

Home Discipleship

Family Activities

Q: Since no one can keep the law, what is its purpose?

A: That we may know the holy nature of God, and the sinful nature of our hearts; and thus our need of a Savior

Key Verse: Romans 3:20 Key Passage: Romans 3:19-20

Music: For each question there is a song that can be found on the New City Catechism App. Listen to the song for this question and sing it as a family. Songs have a unique way of helping ingrain truths into our hearts. Look up “Lord I Need You” by Matt Maher, and enjoy worshiping to your God praising him for his faithfulness in fulfilling our needs.

Coloring Activity: Coloring is a fun activity for all ages. And a great way to spend time thinking deeply about the spiritual truths that we have talked about today. On page three of this document is a coloring page for your kids to write in an attribute of God that they see from the Ten Commandments. Talk with them about this attribute and show them other places that this attribute can be found.

Memory Activity: Another great way to ingrain this truth into your family is to practice memorizing it with different activities.

Print each word of the memory verse or catechism answer onto a card; you will need one full set of cards for each team. Divide the children into teams. Read the memory verse or catechism answer aloud to the children. Read the memory verse or catechism answer aloud again, inviting the children to repeat each phrase after you. Read the memory verse or catechism answer again, and invite the children to join in saying it with you. Hand out a full set of cards to each team; make sure they're not in order! Ask the children to put the words in the correct order, setting it up as a race against the clock. Practice the memory verse or catechism answer one final time.

Discussion Questions: Discuss a few of these questions as a family to help everyone think deeper about their own lives with this doctrinal truth.

1. What attributes of God are revealed through the Law?
2. What attributes of humanity are revealed through the law?
3. How does the law make us a better follower of Jesus?

Teaching Activities: Teaching activities are meant to help reinforce the idea in the catechism question. Be sure to be asking kids questions as you do these activities to be sure that they see the connection.

Activity #1: “Silent Interviews” This exercise is designed to frustrate the children and help them realize that the best way to get to know someone is to hear him or her speak. Break the family into partners or groups of three. Have them act like they are meeting each other for the very first time, ask them to introduce themselves. Tell the children that starting now, they must be completely silent. They can’t even whisper or try to mouth words silently. They must communicate without words. Have each child tell his partner three things about himself using gestures, as if they were playing charades. After both partners have had a turn, bring everyone back together. Invite each child to explain what he learned about his partner—speaking is not allowed! It is quite likely that not every child will have gotten his message across, and communicate that that is okay.

Tell the children that its hard to find out about someone in silence. The best way to get to know someone is when they speak to make themselves known. Explain to the kids that one of the functions of the law is to help people understand more of who God is and what he’s like. The law reveals God’s character.

Activity #2: Cover a portion of a wall with butcher paper or large pieces of paper side by side. Write “AWE” in big letters across the top of the paper. Invite the children to read the Ten Commandments and consider what the commandments teach about God’s character. Encourage the kids to write the attributes on a Wall of Awe. Then use another color pen and have the kids list other attributes that they know God possesses. Bonus if they include a verse with it!

God’s law shows us his holiness. It also shows us how short of that holiness we fall. Direct the children to the Wall of Awe and encourage them to consider the different attributes of God that are detailed on the wall. Ask the children how studying the character of God helps them to love him more. Ask them if it inclines them to live more for his glory. Ask the children if anyone can think of a song that is appropriate to sing when we stand in awe of God. Sing as many songs together as your time allows.

Activity #3: Go outside and draw ten squares with sidewalk chalk similar to a hopscotch course. Encourage the kids to write the numbers 1—10 in the squares. As your kids jump from one square to the other encourage them to say what commandment the number corresponds with. This will help the kids remember the commandments and have fun playing outside!

Pray: Take some time as a family to pray. Family prayer time is an incredible way to grow with one another and enjoy our God together! Praise God for being our savior. Thank him for his faithfulness and love that is shown even through our weaknesses that are revealed through the law. Ask for help to obey the Law and praise God for His Spirit who guides us toward truth.



