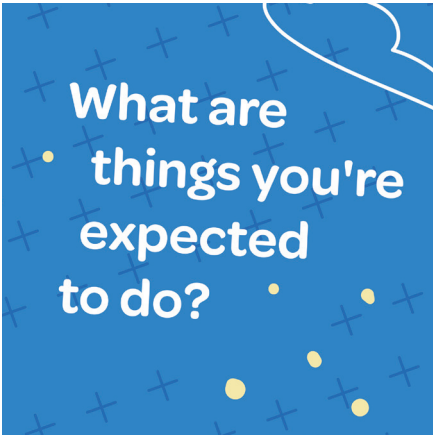


Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.



Journaling lines for the question: What are things you're expected to do?



Day 1

After watching, write one thing that:

Visit the Parent Cue app (available for iOS and Android) to watch this week's Bible story.

Download it for free at parentcue.org/app.

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

1. You liked: _____

2. You learned: _____

3. You'd like to know: _____



Day 2

Read Matthew 22:36–40

The religious leader who asked Jesus what the most important law was knew what he was doing. After all, there are 613 laws in the Old Testament! How in the world could Jesus narrow that down?

But Jesus knew what He was doing too—He always does. Jesus narrowed alllll of the laws in the Bible to these two.

Use the passage to fill in the blank:

Love _____

Love _____

That's it! Everything you can and should do in life falls under these two commandments.



Day 3

Go back and read Jesus' answer to the religious leader when he asked Jesus what the most important command was (Matthew 22:37–39).

What a gift Jesus gave us by narrowing down all of the commands to **love God and love others**. Take a minute to thank God for sending Jesus by reading the prayer below.

Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be my Savior and for showing me what it looks like to follow after You. Sometimes it's hard to know what the right thing to do is, but thank You for making it simple for me—I just have to love You and love others. Help me this week to find at least one way to show love to both You and to another person. In Jesus' Name, I pray. **Amen**.

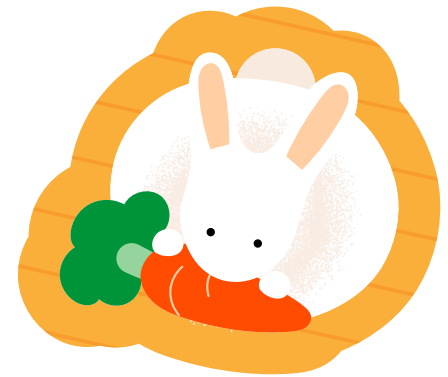
Day 4

What are things you're expected to do?

When most people hear the word “command” or “commandment,” they probably think of the 10 Commandments. They may not know what the individual commandments are, but they do know that they exist. Here's the great news: you don't really have to know what the 10 commandments are to follow them. If you follow Jesus' command to love God and love others, you will naturally end up following all 10 of the commandments too!

Find a friend or family member to play a quick game of 10 to 2. Take turns calling out the 10 commandments from the list below to each other. The other person should immediately respond with either, “love God, or “love others.” (Note that these are not listed in the same order as they are in the Bible.)

1. Do not make statues of other gods to worship.
2. Do not steal.
3. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
4. Don't misuse the name of the Lord your God.
5. Do not murder.
6. Do not be jealous or envious of what others have.
7. Honor your father and mother.
8. Don't put any other gods in place of me.
9. Keep your promises to your husband or wife.
10. Do not lie.



Day 5

Jesus broke all the laws in Scripture down into two simple commands: **Love God and love others**.

If we can just remember those two things—and do them—we will show others how much God loves them and how easy it is to follow Jesus.

Find a notebook or something else you use often throughout the day and create some word art to remind you of these most important commands. Grab a pencil plus whatever you like to use for color: crayons, markers, colored pencils...

Using the pencil first, draw the words LOVE GOD and LOVE OTHERS in block letters on the front or inside cover of the notebook—the thicker, the better. Then use the coloring supplies to make the letters colorful. You can simply color the letters in, or you can make doodles or patterns.

Every time you see these words throughout your day, think of a way you can love God or someone around you with your actions.

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.



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Day 1

After watching, write one thing that:

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Day 2

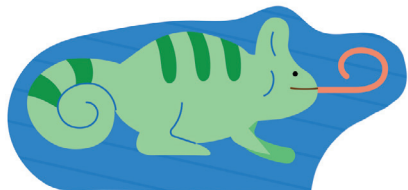
Read Luke 12:13–21

Put a number by the events below in the order Jesus shared them in His story about the rich man.

- ___ The rich man told himself he'd be set for years and could take life easy.
- ___ The rich man didn't know where to store his crops.
- ___ God called the rich man a fool.
- ___ The rich man decided to tear down his barns and build bigger ones.
- ___ God told the rich man he would die that night.
- ___ A rich man's land produced a very large crop.

Then re-read Luke 12:16–21 to see if you got the right order.

Next, circle the event where the rich man took a wrong turn. What could he have done differently?



Answers: 4, 2, 5, 3, 6, 1

Day 3

Sharing what you have with others does not come easy for most people, and everyone likely has at least one thing that they have a hard time sharing with others.

Fill in the blanks of the prayer below, then read it out loud to God.

~~~~~

**Dear God,** thank You for sharing Jesus with us. Sometimes it's hard for me to share \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_. I want to do the right thing, but it's hard because \_\_\_\_\_.

Please help me to choose to share anyway. Help me to remember Your example in sending Jesus. In His Name, I pray. **Amen.**

## Day 4

### Write down your answers to these questions.

Then interview at least three friends or family members today and write down their answers.

- Why do you think it's hard to share what you have?
- How can you overcome that obstacle of sharing?
- What is something you have that you can share with others?

Now compare all the answers—do you see some similarities between them? Did anyone's answer give you an idea on how you can share what you have?



## Day 5

### What do you have that you can share?

Think back to the story of the rich man that Jesus told. Jesus wasn't saying it's wrong to have a lot of things or a lot of money. Where things go wrong is when we aren't willing to share the things that we have—when we insist on keeping them all to ourselves.

~~~~~

What is something that you have that you can share? Read through the following list and circle the things you have that you know you could share with someone that would help them. Then beside the things that you circled, write down what that would look like—any steps you would need to take. Talk to a parent about how to put your plan into action, and then get going to **share what you have.**

- Clothes
- Toys
- Time
- Talent
- Food
- Money

Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.

When have you had to work hard?

January
2024

Week Three

Preteen

RESPONSIBILITY

Showing you can be trusted with what is expected of you

Day 1

After watching, write one thing that:

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Day 2

Read Proverbs 6:6–8

Proverbs 6:6-8 almost reads like a poem, so let's make it one!

Read this poem based on the verses, then try to memorize it, going over it each day this week.

You lazy people who don't want to work

Think about the tiny ant, who will never shirk

Its responsibilities, despite its size

For the ant, you see, God made wise.

The ant has no commander, no ruler in charge

But still gathers food—there's a bounty to enlarge.

And when the winter winds blow o'er the ant's hill

Deep underground, the ant is feasting still.



Day 3

When do you find it hard to . . . **work hard**? Underline the answers that apply to you.

- When you're tired
- When the job is hard
- When you hit an obstacle
- When you are running out of time
- When you have a lot of time to spare
- When it seems impossible

Now fill in the blanks to this prayer, asking God to help you **work hard** . . . even when it's hard.

Dear God, You teach us through Your

Word that we should work hard. And

I want to work hard. But sometimes,

well, it's really hard to do that. I

especially find it hard to work hard

when _____ and

when _____.

And also when

_____. Please

show me how I can keep going, even

when _____.

Please give me Your strength, Your

wisdom, Your responsibility, to see it

through. In Jesus' Name, I pray. **Amen.**

Day 4

Have you been working on memorizing the poem from earlier this week?

Even if you don't have it down perfectly, find someone to share it with. Recite—or read—the poem with dramatic flair.

Then talk with the other person about how you do—or don't—relate to the ant, using these prompts:

- **When have you had to work hard?**
- Have you ever felt overwhelmed by your size or your age, thinking you can't work like everyone else?
- Do you find it easy or hard to be a hard worker most of the time? Why do you think that is?
- What is something each of you can work on today?



Day 5

With some things you may find it easy to work hard—probably the things that you love or are naturally good at.

But the truth is, we all have to work hard on things we don't want to as well.

Today, pick one thing to work hard on that you don't enjoy, or that you find challenging. Write what you plan to do here:

(Hint: if you're not sure what to pick, an adult in your life can probably suggest something.)

Next, pick an accountability partner. If you asked an adult for help, it could be them—or it might be a teacher, a coach, a teammate or a friend who will be there when you're working hard. Ask that person to check in with you as you're working to make sure that you're staying on task and working hard.

When the job is complete, pay attention to how you feel—it will probably motivate you to **work hard** the next time too!

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.



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Day 1

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Day 2

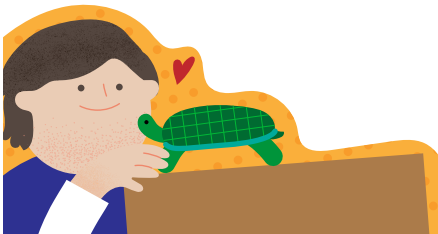
Read Ephesians 4:29

Often when you hear about using your words carefully, you think about telling the truth, or not saying bad words. But God calls us to something even more when it comes to the words we use.

Read Ephesians 4:29 and make a list of the things your words should do.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

If your words aren't encouraging and helpful, you're not using your words wisely, and someone might get hurt. The next time you speak to someone, ask yourself, is this helpful AND kind?



Answers: Build others up, meet others' needs, help those who hear them

Day 3

Use your words wisely.

Sounds awesome, right? It's easy to think about saying kind, encouraging things when you're not mad, or tired, or frustrated, or hurt. . . But when you are any of those things, it's a different story.

Take a few minutes to talk to God about why you sometimes struggle to use your words wisely. Start by sharing a time that you know you messed up and didn't speak kind and encouraging words to someone. Then ask God to help you ask that person for forgiveness (if you haven't already). Ask God to help you control your words and only say things that are helpful and encouraging. Then close your prayer by thanking God for giving you the wisdom you need to **use your words wisely**.

Day 4

Ask an adult to play a quick call and response challenge with you.

Ask the adult to read the following scenarios below. After they give you each situation, try to respond with encouraging, helpful words.

- Your teammate strikes out, losing the game for your team. As your teammate walks back into the dugout to grab their gear, you say. . .
- Your sister accidentally spills her drink on your gaming system. You're still not sure if it's going to be messed up, but immediately, you say. . .
- You made it into the school play, but your best friend did not. Your friend is upset, and you say. . .
- Your dad is late picking you up—again. You're frustrated, but you choose to say. . .

After you're done with the challenge, talk with each other about why that was hard—or easy. Discuss the question, **Why do your words matter?** And then come up with a plan on how you can be prepared to choose encouraging, positive words in the future.

Day 5

Have you ever been having a bad day, and then your friend told you a hilarious joke, or your mom said she loved you, and suddenly, things didn't seem so bad?

It's so cool how God has given us the power to change someone's day, just by using our words to be encouraging.

Unscramble the scrambled words in the list below to reveal things you can say or topics you can bring up to **use your words wisely** and encourage others when they are down or just need a good word. Then circle one or two things you can go and say right now—then go and **use your words wisely!**

- UOY OD _____ RAYELL LEWL
- OYU RAE TRSNOG
- LTLE A KOJE
- UYO EAR OS RMTAS
- I UDNNDSEATR
- OD YUO EMERBMRE NHEW EW _____? (funny memory!)
- OUY REA YFNUN
- I MA EERH ROF UOY
- WHO NAC I LPHE?

Answers: You do really well; You are strong; Tell a joke; You are so smart; I understand; Do you remember when we _____? (funny memory!); You are funny; I'm here for you; How can I help?