

LESSON 2: GOD'S COMMANDMENTS: NO IDOLS

Review Guide for Elementary

Classroom: Grades 1, 2, 3, & 4

📖 Exodus 20:4-6; 2 Kings 23:1-20

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CRAFT

[20 min]

Set It Aside

Supplies

- large paper grocery bags (1 per child)
- light-colored construction paper (2 sheets per child)
- washable watercolors
- paintbrushes (1 per child)
- 3-ounce paper cups (1 per child)
- glue sticks



Talk About Creation

Say: **God is so amazing. When he created our world, he filled it with wonderful things.**

Ask: • **What's something wonderful God made?** Kids may say a flower, a rainbow, or the mountains.

Say: **God made our world and filled it with things that are strong and powerful. These things show us how great God is. Some people in the Bible got mixed up and pretended those things were as great as God. But there's only one real God. Let's make something to keep us from being distracted by *things* and to remind us how great God is.**

Make a Special Bag

- Give each child a paper bag, two sheets of construction paper, a paintbrush, and a cup of water, and set out watercolors to share.
- Encourage kids to paint a picture of something strong God made on one sheet and something beautiful God made on the other.
- Help kids glue their pictures to each side of their bags.

Say: **Sometimes things like toys can take away our attention when we want to worship God or pray. We can put things like that into our bags while we talk to God. Then we can remember there's only one real God and thank him for all the amazing things he made.** Put away something that's distracting to you, and then lead kids in a prayer.



Dig Deeper for Parents

You'll Be Teaching: There's only one real God. The Israelites were surrounded by cultures that worshipped fake gods. In those days, gods were generally idols or things from God's creation. In our culture, kids are inundated with messages that conflict with the truth about the one real God. "What's true for you is true for you, and what's true for me is true for me" or "Maybe Jesus is a way to heaven..." Or maybe kids hear that there is no heaven, or that there is a heaven and everyone automatically goes there. Help kids understand the truth that there's only one real God.

Think About: What are some of the most common religious beliefs you've heard? How do they stack up against the truth of the one real God?

Dig Deeper Activity

Supplies

- Bible
- Lego blocks (about 10 per child)
- clean trash cans (enough to hold all the blocks)

Build Strong Things

Say: **God has filled our world with really big, strong things like mountains and trees.**

Ask: • **What's something else that's really big or strong?** Kids may say lions, the ocean, or their dads.

Say: **Let's build things with these blocks that remind us of something really strong.**

Form leader-led groups. Give each group a pile of blocks. Encourage groups to build something that's strong or powerful. Some ideas might be: a mountain, a tree, a lion, a building.

Give kids a few minutes to build, then ask each group to present their creation to everyone.

Say: **The things you built remind us of strong things. But those things can't help us like God can.** Go to one of the creations.

Say: **A [thing kids built] is strong. But I'm wondering if it can help us when we're sick. Give me a thumbs-up if you think this [thing kids built] can help you get better if you're sick and a thumbs-down if you think it can't.** Have kids show you with their thumbs.

Say: **A [thing kids built] is an amazing thing God made. But it can't help us when we're sick. There's only one real God, and he loves us and helps us get better when we're sick.**

Go to another group's creation, and say: **This is a great [thing kids built]. A [thing kids built] is really strong. But I'm wondering if it can help us when we're afraid. Give me a thumbs-up if you think this [thing kids built] can help you if you're afraid in the dark and a thumbs-down if you think it can't.** Have kids show you with their thumbs.

Say: **A [thing kids built] is an amazing thing God made. But it can't help us when we're afraid in the dark. There's only one real God, and he's always with us and can help us when we're afraid.**

Tear Them Down

Say: **People in the Bible built statues of strong things just like we did. But they forgot that there's only one real God. They started praying to their statues instead of to God! But the statues couldn't hear their prayers or help them; they weren't real. So Josiah tore down the statues to help the people remember to pray only to the real God. Let's tear down *our* statues and throw them away just like Josiah did.** Encourage kids to take apart their creations and put their blocks in the trash cans.

Say: **God made many things that are strong. Sometimes those things can help us, like the way our houses help us stay safe and warm. But they're only things. The Bible reminds us that they can't do anything by themselves.** Read 1 Samuel 12:21 aloud.

Say: **There's only one real God who hears us when we pray and helps us. He loves us and wants to be our friend. Let's say a prayer to God right now.** Lead kids to pray and thank God that he's real and he hears their prayers.

Dig Into Prayer

Lead kids to pray. Ask God to give your kids discernment to know when society's messages are contradictory to his truth. If your children have any prayer request, please submit them on our website under "Kids Resources." We would love to pray over them.

Memory Verse

Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." – Matthew 22:37