



LESSON 1

I WILL LOVE GOD AND LOVE OTHERS!

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Our Bible Verse this week is Matthew 22:37-39. Here Jesus explains the two greatest commandments.

In our Bible Story Jesus explains what the two most important commandments are. Read Matthew 22:35-40 with your child.

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

Have each member of your family make a paper heart. On one half of the heart write "God." On the other half of the heart write, "Others." Discuss ways that you can show love to God: coming to church, bringing a tithe, reading the Bible and doing what it says. Discuss ways that you can show love to others: inviting them to play with you or to come to your house, inviting them to church, giving them a gift, helping them with what they need. Have each family member write a few of the actions on the heart he or she made. Post the hearts where you will all see them regularly, and make plans to carry out the actions that are listed.

BREAK MY HEART

Gather a burnt out light bulb for each family member. Use a marker to draw a heart on each bulb. Write "Love God" on one side and "Love Others" on the other side. Gather safety goggles, work gloves, a heavy duty trash bag, a piece of cloth, and a hammer. Choose a safe place and set bulbs on the trash bag. Give each family member their bulb and discuss how loving God and loving others is the heart of God's law. Then ask if they think it is possible to love God without loving others. Before they answer, have each of them put a piece of cloth over their bulb and then take turns trying to break the half of the bulb that has "love others" on it without breaking the other half of the bulb. Have each person wear the gloves and safety goggles and help smaller children by holding the bulb and the hammer with them. Explain that we can't break one part of God's law without breaking the whole thing. That is why we must do our best to love God and love others.