

SABBATH SCHOOL

Level 2 • Unit 4 • Week 4

EIGHTH COMMANDMENT AND TENTH COMMANDMENT

OBJECTIVE:

To show that coveting can lead to stealing and to show that many are hurt as a result.

ATTENTION GETTER:

Organize the children to put on a short skit to demonstrate how coveting can lead to stealing. The children involved may be chosen before the class date. However, the skit is short enough that children can be chosen just before class begins.

A Beanie Baby or some other toy will be needed. Please note that any toy can be used. The more up to date, the better the children will get the picture.

Skit

Setting is in a park.

One child has a Beanie Baby and is playing with it. Another child is sitting on a bench looking sadly toward the child with the Beanie Baby. The child on the bench says, "I always wanted to have a Beanie Baby, but my parents can't afford to buy one. I wish that was mine." He or she sighs.

Two children enter the park. The child with the Beanie Baby runs to greet the two children. The Beanie Baby is left lying on the ground. The child on the bench grabs the beanie baby and leaves the park.

After the greetings are exchanged, the child who left the Beanie Baby realizes that the toy is gone. He or she is very upset and has to be consoled by the others.

BIBLE LESSON:

Note: Please substitute a name for "he or she" and "him or her" below. You may use names which the class has chosen for the skit characters. If the children want to use their own names, that is fine also.

Ask: What do you think made him or her steal the Beanie Baby?

Say: He or she really wanted to have a Beanie Baby. Wanting something we can't have can lead us to take what isn't ours.

Ask: How do you think the owner of the Beanie Baby felt?

Say: He or she was very upset. But he or she wasn't the only one upset. His or her friends were hurt, and the parents I am sure felt sorry as well.

Ask: Do you think the person who stole the Beanie Baby will get into trouble?

Say: He or she will probably be punished when he or she is found out. His or her parents will be hurt that their child did something like this.

Say: There are many examples in the Bible of people wanting things they could not have. Some went on to steal, which led to terrible consequences, terrible results. We are going to hear about a man named Achan who suffered because of his greediness. While I read the story I want you to think of the Ten Commandments and at the end of the story tell me if you can recognize which ones Achan broke.

Say: The story is taken from Joshua 7:1-26.

Ask: Who can remember the story about the battle of Jericho?

Say: God had told Joshua and his army to destroy everything that was in Jericho. However, they were to save the silver and gold, and vessels (containers) of bronze and iron. These items were to be put into the treasury of God's house. God had warned that the items were not to be kept by the people of Israel. They were set apart for His house.

One man, Achan, disobeyed and took some treasures for himself. He saw a beautiful garment, some silver and a bar of gold. He knew that no man was to take gold and silver or anything from Jericho, but gold and silver were what he always wanted. His desire was so strong that he took them and hid them in his tent.

Ask: What do you think happened as a result of his actions?

Answer: He was found out. He got into trouble. He felt guilty and gave the items to Joshua.

Say: Because Achan stole the things which God said the people should not have, all the people of Israel suffered. Joshua sent men to attack a place called Ai. They were not afraid because they saw what God had done for them at the Battle of Jericho. But this time things did not go so smoothly. Instead of winning the battle, they lost and lost big. The enemy chased them and many of them died.

Joshua could not understand why this had happened. He and some of the elders bowed before God, and Joshua asked God why He had allowed them to be destroyed by their enemy. God told him that they had sinned. They had stolen.

God then told Joshua to find out who had disobeyed and to destroy that person. After searching family by family, Achan was found. He confessed and showed them where his hidden treasures were buried. The people killed him and his family as God commanded.

Ask: So which commandments did Achan break?

Say: The Eighth and the Tenth Commandments are closely related—coveting leads to stealing.

Ask: Do you know what covet means?

Say: When we have a strong desire to have what is not ours, we are coveting.

LESSON APPLICATION:

Children will work on a code to reveal the message: “Thou shalt not covet.” (See following page.)

Music:

Sing the song, “The Perfect Ten.”

Number one we've just begun, God should be first in your life.
Number two's the idol rule; those graven images aren't nice.
Number three God's name should be never spoken in jest.
Number four the Sabbath's for our worship and for rest.
Number five we all should strive to honor father and mother.
Number six don't get your kicks from killing one another.
Number seven life is heaven when you're true to your mate.
Number eight don't steal and break this rule for anyone's sake.
Number nine don't be the kind who goes around telling lies.
Number ten don't covet when you see your neighbor's house or wife.
That's the list and God insists we stay away from these sins.
That is why we memorize commandments one through ten.

The perfect ten, the perfect ten. They're just as true as they were way back when.
God gave the perfect ten, the perfect ten. God gave the perfect ten.

MEMORY VERSE:

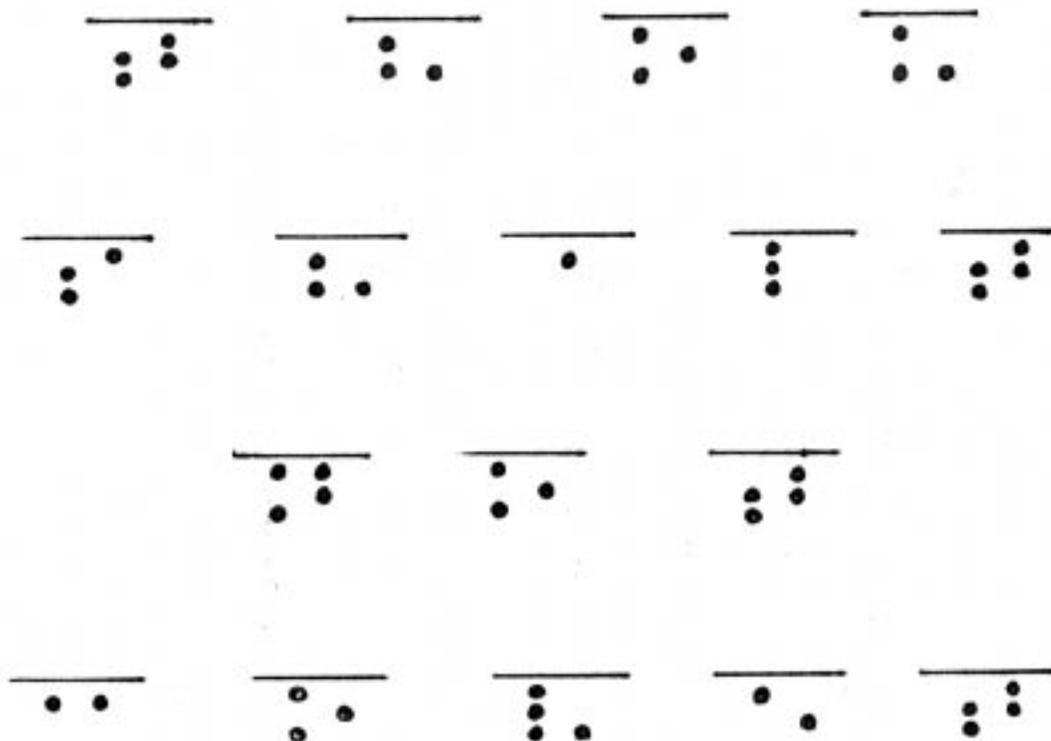
Exodus 20:15, 17 “You shall not steal.... You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbors wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's.”

A COMMANDMENT MESSAGE

Louis Braille was a Frenchman who invented a raised dot writing system for the blind. A special typewriter presses against paper to form the different dot sequences.

Use the Braille letter dot code to read the message. Then try to "make" it, by pressing a dull pencil where the dots are. Turn your paper over and feel the message.

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



family activity

THE POINT:

Coveting leads to stealing and many are hurt as a result.

ASK ME...

What is the Eighth Commandment?

What is the Tenth Commandment?

How are these two commandments related?

What happened to the children of Israel when Achan broke these laws?

What happened to Achan and his family?

FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:

Discuss the different ways people can steal—taking something that is not theirs, being late, cheating on tests, etc.

Make up your own skit to illustrate one or more of the Ten Commandments.

MEMORY VERSE:

Exodus 20:15, 17 "You shall not steal.... You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."