

Home Discipleship

Family Activities

Q: What does the law of God require

A: That we love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and love our neighbor as ourselves

Key Verse: Matthew 22:37-40

Key Passage: Matthew 22:34-40

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 *Love the Lord* by Lincoln Brewster and enjoy singing about this truth as a family.

Catechism Review: Take a beach ball, balloon or soccer ball and write the numbers 1-6 around the ball. Toss the ball around as a family with music playing like hot potato. When the music stops whoever is holding the ball has to recite the catechism question and answer that is closest to their pointer finger. If they have not been memorizing them just have them read them aloud to help everyone remember what we have been learning. Continue to play until all the catechism questions have been ready and everyone gets a turn.

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 Grab one of the kids favorite board games and play it as a family (trouble, sorry, operation, etc.). Tell the kids that today the rules for today's board game is that there are no rules! Explain that they do not need to observe the normal rules of the game that you chose to play. Let the children play for awhile and allow them to feel the frustration of knowing that there are rules for the games but seeing no one observing them. Help the children to reflect on how helpful rules and laws are. Even in something as simple as board games, they make playing easy, ordered, and enjoyable.

Activity #2 Give everyone in the family a piece of paper shaped like a heart and ask them to write "upward love" on the front side and "sideways love" on the backside. Invite the children to consider how they can love God with all their heart, soul, and mind, and write down some thoughts on the "upward love" side. Then ask the family how they might love the people that God has placed them among, and encourage them to write down some ideas on the "sideways love" side. Post pictures of your hearts on Facebook to share with the church family and be sure to tag headwaters church in the post



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. Recall activity #1 of this document. Ask the kids about different feelings that they felt while playing the game. Why do you think rules are so important?
2. Is it possible to keep the law perfectly?
3. What verses can you find in your Bible that mention the Law? First look Old Testament, then New.
4. Why do you think God gave the law?
5. What happens if God's law is broken?

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

Props: Clothespins, rope, marker, two chairs, paper, stopwatch app

Tie the ends of the rope to the chairs. Move the chairs apart from each other until the rope becomes taut. Print each word from the catechism question and answer on a separate piece of paper (if you are feeling really creative, cut the paper into different shapes that look like clothes). Pin the papers with the words on it in random order with the clothespins on the rope.

Have the first family member move the clothespins with the paper on them in the correct order while being timed. Challenge the rest of the family to compete against each others time in additional rounds.

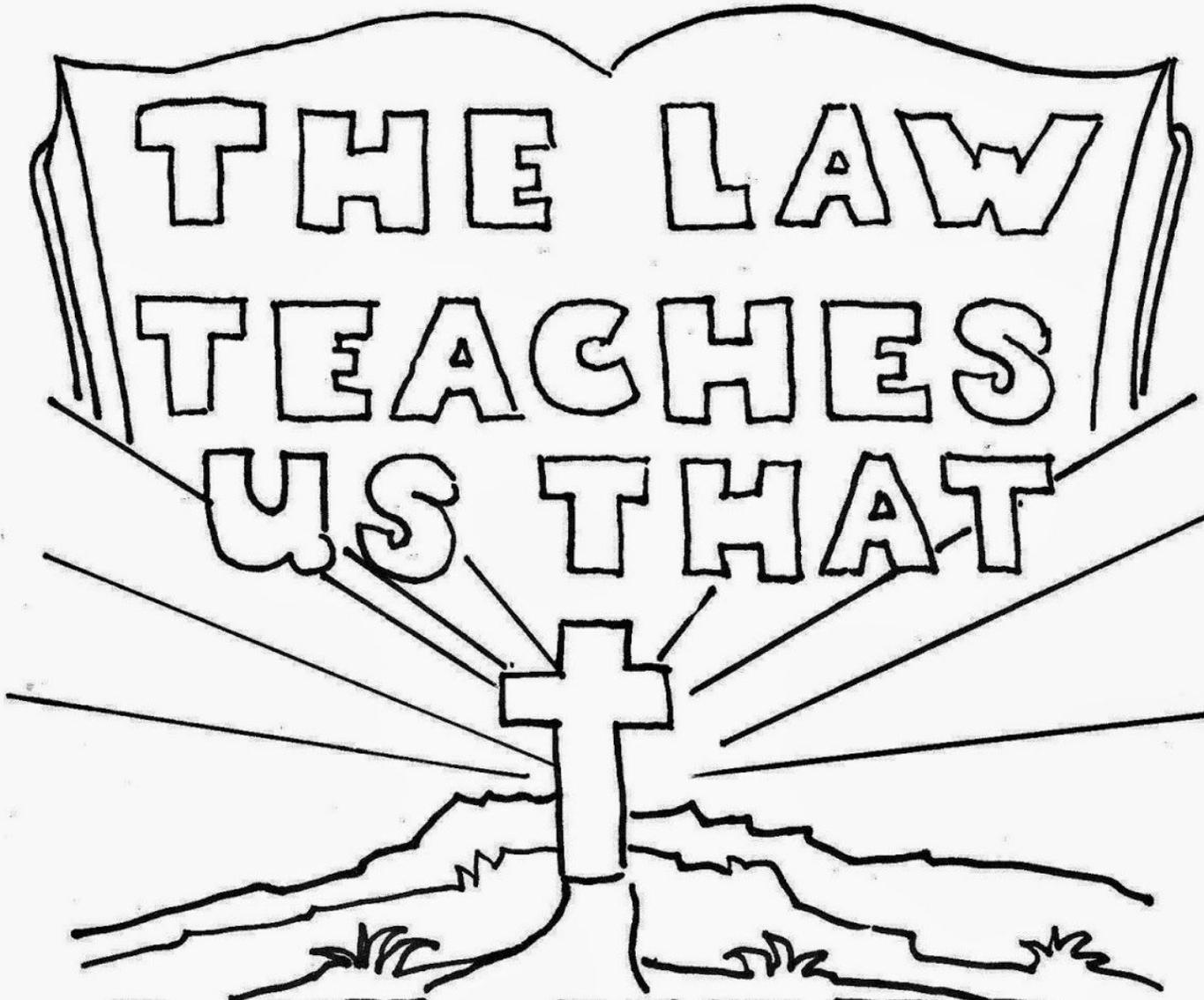
If you don't have rope you can use string. If you don't have clothespins you can use paperclips and just remove the paper and not the paperclips. Be creative and find whatever you need!

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 pages 3-5 of this document you will find two coloring pages to remind you of the blessings of Gods law.

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! Pray, thank God for creating the law. For giving us a way to know if we are honoring him and how to better please him. Thank Him also for sending His Son to redeem us from our sins and forgive us when we fail. Thank God for his faithfulness and steadfast love to always be there with open arms to forgive us when we make mistakes.

There is also a prayer available on the App if you would like to read through that as a family for your prayer or before your prayer.

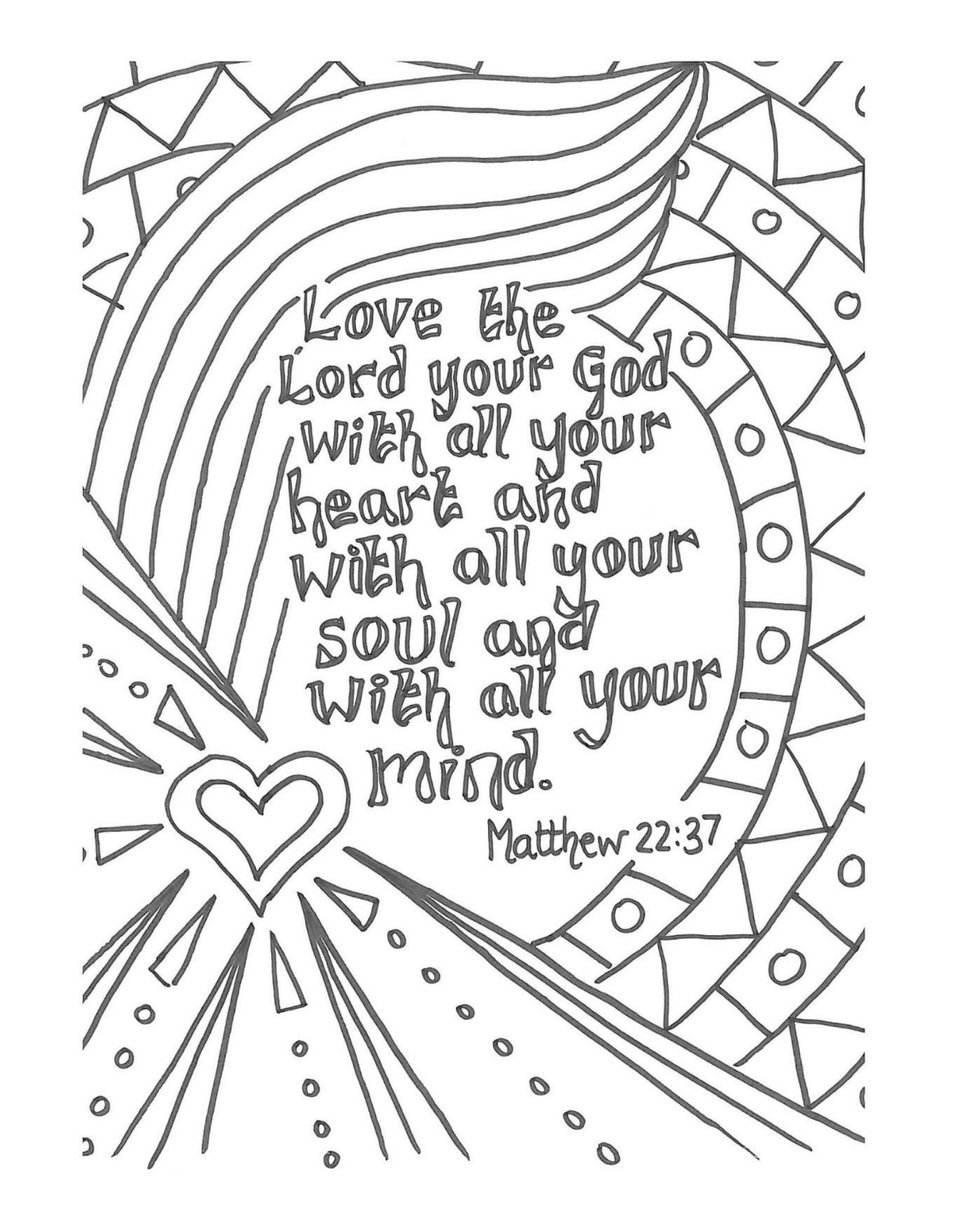




THE LAW
TEACHES
US THAT

WE NEED
GOD

THE LAW HAS BECOME OUR TEACHER
TO BRING US TO CHRIST, THAT BY
FAITH WE MIGHT BE DECLARED
RIGHTEOUS Galatians 3:24



Love the
Lord your God
with all your
heart and
with all your
soul and
with all your
mind.

Matthew 22:37