WEEK

GOD IS KING OVER EVERYTHING GOD HAS AUTHORITY

ELEMENTARY LESSON GUIDE

☼ THE FOUR KEYS

KEY VERSE

Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they existed and were created. Revelation 4:11

KEY IDEAS

- 1. All creation is accountable to its Creator.
- 2. God's commands are good.
- 3. There are consequences to breaking God's commands.

KEY PASSAGE

Genesis 2:8-17 Supporting: Exodus 19-20 and Matthew 5:17-20

KEY PRINCIPLES



EVERY CHILD SHOULD KNOW . . .

that all creation is accountable to its Creator and He gives good commands.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD FEEL...

thankful that God's commands are always for our good.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO ...

acknowledge that there are consequences when we disobey God's commands.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD WANT...

to follow God's commands and trust in Him.

INTRODUCTION

God is our Heavenly Father and the Creator of the whole world. God existed before the world existed, and He is the one true God. There is no authority in heaven or on earth besides Him. God created all of mankind and therefore has authority over us all. God's commands are always for our good and to protect us. His command to Adam was for his protection and good. In the same way, God gave Moses the 10 Commandments for the good of His special people, the Jews. These commandments were given so that His people would know that they needed a Savior, Jesus Christ. God knew that His people would not be able to obey the law perfectly, but that was the whole point! It was given for our good, because by knowing we are sinners, we can know we need a Savior.

OPENING ILLUSTRATION

Open the lesson with the following questions for discussion: Did your parents give you any commands to obey this week? Did you do it? Why or why not? What happened when you either obeyed or disobeyed? Parents want you to do well and obey so that you can grow into a respectable adult one day. They know the lessons you will need to learn to get to that point, so when you disobey, they have to bring correction and consequences. It is the same with our Heavenly Father. He delights in us when we trust and obey Him, but when we disobey and sin, there have to be consequences. We are all accountable to our Heavenly Father, even our parents, because they mess up sometimes, too. Discipline is for our good and brings us into a closer relationship with God who loves us.

KEY IDEAS

Read Genesis 2:8-17 and use the supporting passages to help discuss the 10 Commandments using the following ideas.

- All creation is accountable to its Creator.
 - o What does it mean to be accountable to God? (Rom. 14:12) We will be responsible for our thoughts, actions, and words to God because He is just and judges sin.
 - o Why are we accountable to God? God is the Creator and sustainer of life and the authority for all of creation. (Isaiah 45:9)
- God's commands are good.
 - o Why does God give commands? (Rom. 7:12) God gives commands for our good and for our protection. He knows what is best for His children.
 - o How are God's commands good? (1 John 5:3) God's commands are not always easy to follow because we are sinners and desire to go our own way, but His commands are not burdensome. In fact, they take burdens away from us when we obey Him.
- There are consequences to breaking God's commands.
 - o What are the consequences? (Rom. 3:23, 6:23) All sin leads to death. We are all sinners and the only way to salvation is through belief in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and repentance of sin. God knows the way for us to be saved and He has already provided it as a free gift. We just have to accept it.
 - o How do God's commands protect us? God's commands keep us from harm. By placing our faith in Him and obeying His Word, we can have eternal life with Him who loves us most.

Activity

Play a game of 10 Commandments Hot Potato. Start the music. When the music stops, whoever has the "hot potato" must share one of the 10 Commandments. If that command has already been stated, they must sit down. Keep playing until all 10 Commandments are said or until one person is left standing.

Prayer

Thank God that He created us and all His commands are good. Ask God to help us obey His Word and trust that He is our good authority.

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

ACTIVITY

Memorize the key verse Revelation 4:11.

Go for a scenic drive with your child. From the time you get in the car until you reach your destination, try to call out all the rules of the road that you are following. (Stop for red lights, use blinker, yield, etc.) Discuss the importance of road rules and why we follow them. What would happen if we chose not to stop at the red light? God's commands are always for our good and our protection just like the rules of the road are to protect us when we're driving.

DISCUSSION

- Why is it important that we follow God's commands?

 By following God's commands we bring glory to Him and fulfill His purpose for us. His commands are also for our good and our protection.
- What are the consequences of our sin and disobedience?

 Disobeying God is sin, and sin always leads to separation from God and ultimately death. God made a way for us to be with Him in eternity through the death and resurrection of His son Jesus, who paid the price of our sin on the cross.
- What are some ways that you can follow God's commands better?

PRAYER

Thank God that His commands are for our good. Ask God to help you obey Him this week and trust in Him as your loving Heavenly Father and Good Creator.

