend spoke to me about a big problem he had. I went and told my friends about it.</p> <p><input type="radio"/></p>	<p>B3</p> <p>The news spread and quickly came back to my friend who was furious with me.</p> <p><input type="radio"/></p>	<p>C3</p> <p>He's so miserable and I feel so ashamed. I've destroyed our friendship!</p> <p><input type="radio"/></p>
<p>A4</p> <p><input type="radio"/></p>	<p>B4</p> <p><input type="radio"/></p>	<p>C4</p> <p><input type="radio"/></p>





Running 4 Clues



Clue 1

Read John 20:11-16 and discover who was the first person to see Jesus Christ risen from the dead!



Clue 2

Who saw Jesus as they were on their way to tell the disciples that Jesus had risen? Check out Matthew 28:5-9.



Clue 3

Name one of the two people that Jesus appeared to on the road to Emmaus. A clue: Luke 24:13-18.



Clue 4

In Luke 24:34, the Lord appeared to someone who would have been especially glad to see Him. Who was it?



Clue 5

Jesus astounded people behind closed doors by just appearing. Who were they? John 20:19-20 gives you the answer.



Clue 6

One disciple was missing and would not believe until he saw Jesus' hands and feet. You can find his name in John 20:24-26.



Clue 7

That was some catch! 153! Name one disciple not yet mentioned by name who was there. See John 21:1-14.



Clue 8

Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-8 and find out how many were in the crowd Jesus appeared to at the ascension.



Clue 9

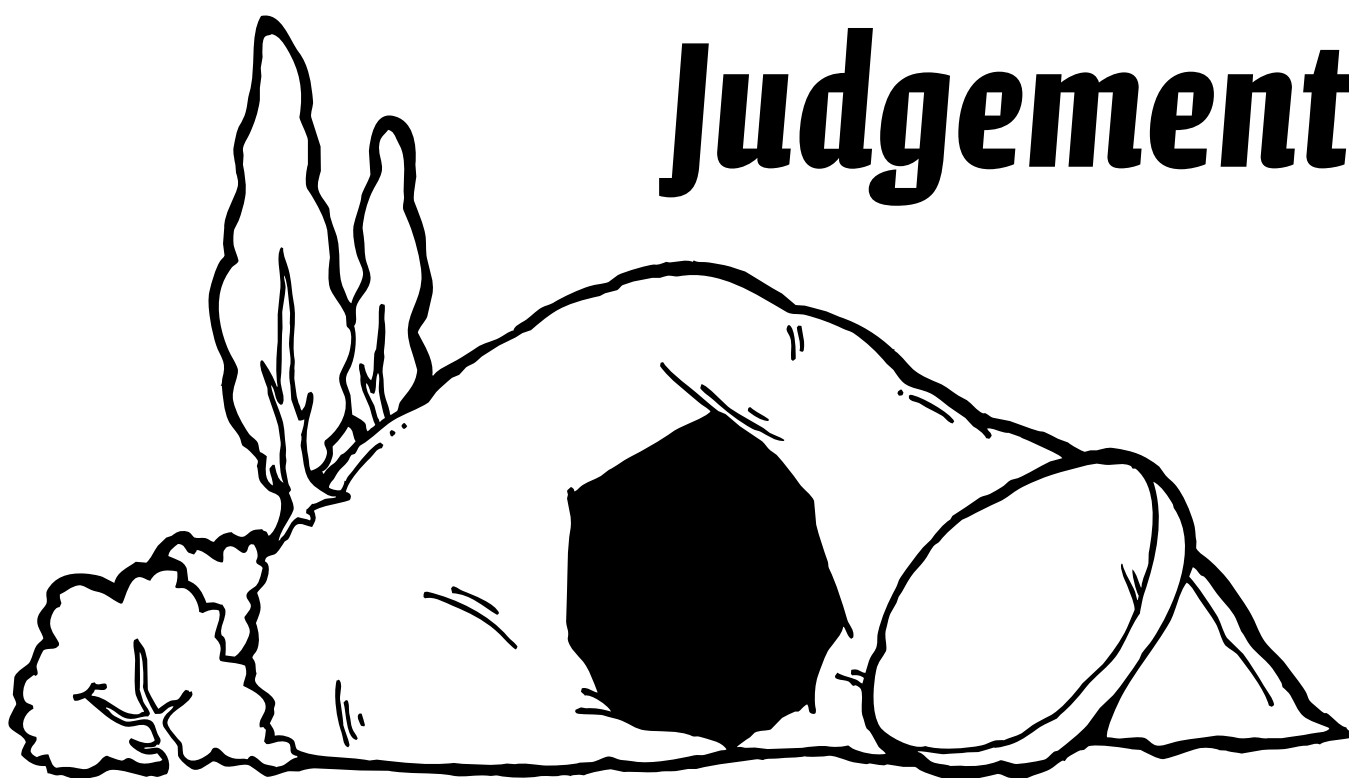
Check out 1 Corinthians 15:1-8 again and discover someone else who Jesus appeared to at a later time.

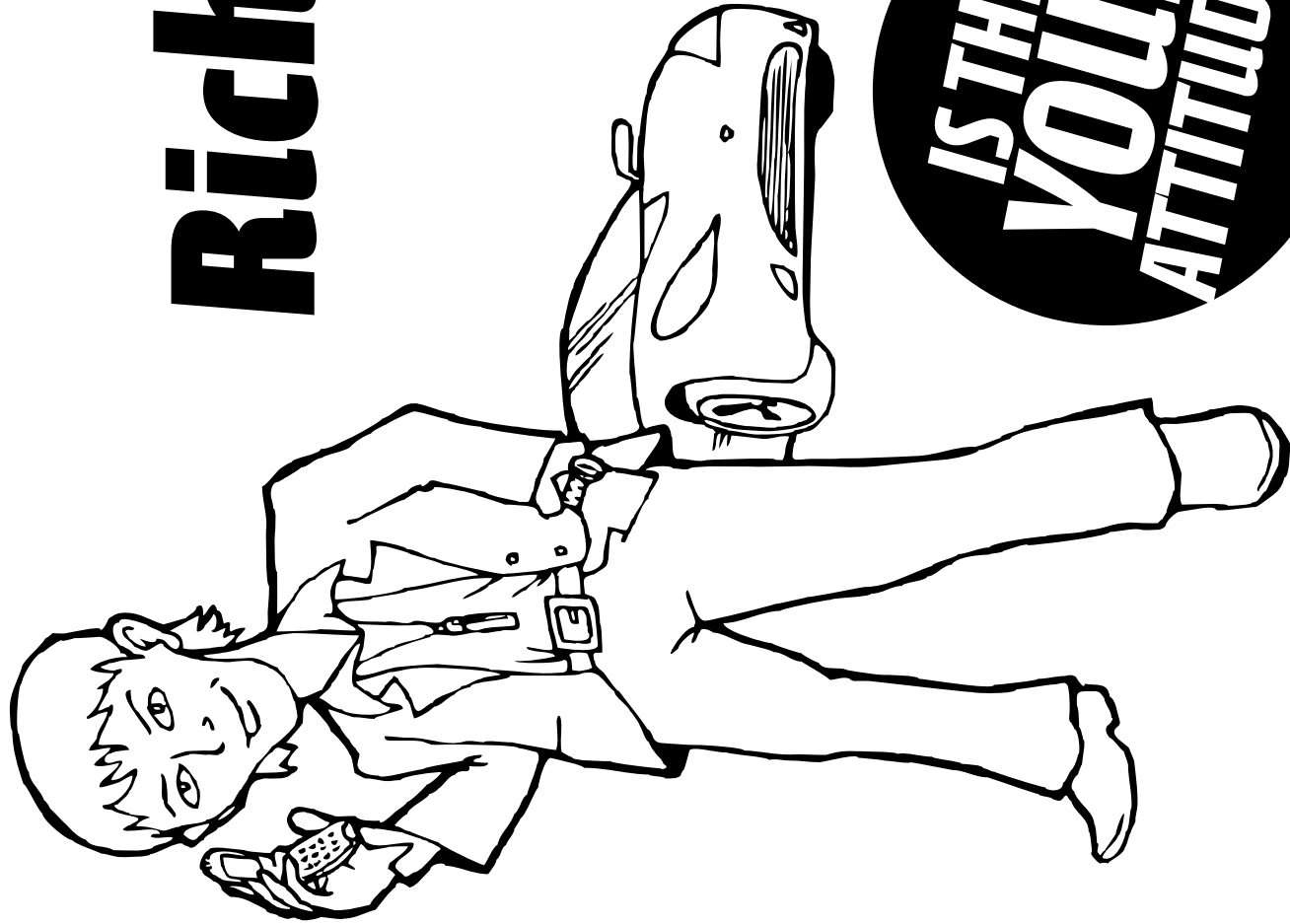
Deity of Christ

Salvation

Eternal Life

Judgement





Rich young man

Knew the law

Pretended to obey

Loved Money

Went away sad



Nicodemus

Knew the Law

Was aware of his need

Wanted salvation

Became a believer

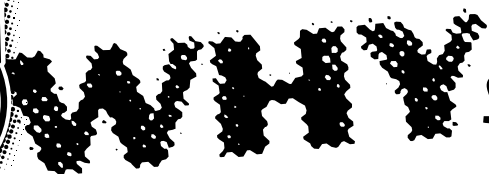




Handouts

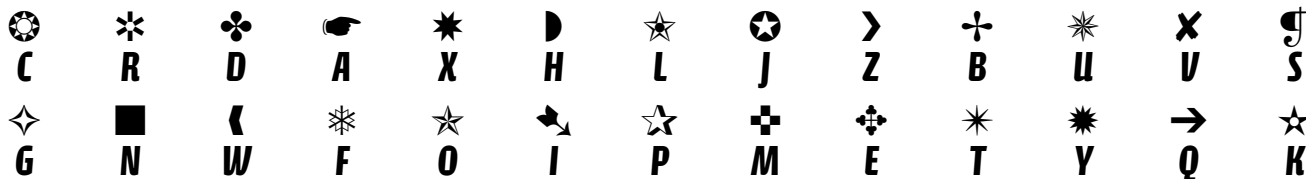
Appendix

2



study the Bible?

Use the symbols to discover the eighteen words



✱✱✱■☞■✧

☆✚✚✱

☞■♩☆☞✱✚♣

✱■☞✱✱

☆✱☞✕☞☆✚✧✚

⊙✚♩✱♩

☆✚✱♩☆■

☆✱☆☆☞⊙☞☞✚

☆✱✚♩✚✱✕✚♣

◁☆✱♣

✱✱✱♩✱☞■✧

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✱☆✱✱✱

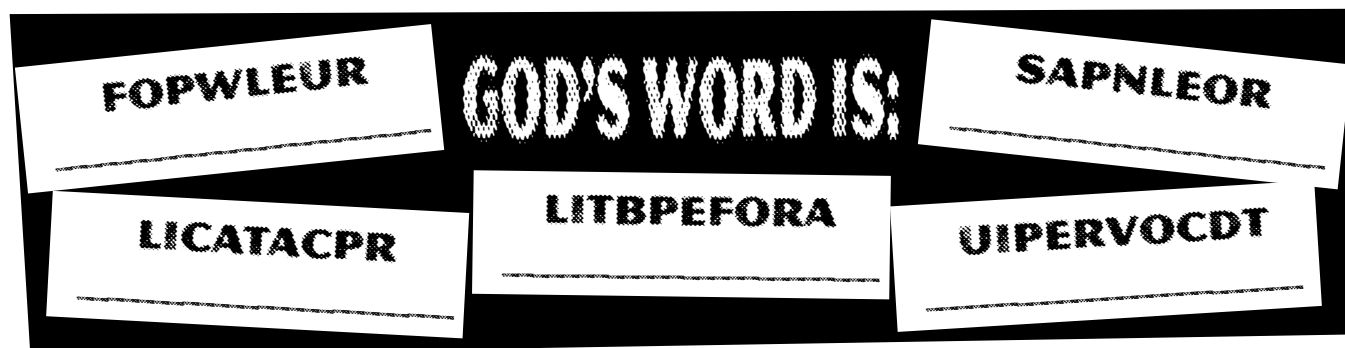
♩✚☞

☼☾☞■✧✚

☞☼☼✱✱☞✱✚

Now fit the words you have found into the sentences below, and unscramble the five headings from this week's lesson.

We should study the Bible because it's God's very own _____. The Holy Spirit _____ the authors so that they wrote exactly what God wanted. Although more than _____ people were involved, the Bible has a wonderful _____. Discoveries and the fulfilment of _____ show that the Bible is _____. The Dead _____ Scrolls indicate that the Bible is wonderfully _____.



What an awesome _____ it is to have God's Word! Have you obeyed its message by _____ from your sin and _____ in the _____ ? If so, then you should not only read the Bible, but _____ what it says. As you do, God will _____ your life and make you the kind of _____ He wants you to be.

Bible Study Sheet

Passage: _____

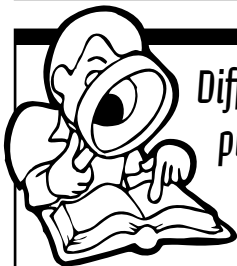


*The context of
the passage:*

*What does the passage teach about God?
(The Father, the Son or the Holy Spirit)*



*What does the passage teach about man?
(Warning, promise, command, example to follow)*



*Difficult words or
picture language:*

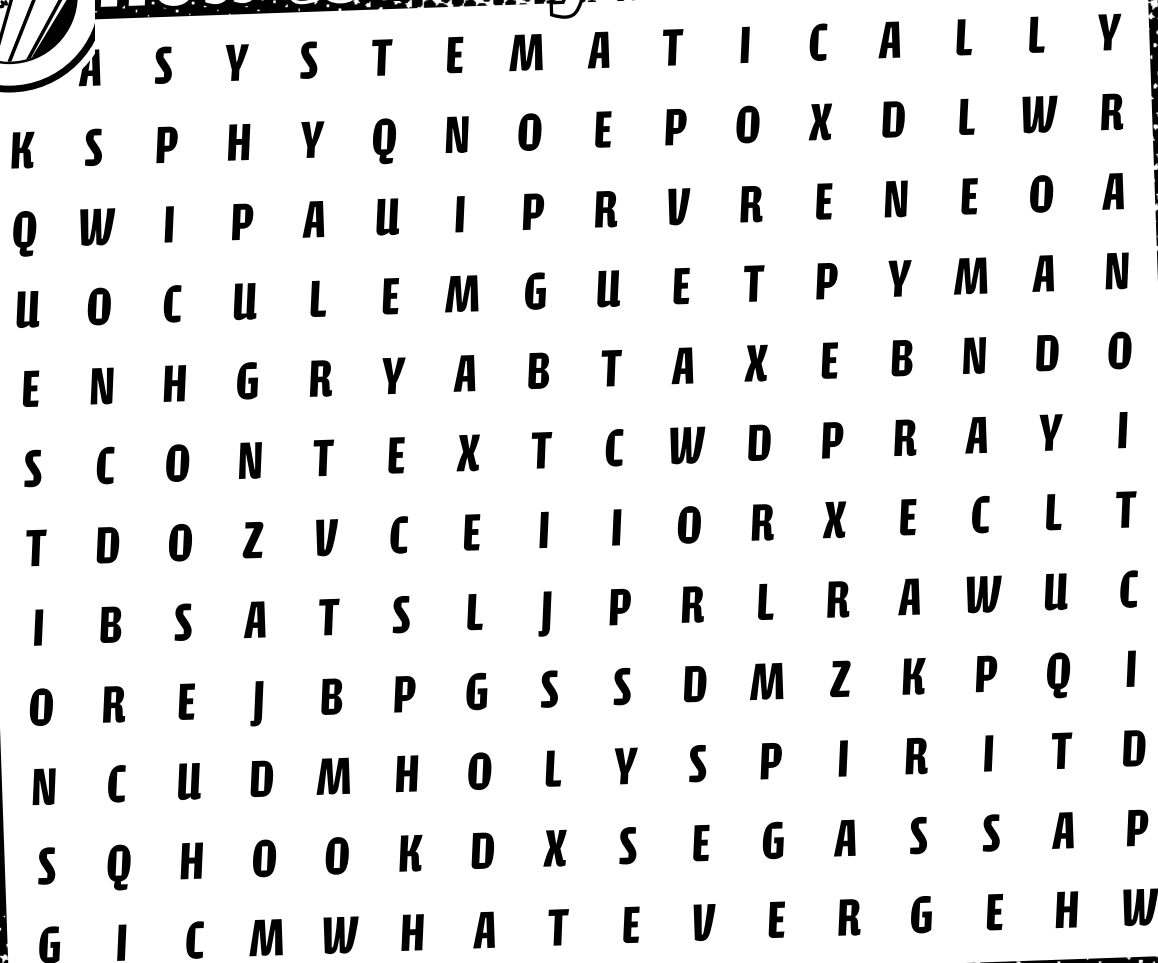
*Are there other Bible passages that could help me
understand this one?*



God wants me to...



How to study the Bible



Fill in the blanks, then find the words in the wordsearch above.

Words may read forwards, backwards, vertically, horizontally or diagonally.

First p and ask the H S to help you understand the Bible.

C a passage or book to study and plan to work through it s .

R a short portion and be attentive to the c - what comes before and after.

Then e the passage attentively and use these study tools when needed:

B up long or c verses into small sections.

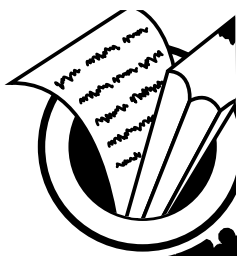
Look up difficult w in a d or ask someone about them.

Look out for p language. Ask q as you study: What does it teach about

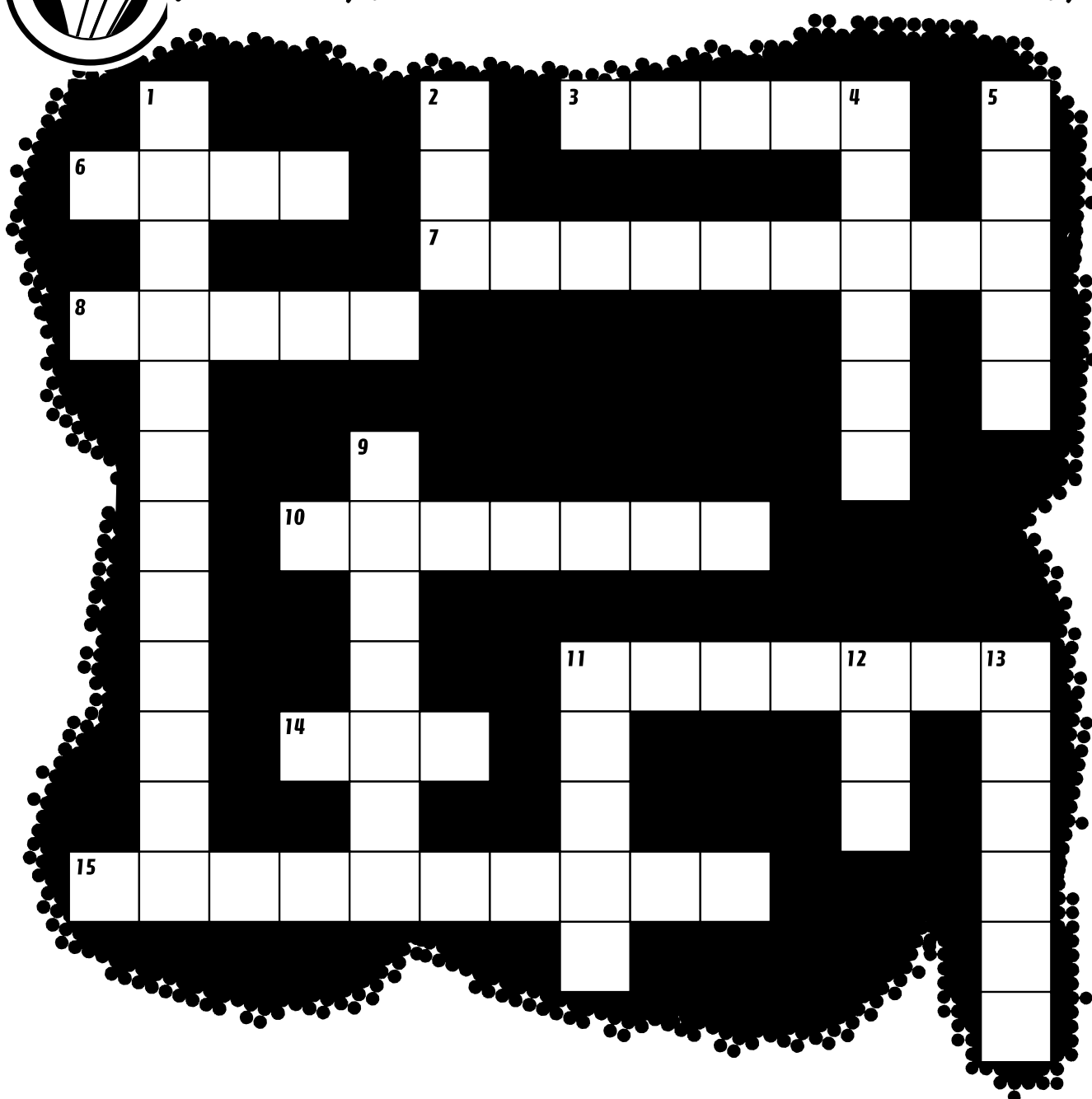
G ? What does it teach about m ? Are there other Bible p that could help

me understand this one? A the teaching to your own life and do w

God tells you to.



The First & Second Commandments



Across

- 3** What false gods might be made from
- 6** What Christians should show to God and others
- 7** Jesus said we should love this person
- 8** Forbidden by the second commandment
- 10** What God wants us to give Him and no-one else
- 11** People who might take first place in our lives
- 14** Breaking God's laws
- 15** God's special people

Down

- 1** Another name for God's laws
- 2** Number of commandments God gave
- 4** Book where commandments are found
- 5** The place God demands in our lives
- 9** What God will do if we confess our sin
- 11** We are saved by this, not by keeping the commandments
- 12** Third word of the second commandment
- 13** What the Israelites were in Egypt

Case Study

Eric Liddell was the son of a Scottish missionary. Because of his track and field abilities, he went to the 1924 Olympics in France. He was favoured to win the 100 metre race, but he refused to run the qualifying heats because they were on Sunday. Instead he preached in the Paris Scottish Church. The media spread the news: 'Athlete: I won't run on Sunday' (*Daily News*) and 'God before the king' (*British Weekly*). Liddell was strongly criticised by his fellow citizens and by the authorities, but he deeply believed that he should not take part in sports on Sunday. Instead of running the 100 metre race, he took part in the 400 metres in which he was given no hope at all of winning. Liddell not only won, but set a world record! Because of his accomplishments, Eric Liddell became a huge star. Upon his return from the Olympics, Liddell graduated from Edinburgh University and continued in his father's footsteps as a missionary in China. He wonderfully served the Lord in that country and died at the end of World War 2.

- 1. Why did Eric Liddell make the decision to not run on a Sunday?**
- 2. If you had been at the opening of the Olympics, would you have approved him or criticised him?**
- 3. What is the cost of making a decision like the one Eric made?**
- 4. What impact do you think his decision made on the people of God and on unbelievers?**
- 5. What decision have you made yourself concerning sports and other activities on Sunday?**

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DISCUSSION SHEET

The sixth commandment: “*You shall not murder*” (Exodus 20:13).



Why do many people not feel concerned by this commandment?



Read Matthew 5:21-24. How do Jesus’ words change the way we consider the sixth commandment?



Your friends are angry with a guy in your class whose behaviour got the whole class into trouble. They are looking for a way to get him back. What should you do?

The seventh commandment: “*You shall not commit adultery*” (Exodus 20:14).



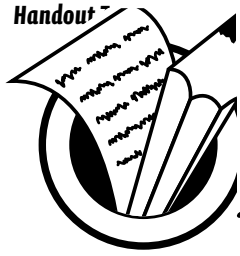
Perhaps you feel that the word “adultery” applies to older, married people. How do Jesus’ words in Matthew 5:27-28 apply this commandment to everyone?



Jesus is saying that lustful thoughts are wrong. What can you do to avoid these kinds of thoughts?



How should Christians respond to the widely held view that there is no harm in sex outside marriage?



The Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Commandments

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

What we do to God's laws when we sin

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Forbidden in Exodus 20:13

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

They are to be honoured

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

First parent mentioned in fifth commandment

☐ ☐ ☐

Third word in Exodus 20:14

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Commandment forbidding murder

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Opposite of love

☐ ☐ ☐

Breaking God's commandments

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Book where Ten Commandments are found

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

To do as you are told

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

To be honoured as well as father

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

There are Ten in Exodus chapter 20

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

We can sin in these as well as in actions

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

What we must do to our parents

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Commandment which forbids adultery

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Chapter in Exodus containing commandments

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Another word for "honour"

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Commandment found in Exodus 20:12

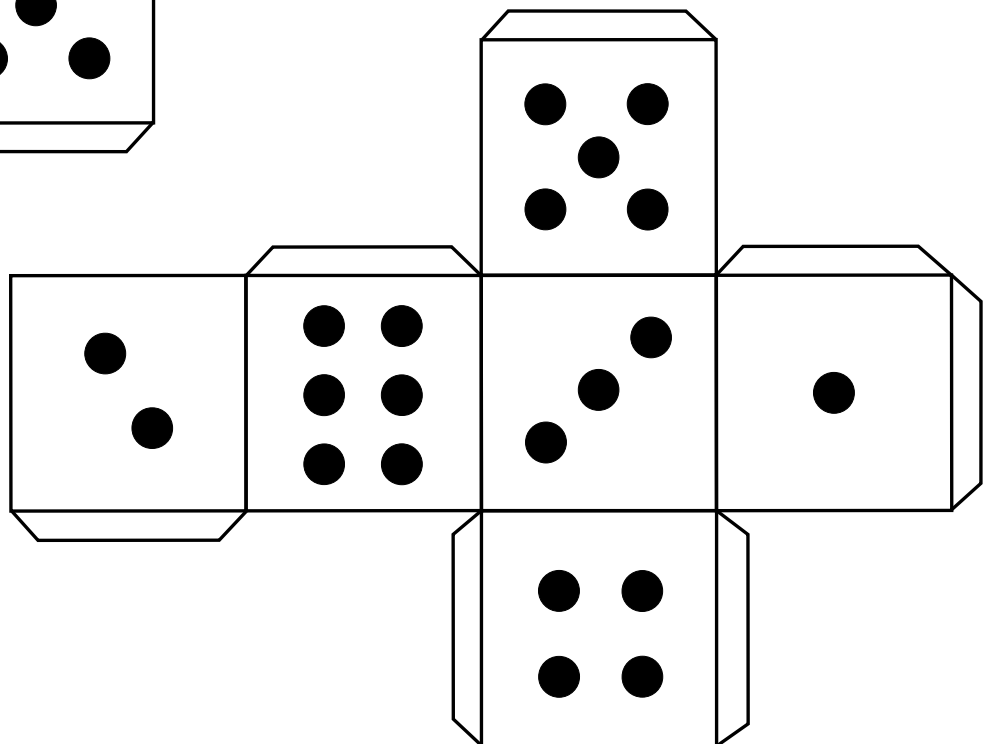
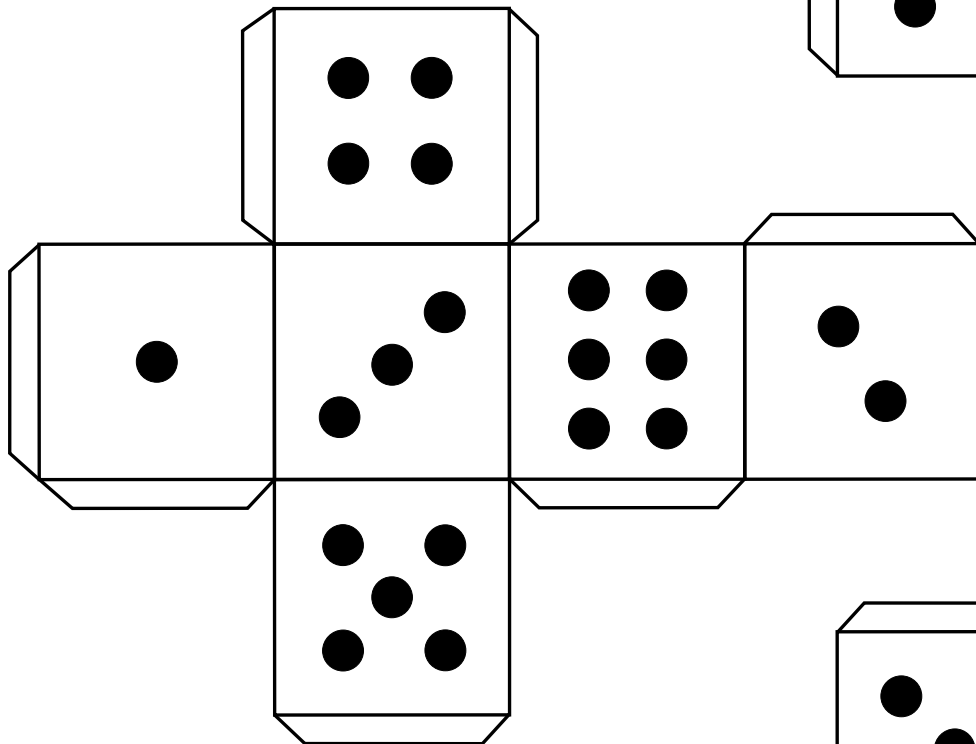
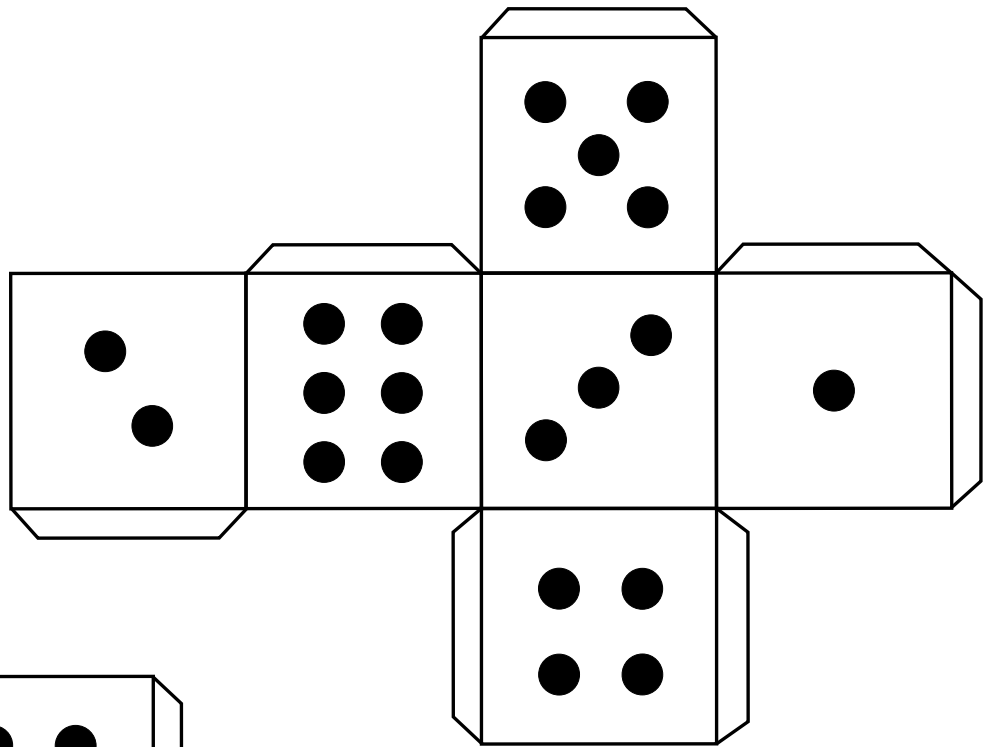
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Verse in Exodus 20 containing the word "commit"

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

A sinful relationship

The commandments cannot save you, what must you do?



Three Bible Proofs that **JESUS** is **GOD**



HIS NAMES

James 1:1

Titus 2:13

John 20:31

HIS ATTRIBUTES

John 1:1-2

John 2:24-25

Hebrews 4:15

HIS WORKS

John 1:3

II Corinthians 5:10

Matthew 9:6



When and how? did Jesus pray?



**Matthew
4:2-3**

For Peter that his faith
would not fail

**Luke
6:12-13**

At the beginning of His
preaching ministry, to
prepare to face temptation

**Mark
1:35-39**

Even though He was in
demand and had to preach

**Luke
22:32**

When He had to make
decisions such as
choosing the disciples

**Luke
22:42**

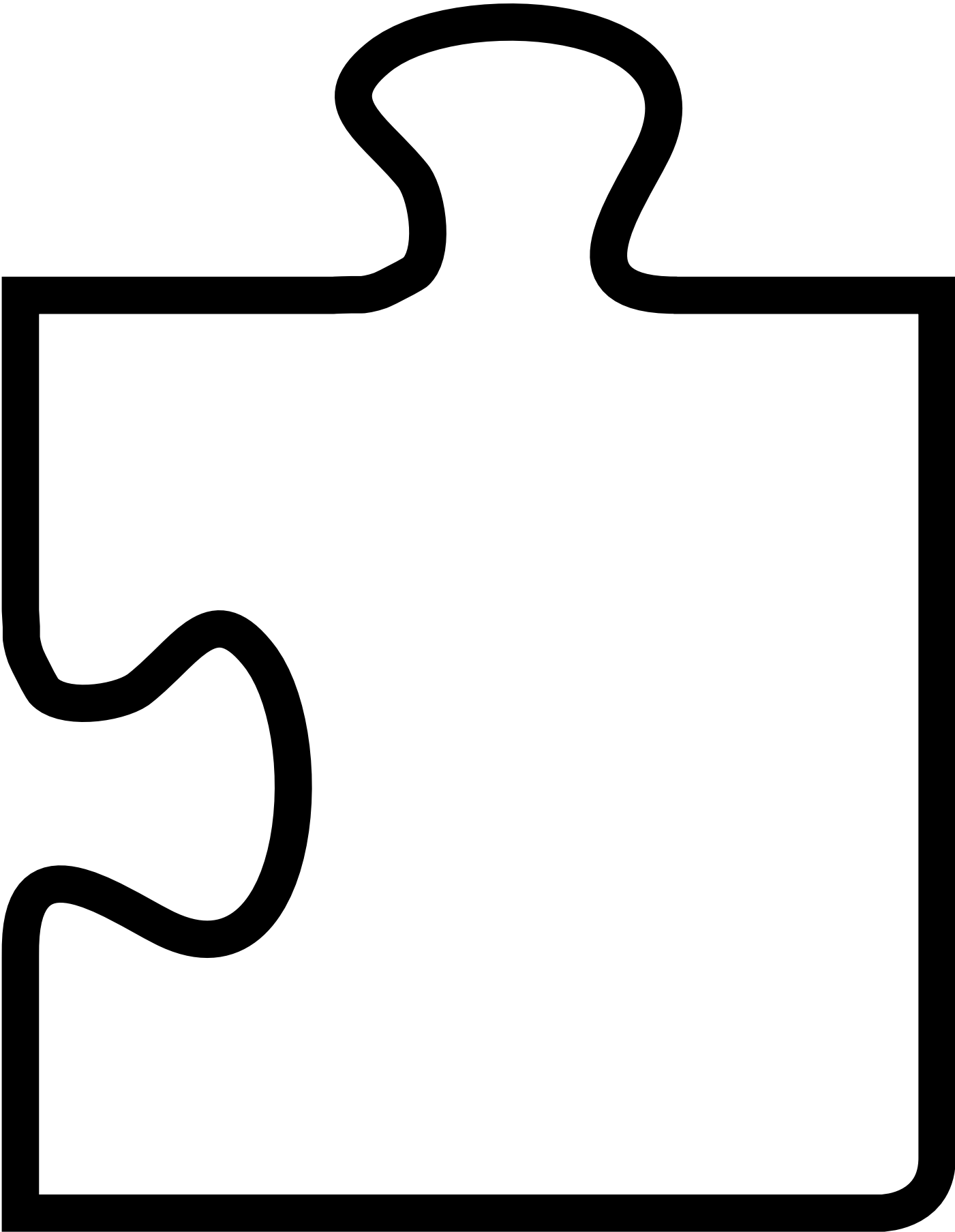
Still today for us if
we are believers

**Hebrews
7:25**

For our protection
from the evil one

**John
17:15**

That His Father's will would
be done in all things,
especially on the cross



The life and deity of Christ

A M G X D S T L O H T R I B M
 G L P T E A C H I N G X J V F
 T N C W A X T X G U B N S I G
 I C I J T H X T S K R O W R N
 R E X Y H X A B R A H A M G I
 I O N E A G R W Z I Z D P I R
 P N M A C R W T S O B T C N E
 S E I C E H P O R P L U Y P F
 R F A X G N I R A C V A T K F
 U S L F O L L O W E R S X E U
 Q D C A D N L I F E U D H G S

Fill in the blanks, then find the words in the wordsearch above.
Words may read forwards, backwards, vertically, horizontally or diagonally.

How do we know Jesus is **G** _____ ?

An amazing **c** _____ : "Before **A** _____ was I AM."

A miraculous **b** _____ : conceived by the **S** _____ and born of a **v** _____ .

The **p** _____ fulfilled concerning His birth, life and **d** _____ .

His names, **a** _____ and **w** _____ point to His deity.

His devoted **f** _____ testified that He is God.

What did Jesus do during His **L** _____ on earth?

A Life of:

T _____

C _____

P _____

S _____

Look up the verses, fill in the missing words and answer the questions.



Sin us from God

Why is this so serious? _____



Sin makes us

How can we be set free? _____



Sin our lives

What comes out of a sinful heart? _____

1.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Hebrews 9:26

Ephesians 2:8-9

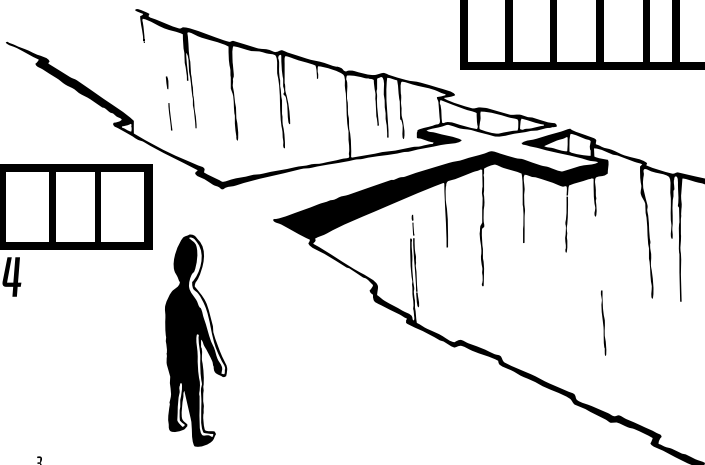
4.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

2.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

1 Peter 2:24



1 Peter 3:18

3.

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



Running 4 Clues

Clue Sheet

Follow the cards on the wall in the right order. Fill in the answers below.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____



Running 4 Clues

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9. _____



Running 4 Clues

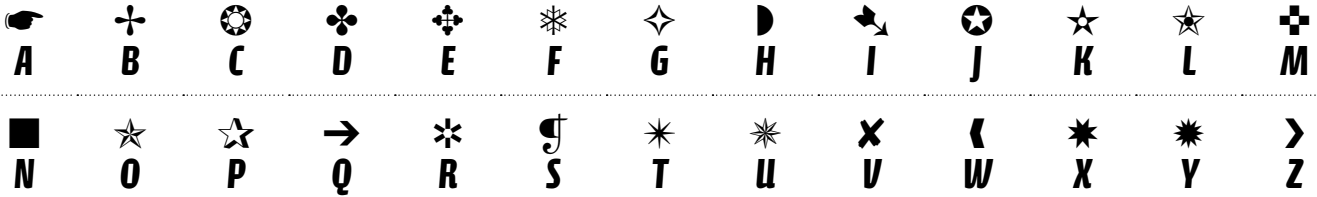
Clue Sheet

Follow the cards on the wall in the right order. Fill in the answers below.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____



Are you saved?



Find out the following words from the lesson and write them in the space under each puzzle:

* ↘ ⊙ ◐ ✱ ✱ ✱ ■ ✧ ✚ ✎ ■

■ ↘ ⊙ ✱ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✱ ✎

✱ ✱ ✚ ✱ ✚ ■ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✚ ✚ ✱

✱ ✚ ⊙ ✱ ✧ ■ ↘ ✎ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ■ ✚ ✚ ✚

✱ ✱ ✱ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✱ ✱ ■ ✚ ✱ ✱

◐ ✎ ■ ✱ ✚ ✚ ✚ ✎ ✎ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ■

◐ ✚ ■ ✱ ✎ ◐ ✎ ✱ ✎ ✎ ✚

✚ ✚ ⊙ ✎ ✚ ✚ ✎ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✚ ✱

Notice the difference in the two columns. The rich young man turned away from Jesus. Nicodemus turned from his sin to Jesus.

Check out the following references and discover who the people are and then put them in the correct column.

Luke 23:8-11

Acts 9:1-19

Acts 16:13-14

Acts 26:27-28

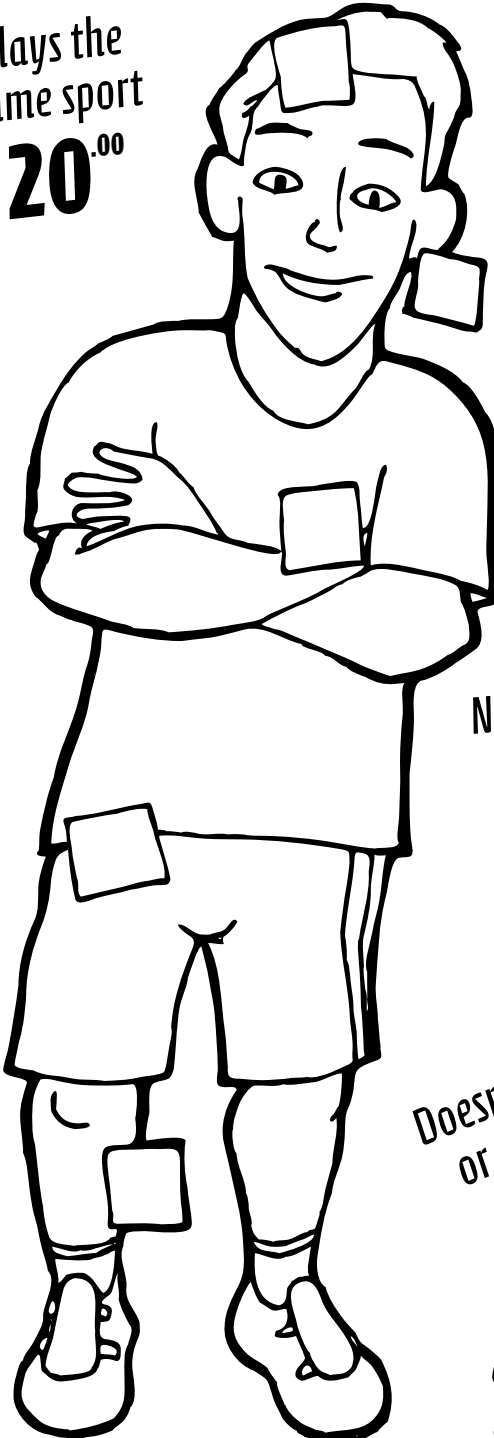
If you had to write your name, where would it be?

This is the most important question you will ever face in life.

Turned from Jesus	Turned to Jesus

BUY A FRIEND!

Circle five characteristics you would like in a friend to add up to 100!



Listens to your favourite music **20^{.00}**
 Plays the same sport **20^{.00}**
 Has cool parents **20^{.00}**
 Joyful **20^{.00}**
 Good-looking **20^{.00}**
 Believes in God **20^{.00}**
 Enjoys the same movies **20^{.00}**
 Goes to youth group **20^{.00}**
 Other **20^{.00}**
 Is great at instant messaging **20^{.00}**
 Not a Christian, but open to the Gospel **20^{.00}**
 Goes to church **20^{.00}**
 Has a cell phone **20^{.00}**
 Doesn't smoke or do drugs **20^{.00}**
 Lives close by **20^{.00}**
 Gets good grades **20^{.00}**
 Of the same age group **20^{.00}**

JRH-93800; JRH-93810; JRH-93820 TYPE TELEVISIONS • AEH-10305 TYPE LAPTOP COMPUTER • JDM-7169; JDM-7189; JDM-7199 TYPE COMPUTER

USERS MANUAL



SPECIAL FEATURES: Watching the television or using the computer allow you to:



SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS: Heavy exposure may result in:



BASIC OPERATION: Switch off and disconnect when:



WARNING INDICATOR: Don't spend more than: