

The Law: Old vs. New

Sermon on the Mount
Lesson 2

Lesson Objectives

- The students will identify one command of Moses that Jesus explained.
- The students will state that Jesus taught people to obey from their hearts.
- The students will tell one reason why they want to obey God from their hearts.

Lesson Text

Matthew 5:17-48

Scripture Memory Verse

Love one another deeply, from the heart.

1 Peter 1:22

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: What Would You Do?

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: Here Comes the Judge!

Craft: All Heart

Scripture Memory: A Change of Heart

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



3rd and 4th Grades

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The Law: Old vs. New

What Would You Do?

The students will preview today's lesson as they complete this activity.

Materials

For each student:

- pencil

For the teacher:

- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each student

Preparation

1. Cut off the teacher section from the copies of Reproducible Page A and give them to the assistants who will be helping the students.
2. Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page A.

Instructions

1. Greet the students as they arrive. Explain that today's lesson will help the students understand the difference between the old law of the Old Testament and the new law that Jesus came to give.
2. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page A and pencils. Encourage the students to work with a partner or in a small group.
3. Circulate among the students to offer help and direction with the questions.

WHAT
WOULD
YOU
DO?

A Discussion Time

Assign one adult assistant to each small group of students and have them use the teacher's section to help direct the students' responses. Invite the students to discuss their answers rather than write them. End the session by comparing their answers to what Jesus would want them to do.

Teacher Tips

- Think of creative ways to enhance the atmosphere, e.g. blankets for the students to sit on the floor or in a corner; snacks; contemporary Christian music in the background.

WHAT
WOULD
JESUS
DO?



3rd and 4th Grades

The Law: Old vs. New

Here Comes the Judge!

The students will learn that Jesus came to fulfill the law of Moses as they participate in this courtroom drama.

Materials

For each student:

- index card
- pencil

For the teacher:

- pair of eyeglasses (or frames)
- suit coat
- 3 pieces of poster board, 9" x 12"
- markers
- hole punch
- yarn
- 1 chair
- large writing surface

Preparation

1. Neatly print the following on the poster board to make three signs: Angus McAngry; Steven Geteven; Witness Stand.
2. Label the chair with the "Witness Stand" sign. Punch holes in the upper corners of the remaining two signs and tie with yarn so that they can hang around a student's neck.
3. Practice presenting this Bible Story with energy and enthusiasm.

Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Matthew 5:17-48. Today's Bible Story comes after the sermon on the mountainside that you learned about last week. It is in the next section of Matthew 5, and Jesus explains several of the commands of Moses to the people. Jesus knew that the people were very legalistic—which means nit-picky—about following the law. They cared more about what other people thought than about what God wanted them to do. Jesus knew what the people were thinking—and he knew it was wrong—so he explained these laws of Moses from God's perspective.

Tell the students that they are going to pretend that they are sitting in a courtroom. They will play the part of the jury. They will hear about two different cases and decide whether the people being

accused are obeying God or not: first, from their perspective; and second, from God's perspective.

Presenting the Bible Story

Have the students sit in two rows facing the Witness Stand you prepared. Distribute the index cards and the pencils to the students. Tell them to number their cards with 1 and 2, and with their names at the top.

Wearing the glasses and suit coat, tell the students that you will be the attorney for today's court session. Explain that you will be presenting two cases that the jury will hear.

Ask your adult assistant or a student volunteer to come sit on the Witness Stand. Tell the jury that you will explain the charges and they will write "O" for obeying, or "NO" for not obeying after they hear the charges.

Case 1: Angus McAngry

On the large writing surface, write Angus McAngry. Place the Angus sign on the person sitting in the witness chair. Our first defendant is Angus McAngry. He is charged for being angry at his brother for losing a video. Angus says it's not fair that he is in trouble for being angry with his brother. He says everyone gets mad at their brother's or sisters! Besides, Angus did not hit his brother or break anything. All Angus said was, "You idiot! Why did you do such a stupid thing!" Angus says he's not guilty.

Tell the students to decide if Angus is obeying God by being angry with his brother. Tell them to write their answer next to the number 1 on their index cards.

Tell the student that you are going to read a command that Jesus explained to the people.

"You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to his brother, 'Raca,' is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell." Matthew 5:21-22



3rd and 4th Grades

The Law: Old vs. New

Ask the students to each read their answers. Then ask if God thinks Angus is obeying God and why.

Case 2: Steven Geteven

On the large writing surface, write Steven Geteven. Choose another volunteer and place the Steven sign on the person sitting in the witness chair. Our next defendant is Steven Geteven. He is being charged for thinking of ways to get even with a student who stole his lunch money. Steven says he shouldn't be in trouble for getting even. "Anyone would think that way about someone who stole their money, right?" Steven says that all he wants to do is steal his money back. Then he will be even. He did not plan to steal anything else. Steven does not think that he is guilty.

Tell the students to decide if Steven is obeying God by trying to get even with the student who stole his lunch money. Tell them to write their answer next to the number 2 on their index cards.

Tell the student that you are going to read a command that Jesus explained to the people.

"You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I tell you, Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you." Matthew 5:38-42

Take a moment to explain what the expression "eye for eye" means in relation to the Old Testament command in Leviticus 24:19-20. Explain the significance of Jesus' teaching to the students.

Ask the students to each read their answers. Then ask if God thinks Steven is obeying God and why.

Final Verdict

Tell the students to open their Bibles to Matthew 5:43-48. Read this aloud along with the students. Explain that God has very high expectations for us. He wants us to try to be just like him! Encourage the students that God knows people are not perfect—but God knows we can try! God does not want us to just "get by" when it comes to obeying our parents, loving our brothers and sister, and even forgiving—and loving—our enemies! He wants us to think, "What would Jesus do?" Then he wants us to do it.

Sharing with Others

Ask the students if they can think of someone they have been angry with or been unwilling to forgive. Encourage them to go to that person and share what they have learned from this lesson. Close with a prayer for the students to see why Jesus wanted people to obey from the heart.

Teacher Tips

- The defendants can also be adapted to girls' names, i.e: Angie McAngry or Stephanie Geteven.
- Be prepared for students who are skeptical about Matthew 4:48. Share from your own life how you have come to strive for perfection in your relationship with God.

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The Law: Old vs. New

All Heart

The students will make heart figures reminding them to always love and obey God from the heart.

Materials

For each student:

- 2 sheets of red construction paper, 9" x 12"
- marker
- glue stick
- invisible tape
- 10 cotton balls

For the teacher:

- scissors
- stapler

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for every 4 students

Preparation

1. Cut out the four mouths from the copies of Reproducible Page B. Each student will need only one mouth.
2. For each student, prepare both pieces of construction paper by cutting two 1 inch strips off the ends, as shown in Figure A. Put aside four strips for each student to use later as arms and legs.
3. Cut out the heart stencil from only one of the copies of Reproducible Page B. (You won't be needing the remainder of the hearts for this activity.)
4. Using the heart stencil you prepared, trace and cut out two hearts for each student from the remaining construction paper.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: In today's Bible Story, you are learning that Jesus taught the people to obey God from their hearts. You are going to make a craft that is all heart! Show the students your craft. Read the words written on the mouth.
2. Distribute the construction paper hearts and mouths you prepared, glue sticks and markers. (Each student should have two construction paper hearts and one mouth.)

3. Have the students glue the mouth and draw a face on one of their hearts. Have the students write their names on other heart.
4. Distribute the tape and the four paper strips you prepared to each student. Help them fold the strips accordion style. See Figure B.
5. On the backside of the hearts with their names, have the students tape their four strips, as shown on Figure C, making arms and legs.
6. Help the students staple their two hearts back-to-back leaving a small opening at the top. (The taped side should be hidden inside the heart.)
7. Give each student ten cotton balls to stuff inside the opening of the hearts. See Figure D.
8. Staple the hearts so they are completely closed.

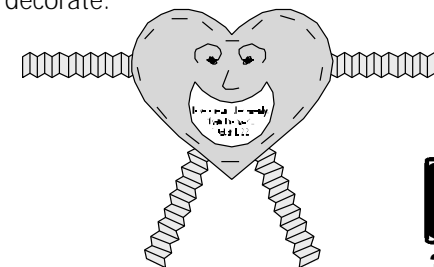
Conclusion

Discuss with the students how God wants us to have loving hearts. What's inside our hearts—our deep feelings and deep thoughts—are more important to God than how strong we are, how we may act, or how much we can do.

Conclude with a prayer asking God to help the students love one another deeply from their hearts.

Teacher Tips

- If time permits, have decorative items (such as sequins, beads, string, ribbon or cotton) available for students who wish to decorate their hearts.
- Keep the leftover heart stencils from the copies of Reproducible Page B for any students who finish early and need something extra to decorate.



The Law: Old vs. New

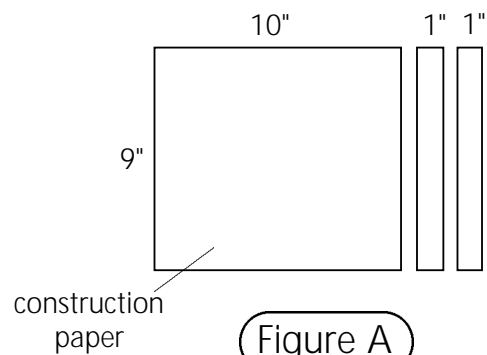


Figure A

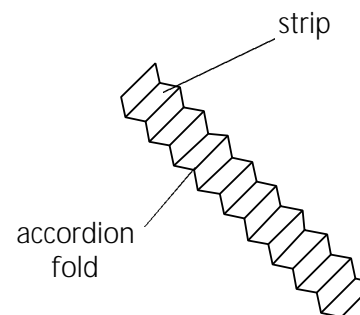


Figure B

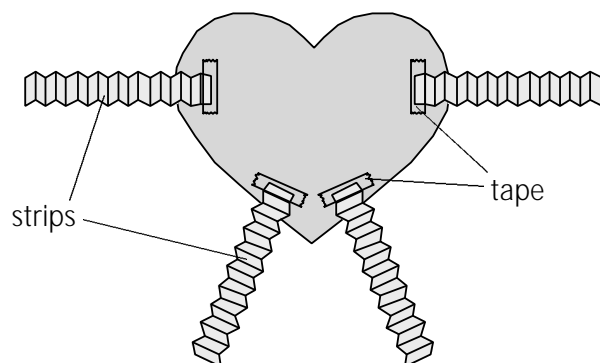


Figure C

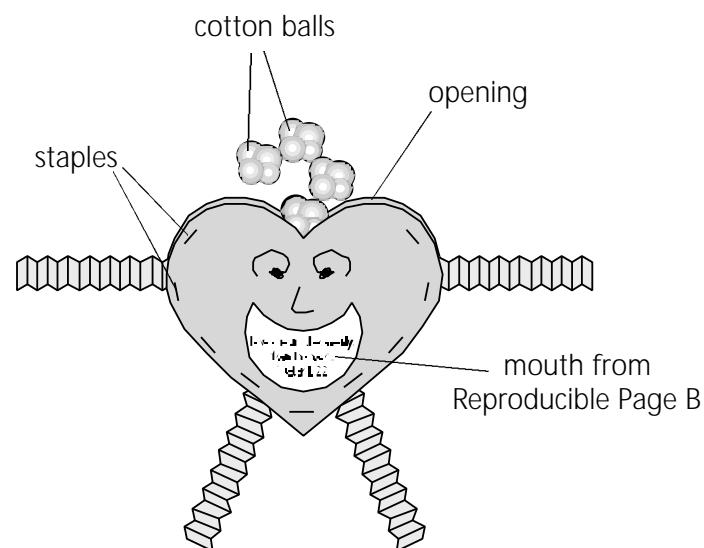


Figure D

The Law: Old vs. New

A Change of Heart

The students will learn and memorize today's Scripture Memory Verse in this speed drill.

Scripture Memory Verse

Love one another deeply, from the heart.
1 Peter 1:22

Materials

For the teacher:

- scissors
- scorepad and pen
- watch or timer with a second hand

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

Cut out the words of today's Scripture Memory Verse from your copy of Reproducible Page C.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: In your lesson today, you are learning that Jesus taught the people to obey God from their hearts. Jesus knew that the people cared more about pleasing people than pleasing God. Jesus explained some of the Old Testament commands to the people so that they would understand how to obey God from the heart. In your Scripture Memory Verse, you are going to learn a scripture that will remind you of Jesus' message to the people.
2. Show the students the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card. Say it to them three times while they follow along. Ask them to say it together with you three more times. Ask each student to say it together with you to the rest of the group. Ask for volunteers to say it from memory.
3. Take out the words that you prepared from your copy of Reproducible Page C. Tell the students that there is one word from the verse on each card. Mix them up and pass them out to the students. Make sure that each student has at least one. If you have more than nine students, have two students share a word.

4. Have the students sit in a circle. Explain that you will say the verse and they will place their correct words down in the circle as you say them. Do this three times, each time collecting and mixing up the words.
5. Distribute the words again and find the student who is holding the word "heart." Tell that student that you will time him to see how quickly he can put all the words in order. Have the students give their words to that student. Start timing and write the student's name and time on your scorepad.
6. Tell the student who has just finished to choose the next student to place the words for time. Continue until all the students have had a chance to be timed while placing the words in order. Keep track of each student's name and time to announce a winner at the end.

Conclusion

Ask the students what they think it means to love someone deeply. Ask them to consider the opposite of this, such as what it means to show someone shallow love. Close with a prayer for the students to want to love each other and God deeply, from their hearts.

Teacher Tips

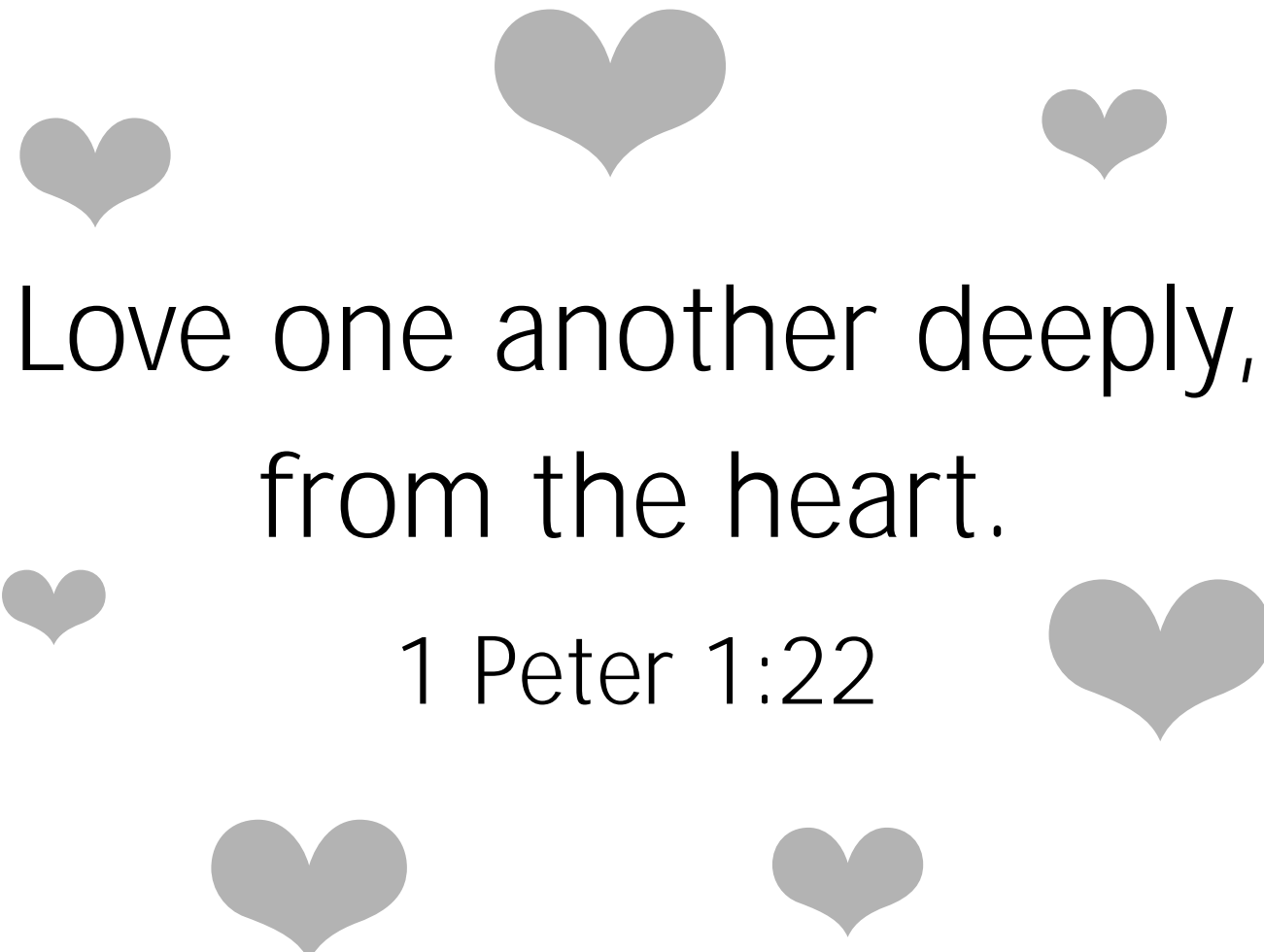
- Know your students. If they will be too intimidated by being timed, then have them simply take turns placing the words in order.



3rd and 4th Grades

The Law: Old vs. New

Sermon on the Mount
Lesson 2



Love one another deeply,
from the heart.

1 Peter 1:22



3rd and 4th Grades

Lesson Objectives

- The students will identify one command of Moses that Jesus explained.
- The students will state that Jesus taught people to obey from their heart.
- The students will tell one reason why they want to obey God from their hearts.

Lesson Text

Matthew 5:17-48

Scripture Memory Verse

Love one another deeply, from the heart.

1 Peter 1:22

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Hang On!

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: A Good Reason

Game: A Perfect Match

Bible Skills: A New Look

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.

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Hang On!

The students will review key words from this week's lesson as they play hangman.

Materials

For the teacher:

- large writing surface(s)

Preparation

Draw a hangman gallows on the large writing surface.

NOTE: Make arrangements for your teaching assistants to each take a small group of students to play hangman during this Preclass session. Give each assistant the list of words and phrases that the students will be guessing.

Instructions

1. Greet the students as they arrive. Remind them that they are learning about commands from the Old Testament that Jesus explained to the people. Jesus wanted the people to obey God from the heart so he taught them the right attitude to have about the laws. Tell the students that they will review some key ideas from this week's lesson as they play hangman.
2. Direct the students to a game of hangman. If you have a large class, arrange to have several small groups playing. Encourage the students to work together.
3. For each word or phrase, have the students tell what they remember from this week's lesson.

Key Words and Phrases to Guess

Matthew; Forgive; Neighbor; Heart; Love Your Enemy; Do Not Fight Back; Obey from the Heart.

Teacher Tips

- If you do not know how to play hangman, ask someone who does to help you.
- If your large writing surface is not erasable, then bring extra paper for multiple hangman games.



3rd and 4th Grades

A Good Reason

The students will review this week's lesson as they think of reasons why they want to obey God from the heart.

Materials

For the teacher:

- large writing surface
- scissors
- magazine pictures of parents, teachers, coaches, friends
- hat or small container
- tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut out the role play situations from your copy of Reproducible Page D. Fold them and place them in the hat.
2. On the large writing surface, write the words: Friends; Coach or Teacher; Parent. Tape the corresponding pictures beneath the words.

Reviewing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Matthew 5. In your Bible Story this week, you learned that Jesus taught the people some new ways to obey some old laws. Jesus knew that the people around him cared more about pleasing people than about pleasing God. Jesus wanted to teach the people how they could obey God from the heart. In Matthew 5, Jesus explains "the heart" behind several of the Old Testament commands that God gave to Moses and the Israelites. Jesus reminds the people of the old laws and then explains how God wants them to obey from their hearts.

In today's activity, you are going to think of some different reasons why you would want to obey God from your heart.

Life Application

Tell the students to look at the words and pictures on the large writing surface. Tell the students that these are pictures of some of the people we want to make happy: friends, teachers or coaches and parents.

- How do you feel when you make your friend happy?

The Law: Old vs. New

Sermon on the Mount
Lesson 2

- How do you feel when your teacher is proud of you?
- How do you feel when you do something that makes your parents say, "Great job!"

God knows that we feel good inside when we do something that makes someone we love feel happy. God feels happy when we show our love to him by obeying him from our heart.

- How do you feel when your friend comes to your house, but says, "I'd really rather go home."
- How do you feel when you ask your brother to help you and he says, "What will you pay me to do it?"
- How do you feel when you ask someone for help and they say, "Do I have to?"

God knows that we feel sad inside when people don't want to do things for us from their hearts. We would much rather have someone show that they WANT to do something for us than that they HAVE to do it. God feels sad inside when we do something for him because we HAVE to and not because we WANT to.

Tell the students that in your hat you have descriptions of several situations. You will read them and ask for a volunteer to come and act out the situation. First, because they HAVE to do it and then because they WANT to do it. Do the first situation for them as an example. After acting out each way, ask the students: How do you think God would feel?

Conclusion

Tell the students that God wants them to obey him from the heart. God has done so much to show them his love. He wants them to express their love in return. Ask them each to tell one reason why they want to obey God from the heart. (Answers should include: it makes him happy; it makes him feel special; it shows their love for him; etc.) Close with a prayer for the students to love God from their hearts.

Teacher Tips

- Do not force a student to share. Encourage the students who don't share to think of a reason later and share it with a family member or friend.



3rd and 4th Grades



A Perfect Match

The students will review three commands that Jesus explained as they play this game.

Materials

For the teacher:

- scissors
- glue sticks
- 12 index cards, 3" x 5"
- paper
- pencil

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 3 copies for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut out the game cards from your three copies of Reproducible Page E. You should have twenty-four cards.
2. Cut the index cards in half, making twenty-four smaller cards.
3. Glue the game cards to the index cards.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: In your lesson this week, you learned that Jesus wanted to teach the people to obey God from their hearts. Jesus knew that the people cared more about pleasing people than pleasing God. Jesus explained some of the Old Testament commands to the people so that they would understand how to obey God from the heart.
2. Divide the students into two teams. Be careful to mix students who did not hear this week's Bible Story with those who did.
3. Show the students the cards you prepared. Show them the "Old cards" and read the three commands. Then show them the "New cards" and read them. Tell the students that they will play this game like concentration. They will try to match the old command card to its new command card. For every match, they will earn three points for their team. Show them the card labeled, "What Would Jesus Do?" and explain how to use them:

The Law: Old vs. New

Sermon on the Mount
Lesson 2

- If a student turns over a "What Would Jesus Do?" card with an Old card, then his team must think of one way that Jesus explained this command to the people. (For example: Jesus told the people that "Do not murder" also means "do not be angry and call your brother a fool.")
 - If a student turns over a "What Would Jesus Do?" card with a New card, then his team must tell one way that Jesus wants them to obey this command by giving an example from their lives. (For example: Jesus said, "Love your enemies," so I will not fight back if someone does something bad to me.)
4. Use the Answer Guide on the back of this Lesson Card for suggested responses.
 5. Play for as long as time permits. Encourage the students for their participation.

Conclusion

Ask the students why they think that Jesus wanted people to obey God from the heart. Do you want your friends to spend time with you because they have to or because they want to? Explain that this is how God feels, too. Close with a prayer for the students to desire to obey God from their hearts.

Teacher Tips

- If you have a large number of students who did not hear this week's lesson, then play this game without points, using the back of this Lesson Card for the students to refer to during the game.



3rd and 4th Grades

The Law: Old vs. New

Sermon on the Mount
Lesson 2

A Perfect Match

Answer Guide

Old Command	"Do not murder." Exodus 20:13	"Eye for eye; tooth for tooth." Exodus 21:24	"Love your neighbor." Leviticus 19:18
New Command	"Anyone who is angry will be subject to judgment. Anyone who says, 'You fool' will be in danger of the fire of hell." Matthew 5:21-22	"Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also." Matthew 5:38-39	"Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Matthew 5:43-44
What Would Jesus Do? Old (How did Jesus explain this command to the people?)	Do not be angry and do not call your brother a fool.	Don't fight back or try to get even with people who mistreat you.	Love your enemies and pray for them.
What Would Jesus Do? New (How would Jesus want you to obey his command?)	I won't call people names if I am mad at them.	I won't be mean to people who do bad things to me.	I will be nice to people who mistreat me and invite them to come with me to church.



3rd and 4th Grades

B i b l e S k i l l s

A New Look

The students will review three Old Testament commands that Jesus explained as they complete this activity.

Materials

For each student:

- pencil

Reproducible Pages:

- Page F, 1 copy for each student

Preparation

Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page F.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: In your lesson this week, you learned that Jesus taught the people to obey God from their hearts. Jesus knew that the people cared more about pleasing people than pleasing God. Jesus explained some of the Old Testament commands to the people so that they would understand how to obey God from the heart. In our activity today, we are going to match Old Testament commands of Moses with Jesus' new way to obey those commands from the heart.
2. Tell the students to open their Bibles to Matthew 5:21-48. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page F and pencils. Read verse 21-22 to them and tell them to find this command on their pages. Ask the students if they can find the "old command" and the "new way" to obey from the heart on their pages. When they do, have them draw a line connecting them.
3. Tell the students to turn to Matthew 5:38-42. Read it to them and then tell them to find the "old command" and the "new way" to obey it on their pages. Have them connect these by drawing a line.
4. Tell the students to turn to Matthew 5:43-44. Read it to them and have them connect the two commands with a line.

The Law: Old vs. New

Sermon on the Mount
Lesson 2

Conclusion: Perfectly Clear

Tell the students to turn to Matthew 5:48. Read it to them and then have each student read it out loud. Ask the students what they think Jesus meant when he said this. Explain that Jesus knows that we will make mistakes, but he also knows that we can try to do our best to be like Jesus. Jesus was perfect. God sent Jesus to show us how we could be "perfect" too. Encourage the students that if they try to do what Jesus would do, they can obey this command. Close with a prayer for the students to want to be like Jesus.

NOTE: Do not attempt to give the students a theological explanation of this passage. It is important for the students to realize that God has high expectations and he sent Jesus to show us how to live up to those expectations. What is more, God is always willing to forgive us when we don't. Share from your own life ways that this verse has motivated you to be like Jesus and to make God happy.

Teacher Tips

- In a class of confident readers, call on volunteers to read the verses in this activity.



3rd and 4th Grades

A New Look

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<p>Old: Do not murder.</p>	<p>Old: Eye for eye, tooth for tooth.</p>	<p>Old: Love your neighbor.</p>
<p>New: Love your enemy.</p>	<p>New: If you are angry, do not call someone "a fool."</p>	<p>New: Do not fight back.</p>



3rd and 4th Grades

Core/Preclass

1 copy for each student

What Would You Do?

1. Your mother has asked you to wash the dishes after dinner, but you don't feel like it.

- What would your friends tell you to do?

• What would you do?

2. After you have started to wash the dishes you remember that you and your friends left dirty plates and cups in the basement yesterday.

- What would your friends tell you to do?

• What would you do?

3. Jasper is a student who likes to make fun of you. One day after school, you see a group of teenagers steal Jasper's bicycle.

- What would your friends tell you to do?

• What would you do?

4. You are talking with a friend about coming to church with you. He starts laughing at you and calling you names.

- What would your friends tell you to do?

• What would you do?

5. Your best friend read her story in class. She had trouble and everyone—including you—laughed. At lunch, you could see that you hurt her feelings.

- What would your friends tell you to do?

• What would you do?

Name _____

What Would Jesus Do?

(For the teacher)

1. Jesus would have you "go the extra mile" and serve your mother. (See Matthew 5:41.)
2. Jesus would want you to go get them and clean them. (See Matthew 5:41.)
3. Jesus would want you to help Jasper by telling the truth. (See Matthew 5:44-47.)
4. Jesus would want you to be humble and forgive him. He would want you to try and be at peace with him. (See Matthew 5:44.)
5. Jesus would want you to be a true friend and apologize for hurting her. (See Matthew 5:48.)



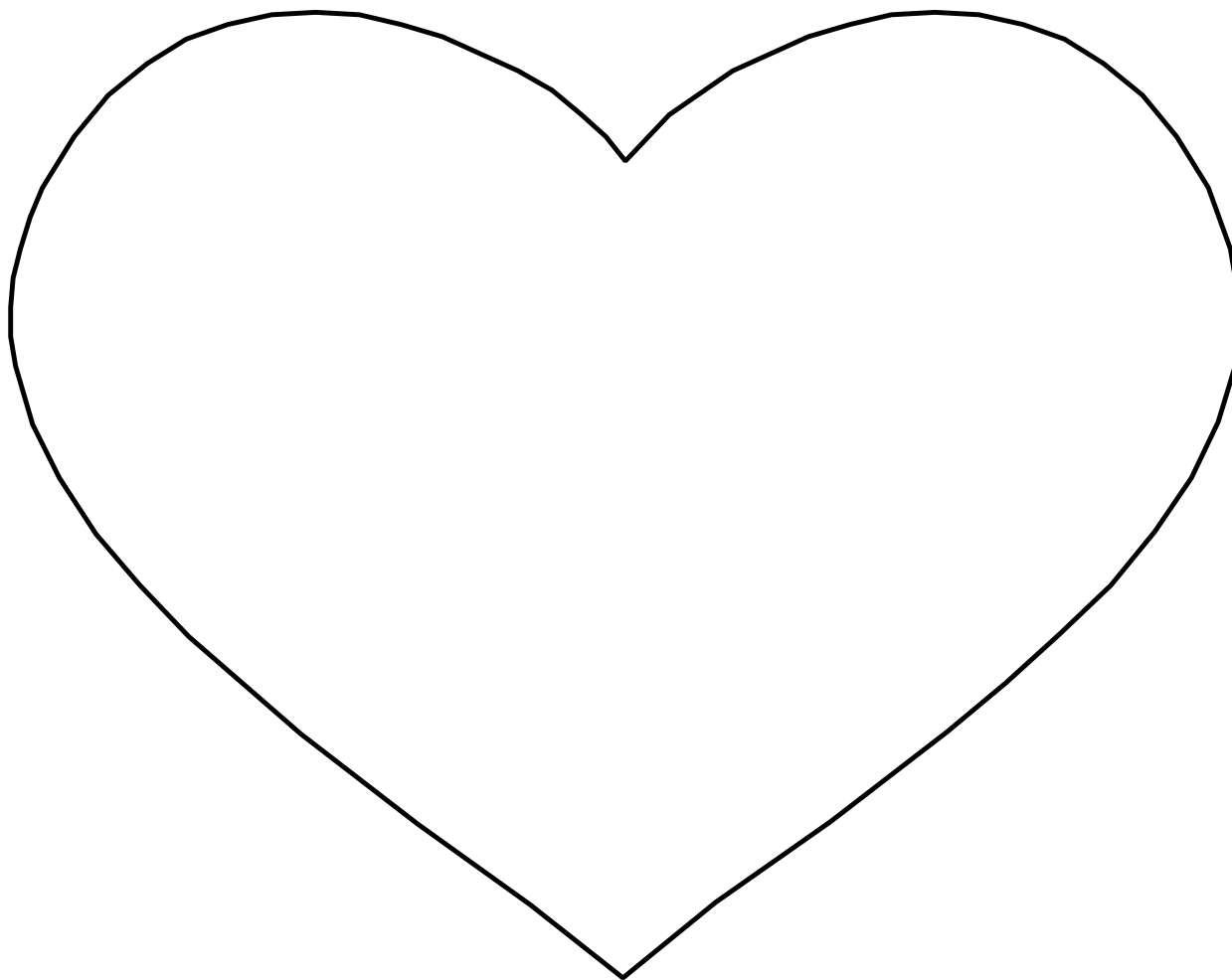
3rd and 4th Grades

Core/Craft

1 copy for every 4 students



mouths



heart stencil

Love	one	another	deeply,
from	the	heart.	
1 Peter	1:22		

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3rd and 4th Grades

☹️ Going to Bible Class 😊
☹️ Reading your Bible 😊
☹️ Praying to God 😊
☹️ Talking to someone about Jesus 😊
☹️ Helping someone who is hurting 😊
☹️ Giving money for the poor and needy 😊
☹️ Giving money for special missions contribution 😊

role play situations



<p>What Would Jesus Do?</p>	<p>OLD</p> <p>"Do not murder." <i>Exodus 20:13</i></p>	<p>OLD</p> <p>"Eye for eye; tooth for tooth." <i>Exodus 21:24</i></p>	<p>OLD</p> <p>"Love your neighbor." <i>Leviticus 19:18</i></p>
<p>What Would Jesus Do?</p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>"Anyone who is angry will be subject to judgment. Anyone who says, 'You fool' will be in danger of the fire of hell." <i>Matthew 5:21-22</i></p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>"Do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also." <i>Matthew 5:38-39</i></p>	<p>NEW</p> <p>"Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." <i>Matthew 5:43-44</i></p>

A New Look

Name: _____

<p>Old: Do not murder.</p>	<p>Old: Eye for eye, tooth for tooth.</p>	<p>Old: Love your neighbor.</p>
<p>New: Love your enemy.</p>	<p>New: If you are angry, do not call someone "a fool."</p>	<p>New: Do not fight back.</p>