

Leader's Guide for
COMMANDMENTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
We Remember: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Commandments

Using story, Scripture, reflection and prayer, the commandments are presented as gifts that free us to love God, others and ourselves more deeply. This leader's guide offers questions, reflections and activities for living the commandments and growing in love. The prayer service is the heart of this guide and in it students renew their living of the covenant through each commandment. Different projects prepare for this celebration. Plan to make and display a friendship treaty banner. (See #2 of *We Remember*) A sign for each commandment will be added during each prayer service.

The covenant made at Mt. Sinai was a friendship treaty between God and the people. The sealing of a covenant usually took place at a meal as a sign that the covenant was made in friendship. Choose one of these foods for sealing the treaty at the end of each prayer service: raisins, nuts, seeds, apples, marshmallows, bread or water.

We Remember: 1st, 2nd and 3rd Commandments

We Remember challenges us to discover ways to live the life of the 1st Commandment—"I am the Lord, your God, you shall have no gods except me"—by placing God first in our hearts; the 2nd Commandment—"You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain"—by speaking the name of God with respect and the 3rd Commandment—"Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day"—by celebrating God in a special way one day of the week.

1. What did the story say or do to you? The young boy in the story said, "That made me even sadder." What was it that made him sad? Why? Could you develop a friendship without a memory? Think of what it would be like not to remember your friends and families, their love for you and the good times you had together. Pretend you have no memory as you talk with class members. Share what happened.
2. God gave the commandments as gifts to us. Through these commandments we are invited to live as God's friends. Make a friendship treaty banner. On a long piece of butcher paper or cloth, place on top the words "I am your God. Be my people." Following this proclamation, a different sign for each of the commandments will be added during the study of the commandments. Toward the bottom of the banner, place the words "We agree." Have students design, color and cut out their names. In ceremony they will be called to place their names on the banner during the closing prayer service to publicly show their willingness to live as God's people. Display friendship treaty in class.
3. Discuss ways that we forget to place God first in our life as these commandments ask us to do. In the video, what situations do you recall or identify with? Divide the class. Create and present a situation from one of these statements:

- We forget to thank God.
 - We forget to respect God's name.
 - We forget or choose not to go to Mass and celebrate.
 - We forget God is with us in all that we do.
4. Talk about the way the ancient Israelites understood and lived the first three commandments. In what way are we called to do the same today? For the 1st Commandment, write a litany of praise and give thanks for all that God has made. List the different names for Jesus. Think of ways we can remember to speak these names with respect for the 2nd Commandment. How could we prepare for Sunday Mass? What are some other ways we can honor God on Sunday for the 3rd Commandment?
5. From the way Jesus lived his life, he taught us how to place God first in our lives, to respect the name of God, to celebrate the meal of the Eucharist. Dramatize different incidents from Jesus' life which show him doing these things. Talk about what Jesus values most in each incident.
6. Read Matthew 22:37 and John 13:34. Draw pictures to illustrate. Share. Have students reflect on the meaning of these words in their own lives.
7. A PRAYER EXPERIENCE
 Create an atmosphere of quiet.
 Sit still and feel the warmth of God.
 God loves you and will always be with you.
 Breathe in God's love and, as you breathe out, send that love to surround someone you love. (Pause)
 Thank God for loving you.
 Ask God's love in showing love to others. Decide on one thing you will do in love.
8. Have students write a litany of forgiveness to be used in the prayer service. Offer these possibilities for reflection:
- praying to God only when told
 - using God's name with disrespect
 - finding reasons not to go to Mass
 - add their own.
- Complete as a group: "Sometimes we..."

9. Make a sign for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Commandments. Place the words “Remember God” (1st), “Respect God’s Name”(2nd) and “Go to Church” (3rd) on each sign. Be prepared to place these on the treaty banner during the prayer service.

Choose food (suggestions in introduction) for sealing the covenant.

10. PRAYER SERVICE

Preparation: Place candle, Bible and food in front of the friendship treaty banner. Have ready signs for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Commandments, student’s names and litany. Choose people to do the reading, litany and presentation of signs.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: The Lord said I am your God. I take care of you. I protect you. I love you. I want you to love one another. We light this candle for light to understand God’s Word in our life.

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

READING

Reader: This is a reading from Matthew 22:37 and John 13:34.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

LITANY OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: We ask God’s forgiveness for the times we have failed to live the gift of the commandments. Our response will be: Forgive us, God. Help us to remember you always.

(Litany from #8 is read.)

Let us be silent and from our hearts speak with God and ask forgiveness.

PRESENTATION and PROMISE PLEDGE

Leader: We place a sign of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Commandments on our friendship treaty banner. We are asked to be God’s people. We say “Yes.” We place our names on the banner. (Do so.)

We sign this treaty by now speaking our names. (Do so.)

Leader: Please repeat after me our promise pledge:

We love you, God.

We love your people.

We show our love by living the first three commandments.

We remember.

BLESSING

Leader: Lift up your heads and pray for God’s blessing. Our response will be: Amen.

May God bless you and watch over you with love...Amen.

May God give you courage to speak God's name with respect...Amen.

May God bring you joy in the celebration of the Eucharist...Amen.

And may the blessing of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit come upon you and remain with you forever...Amen.

We share food together as a sign of our friendship with God and with one another.

(Pass food. Each person holds food until all are served. In ceremony, the food is eaten.)

Leader's Guide written by: Gaynell Cronin

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NOTE: This guide can be printed and cut down in size to be stored with the DVD version of this video program. Simply cut ¾ inch from each side of the page for a guide that, when folded, can be placed inside of the DVD case or attached to the DVD or VHS case.

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Leader's Guide for
COMMANDMENTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
We Honor Parents: 4th Commandment

Using story, Scripture, reflection and prayer, the commandments are presented as gifts that free us to love God, others and ourselves more deeply. This leader's guide offers questions, reflections and activities for living the commandments and growing in love. The prayer service is the heart of this guide and in it students renew their living of the covenant through each commandment. Different projects prepare for this celebration. Plan to make and display a friendship treaty banner. (See #2 of *We Remember*) A sign for each commandment will be added during each prayer service.

The covenant made at Mt. Sinai was a friendship treaty between God and the people. The sealing of a covenant usually took place at a meal as a sign that the covenant was made in friendship. Choose one of these foods for sealing the treaty at the end of each prayer service: raisins, nuts, seeds, apples, marshmallows, bread or water.

We Honor Parents: 4th Commandment

We Honor Parents challenges us to discover ways to live the life of the 4th Commandment—"Honor your father and your mother"—by obeying and listening to people who help us grow and by helping others to grow.

1. What did the story say or do to you? Have you ever been present at a family picnic, reunion or anniversary celebration like the one in the video? If so, recall who was present, what you did and how you felt. Have students share their experience with the group. Talk about what it means to belong.
2. Name the people in your life who give you guidance, protection and help you to grow. Make and display a mobile of silhouettes of these different people. On figure place: (Name) helps me to grow by...
3. Did you identify with one of the video situations? If so, share. Discuss ways we do not honor those people who try to help us to grow. Role play situations which include the following relationships: parent/child, teacher/student, police/citizen, coach/player.
4. Talk about the way the ancient Israelites understood and lived the 4th Commandment. In what way are we called to do the same today? To the following resolutions, provide a conflict situation:
 - "Sorry I borrowed your bike without asking."
 - "You sure have worked long hours on that project, Dad."
 - Add your own.

5. From the way Jesus lived his life, he taught us how to grow in a family. Dramatize three incidents from the early life of Jesus. Talk about the values that Jesus lived in each event.
6. Read Luke 2:51. Draw pictures to illustrate. Share. Ask students to reflect on the people in their life who help them to grow, to try again when mistakes are made, to discover something new about themselves.

7. A PRAYER EXPERIENCE

Create an atmosphere of quiet.

Sit still and feel the warmth of God.

God loves you and will always be with you.

Breathe in God's love and, as you breathe out, send that love to surround someone you love. (Pause)

Thank God for loving you.

Ask God's love in showing love to others.

Decide on one thing you will do in love in honoring your parents.

8. Have students write a litany of forgiveness to be used in the prayer service. Offer these possibilities for reflection: giving excuses for doing chores at home, talking unkindly about your parents to others, making fun of grandparents, their own. Complete as a class: "Sometimes we..."
9. Make a sign for the 4th Commandment. Place the words "Honor Parents" on the sign. Be prepared to place this on the friendship treaty banner during the prayer service.
Choose food (suggestions in general introduction) for sealing covenant.

10. PRAYER SERVICE

Preparation: Before friendship treaty banner, place candle, Bible, food. Have ready sign of 5th Commandment and litany. Choose people to do the reading, litany, presentation of sign.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: The Lord said I am your God. I take care of you. I protect you. I love you. I want you to love one another.

We light this candle and ask for light to understand God's Word in our life.

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

READING

Reader: This is a reading from Luke 2:51...The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

LITANY OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: We ask forgiveness for the times we have failed to live the gift of the commandments. Our response will be: "Forgive us, God. Help us to honor our parents."

(Litany from #8 is read)

Let us be silent and from our hearts speak with God and ask forgiveness.

PRESENTATION AND PROMISE PLEDGE

Leader: We place a sign of the 4th Commandment on our friendship treaty banner. We are asked to be God's people. We say, "Yes." We sign this treaty by speaking our names. (Do so.)

Leader: Please repeat after me our promise pledge:

We love you, God.

We love your people.

We show our love by living the 4th Commandment.

We honor our parents.

BLESSING

Leader: Let us bow our heads for God' blessing.

Our response will be: "Amen."

May God guide you...Amen.

May God protect you...Amen.

May God look upon you and bless you...Amen.

May the Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you all...Amen.

We share food together as a sign of our friendship with God and with one another. (Pass food. Each person holds food until all are served. In ceremony the food is eaten.)

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For use with:

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Leader's Guide for
COMMANDMENTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
We Respect Life: 5th Commandment

Using story, Scripture, reflection and prayer, the commandments are presented as gifts that free us to love God, others and ourselves more deeply. This leader's guide offers questions, reflections and activities for living the commandments and growing in love. The prayer service is the heart of this guide and in it students renew their living of the covenant through each commandment. Different projects prepare for this celebration. Plan to make and display a friendship treaty banner. (See #2 of *We Remember*) A sign for each commandment will be added during each prayer service.

The covenant made at Mt. Sinai was a friendship treaty between God and the people. The sealing of a covenant usually took place at a meal as a sign that the covenant was made in friendship. Choose one of these foods for sealing the treaty at the end of each prayer service: raisins, nuts, seeds, apples, marshmallows, bread or water.

We Respect Life: 5th Commandment

We Respect Life challenges us to live the life of the 5th Commandment—"You shall not kill"—by respecting and caring for God's gift of life in ourselves and others.

1. What did the story say or do to you? What did Mattie's grandfather teach her about herself, about others, about life? How do you think her grandfather lived his life? How do you look at life? (Attitude) How do you care for life? List all the people and things that you have taken care of this past week.
2. All life is sacred and comes from God. We are asked to protect and take care of the world made by God. Have the students cut out magazine pictures of all living things and paste them on a large empty cardboard box. When finished, place a large bow on top as a sign that all life is a gift from God.
3. Did you identify with any of the situations presented in the video? Share. Discuss ways we neglect the care of God's world. Talk about the ways we hurt our own lives by not being the person God calls us to be (e.g., being lazy, not recognizing our own goodness, not using our gifts). Discuss ways we hurt the life and spirit of others through ridicule, insult, teasing, ignoring them. Ask students to recall a time when they were put down by someone. How did they feel? Role play these situations.
4. Talk about the way the ancient Israelites understood and lived the 5th Commandment. In what way are called to do the same today? In small groups, talk about ways to accomplish the following proclamations:
 - We treat animals with kindness.
 - We treat the elderly, the unborn child, the handicapped with extra care.

- We show courtesy.
 - We appreciate and see the good in ourselves and others.
 - We give thanks for God's gifts in nature.
5. From the way Jesus lived his life he showed us how to care for God's world. Dramatize events from the life of Jesus which show him offering respect to others. Talk about the values that Jesus lived in each event.
 6. Read Ephesians 4:31. Draw pictures to illustrate. Share. Have students reflect on the meaning of these words in their own lives.
 7. A PRAYER EXPERIENCE
 Create an atmosphere of quiet. Sit still in the warmth of God's love.
 God loves you and will always be with you.
 Breathe in God's love and, as you breathe out, send that love to surround someone you love. (Pause)
 Thank God for loving you.
 Ask God's help in showing love to others.
 Decide on one thing you will do in love as you respect life.
 8. Have students write a litany of forgiveness to be used in the prayer service. Offer these possibilities for reflection: making fun of the elderly or handicapped, being lazy, saying mean things, being careless and destroying things. Complete as a group: "Sometimes we..."
 9. Make a sign for the 5th Commandment. Place the words "Respect Life" on the sign. Be prepared to place this on the friendship treaty banner during prayer service. Choose food for sealing covenant.
 10. PRAYER SERVICE
 Preparation: Before friendship treaty banner, place candle, Bible, food. Have ready the sign of 5th Commandment and litany. Choose people to do the reading, litany, presentation of sign.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: The Lord said I am your God. I take care of you. I protect you. I love you. I want you to love one another.

We light this candle and ask for light to understand God's Word in our life.

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

READING

Reader: This is a reading from Ephesians 4:31...The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

LITANY OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: We ask forgiveness for the times we have failed to live the gift of the commandments. Our response will be: "Forgive us, God. Help us to respect life."

(Litany from #8 is read.)

Let us be silent and from our hearts speak with God and ask forgiveness.

PRESENTATION AND PROMISE PLEDGE

Leader. We place a sign of the 5th Commandment on our friendship treaty banner. We are asked to be God's people. We say, "Yes."

We sign this treaty by speaking our names. (Do so.)

Leader: Please repeat after me our promise pledge:

We love you, God.

We love your people.

We show our love by living the 5th Commandment.

We respect life.

BLESSING

Leader: Let us lift our hearts and hands to God. (Hold hands at waist, palms upward.) Our response will be: "Amen."

Bless your respect for life...Amen

Bless your gentleness... Amen

Bless your care of all living things...Amen

May God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit bless you all forever...Amen.

We share food together as a sign of our friendship with God and with one another. (Pass food. Each person holds food until all are served. In ceremony, the food is eaten.)

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Leader's Guide for
COMMANDMENTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
We Are Faithful: 6th and 9th Commandments

Using story, Scripture, reflection and prayer, the commandments are presented as gifts that free us to love God, others and ourselves more deeply. This leader's guide offers questions, reflections and activities for living the commandments and growing in love. The prayer service is the heart of this guide and in it students renew their living of the covenant through each commandment. Different projects prepare for this celebration. Plan to make and display a friendship treaty banner. (See #2 of *We Remember*) A sign for each commandment will be added during each prayer service.

The covenant made at Mt. Sinai was a friendship treaty between God and the people. The sealing of a covenant usually took place at a meal as a sign that the covenant was made in friendship. Choose one of these foods for sealing the treaty at the end of each prayer service: raisins, nuts, seeds, apples, marshmallows, bread or water.

We Are Faithful: 6th and 9th Commandments

We Are Faithful challenges us to discover ways to live the life of the 6th Commandment—"You shall not commit adultery"—by respecting the call of husband and wife to live faithfully in marriage, and through the 9th Commandment—"You shall not covet your neighbor's wife"—which challenges us to respect the promises others have made to one another. We are also asked to be loyal as a family.

1. What did the story say or do to you? From what country did your relatives come? When? What was their work and trade? Recall and share family stories and a memory of a family gathering. What do you remember most about your family?
2. We are all responsible for building a healthy family life. Name all the people in your family. Make a family tree by placing family names on an outlined tree. Across top of tree write: "I remember." Cut out and display in class.
3. Discuss the ways in which we can destroy family life by what we say, do or fail to do and say. In the video what situations do you identify with? Role play situations of: parent/sibling, sibling/sibling, parent/parent to these conflicts:
 - "Go on, I'm busy right now."
 - "You never asked me to do that!"
 - "You're mean."
4. Talk about the way the ancient Israelites understood and lived the 6th and 9th Commandments. Explain the meaning of the words *adultery* and *covenant* in the video. Talk about the Sacrament of

Marriage and the promise that a husband and wife make to one another. Consider the ways we show our faithfulness as brothers and sisters in building a healthy family life. Be sensitive to children of separated and divorced parents, explaining that even when this happens it does not mean that the love the mother and father have for their children is gone. Family members continue to love and receive love and loyalty from one another. Have students write a family promise .

5. From the way Jesus lived his life, he taught us about the special kind of love between a husband and wife; he showed us how to be loyal and faithful. Dramatize a time where Jesus showed his loyalty.

6. Read Ephesians 5:33. Draw pictures to illustrate. Share. Read this family promise pledge or have students write their own:

“We promise to be faithful in good times and in bad times, in sickness and in health, in disappointments and in joy. We promise to be for one another. We welcome Jesus as a friend into our home. We will love and honor one another all the days of life.”

Have students illustrate with pictures.

7. A PRAYER EXPERIENCE

Create an atmosphere of quiet. Sit still in the warmth of God’s love.

God loves you and will always be with you. Think of the people who accept and love you.

Recall someone who cared for you when you were sick. Think of the times you welcomed Jesus into your family life. Breathe in God’ love and, as you breathe out, send that love to someone in your family. Ask God’s help in showing love to others. Decide on one thing you will do in love as you are loyal and faithful.

8. Have students write a litany of forgiveness to be used in the prayer service. Offer these possibilities for reflection: being unkind to a brother or sister, refusing to say “I am sorry,” refusing to help someone, your own. Complete as a group, “ Sometimes we...”
9. Make signs for the 6th and 9th Commandments. Place the words “Be loyal (6TH)” and “Be faithful (9th)” on each sign. Be prepared to place these on the friendship treaty banner during the prayer service. Choose food (suggestions in general introduction) for sealing the covenant.

10. PRAYER SERVICE

Preparation: Before friendship treaty banner, place candle, Bible, food. Have ready signs for the 6th and 9th Commandments and litany. Choose people to do the reading, litany, presentation of signs.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: The Lord said I am your God. I take care of you. I protect you. I love you. I want you to love one another. We light this candle and ask for light to understand God's Word in our life. The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

READING

Reader: This is a reading from Ephesians 5:33...The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

LITANY OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: We ask forgiveness for the times we have failed to live the gift of the commandments. Our response will be: "Forgive us, God. Help us to be loyal and faithful."

(Litany from #8 is read.)

Let us be silent and from our hearts speak with God and ask forgiveness.

PRESENTATION AND PROMISE PLEDGE

Leader: We place a sign of the 6th and 9th Commandments on our friendship treaty banner. We are asked to be God's people. We say, Yes." We sign this treaty by speaking our names. (Do so.)

Leader: Please repeat after me our promise pledge:

We love you, God.

We love your people.

We show our love by living the 6th and 9th Commandments.

We are faithful.

BLESSING

Leader: Let us bow our heads and cross our hands to God. (Arms crossed over chest.)

Our response will be: "Amen."

May God give you joy...Amen.

May Jesus help you in good times and in bad...Amen.

May the Holy Spirit fill your heart with love...Amen.

May the Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you all forever...Amen.

We share food as a sign of our friendship with God and with one another. (Pass food. Each person holds food until all are served. In ceremony, the food is eaten).

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Leader's Guide for
COMMANDMENTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
We Speak the Truth: 8th Commandment

Using story, Scripture, reflection and prayer, the commandments are presented as gifts that free us to love God, others and ourselves more deeply. This leader's guide offers questions, reflections and activities for living the commandments and growing in love. The prayer service is the heart of this guide and in it students renew their living of the covenant through each commandment. Different projects prepare for this celebration. Plan to make and display a friendship treaty banner. (See #2 of *We Remember*) A sign for each commandment will be added during each prayer service.

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We Speak the Truth: 8th Commandment

We Speak the Truth challenges us to discover ways to live the life of the 8th Commandment—"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor"—by telling the truth, respecting the right that all people have to their good name, and trusting the word of others.

1. What did the opening story say or do to you? Talk about what it means to testify in a courtroom. You may want to demonstrate with a Bible the oath taken today. Ask: Do you know someone like Sarah whose word can always be trusted? Is it hard to trust someone who has once lied? If so, why? How can you rebuild trust?
2. Everyone has the right to his or her good name. Talk about what it means to have a good or bad reputation. How can you ruin someone's good name? Have students design, color and cut out their name. Make a small hole on top of name. Tie strings of varying lengths to name. On a 4" by 24" piece of cardboard, print: "We respect your good name." Add color and designs. Hang names from this header and display in class.
3. In the video, what situations do you recall or identify with? Discuss situation in which it is not always easy to tell the truth or to be honest. Why do people lie? When asked this question, a group replied:
 - "Because I'm afraid I'll get into trouble."
 - "It makes me look important and better than others." (bragging)
 - "To get in good with someone." (gossiping or making fun of another)
 - "Because I want something."

Role play these situations, make up your own or recall events from the video. Discuss ways you would handle these situations.

4. Talk about the way the ancient Israelites understood and lived the 8th Commandment. In what way are we called to do the same today? To the following statements, provide a situation:

- “Thank you. I love that cake!” (Talk about good manners, saying “please” and “thank you” to show consideration.)
- “Martin is a good friend to have.” (Consider the need to compliment and praise others for their good qualities and actions.)
- “Ask Sarah. She always tells the truth.” (Talk about being trustworthy and having a good reputation as a priceless gift.)

5. From the way Jesus lived his life, he taught us the way of truth. Dramatize incidents from the life of Jesus which show him teaching the way of truth and people trusting his word. Talk about the values Jesus lived in each of these events.

6. Read Ephesians 4:25. Draw pictures to illustrate. Share. Have students reflect on the meaning of these words in their own lives.

7. A PRAYER EXPERIENCE

Create an atmosphere of quiet. Sit still and feel the warmth of God.

God loves you and will always be with you.

Imagine what our world would be if everyone told the truth if everyone only said good things about others ... if everyone lived as one family.

Listen to God speak to you about this. Share your feelings of what this would mean in your own life.

Thank God for being with you.

Ask God’s help in showing love to others. Decide on one thing you will do in love as you speak the truth.

8. Have students write a litany of forgiveness to be used in the prayer service. Offer these possibilities : blaming someone for what you have done, saying unkind things about someone, cheating in games or in school work, their own. Complete as a group: “Sometimes we...”
9. Make a sign for the 8th Commandment. Place the words “Speak the truth” on the sign. Be prepared to place this on the friendship treaty banner during the prayer service. Choose food (suggestions in general introduction) for sealing the covenant.

10. PRAYER SERVICE

Preparation: Before friendship treaty banner, place candle, Bible, food. Have ready the sign for the 8th Commandment and litany. Choose people to do the reading, litany, and presentation of sign.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: The Lord said I am your God. I take care of you. I protect you. I love you. I want you to love one another. We light this candle and ask for light to understand God's Word in our life.

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

READING

Reader: This is a reading from Ephesians 4:25. The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

LITANY OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: We ask God's forgiveness for the times we have failed to live the gift of the commandments. Our response will be: "Forgive us, Lord. Help us to speak the truth." (Litany from #8 is read.)

Let us be silent and from our hearts speak with God and ask forgiveness.

PRESENTATION AND PROMISE PLEDGE

Leader: We place a sign of the 8th Commandment on our friendship treaty banner. We are asked to be God's people. We say, "Yes." We sign this treaty by now speaking our names. (Do so.)

Leader: Please repeat after me our promise pledge:

We love you, God.

We love your people.

We show our love by living the 8th Commandment.

We speak the truth.

BLESSING

Leader: Let us lift our hands to God. (Palms upward shoulder height)

Our response will be: "Amen."

Bless the words we speak...Amen.

Bless the truth we tell...Amen.

Bless our oneness with one another...Amen.

May God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit bless you all forever...Amen.

We share food together as a sign of our friendship with God and with one another. (Pass food.)

Each person holds food until all are served. In ceremony the food is eaten.)

Leader's Guide written by: Gaynell Cronin

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Commandments for Young People: We Speak the Truth on VHS (K229E) and DVD (D2290)

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Leader's Guide for
COMMANDMENTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
We Respect the Property of Others: 7th and 10th Commandments

Using story, Scripture, reflection and prayer, the commandments are presented as gifts that free us to love God, others and ourselves more deeply. This leader's guide offers questions, reflections and activities for living the commandments and growing in love. The prayer service is the heart of this guide and in it students renew their living of the covenant through each commandment. Different projects prepare for this celebration. Plan to make and display a friendship treaty banner. (See #2 of *We Remember*) A sign for each commandment will be added during each prayer service.

The covenant made at Mt. Sinai was a friendship treaty between God and the people. The sealing of a covenant usually took place at a meal as a sign that the covenant was made in friendship. Choose one of these foods for sealing the treaty at the end of each prayer service: raisins, nuts, seeds, apples, marshmallows, bread or water.

We Respect the Property of Others: 7th and 10th Commandments

We Respect the Property of Others challenges us to discover ways to live the life of the 7th Commandment—"You shall not steal"—and the 10th Commandment—"You shall not covet your neighbor's wife"—by respecting and protecting the rights and property of others, by not wanting or taking what belongs to others, and by working to help people get what they need in order to live.

1. What did the story say or do to you? Are you ever like Joe and Tom and have difficulty going to sleep because of something you have done? How did you solve the problem? What does it mean to "argue your feelings away"? What did Tom, Huck and Joe have to do in order to become pirates? Talk about the times we are pirates (negative sense of taking from others). Invite students to play act this scene. Have them identify with feelings of characters and choices made.
2. Talk about a world in which all people took things that did not belong to them. How do you feel when your property is not respected? Have students design and draw a large pirate's treasure chest. Color, decorate and cut out. Across the chest print: "We are pirates no longer." Have students place their names on 4" x 5" cards and tape on opening of chest. Display.
3. In the video what situations do you recall or identify with? Discuss situations in which we do not respect what belongs to others (7th Commandment):
 - "Mom will never miss it. Anyway, I want to buy some candy."
 - "Hey, that's my mitt you're kicking."

Introduce situations in which we wish or *want* what someone else has or we *want* more and more things for ourselves (10th Commandment):

- “Hey, check out my new bike. It’s the best, and I’m going to get...”
- “If I could just own that...”

Talk about one’s attitude toward things. Role play these situations. Help students recall ways they respect and use things in these areas: school, play fields, stores, libraries, campsites, seashores, etc.

4. Talk about the way the ancient Israelites understood and lived the 7th and 10th Commandments. In what way we are called to do the same today? Discuss the meaning of the word *covet*. To the following statements, provide a situation:

- We try to make others happy by respecting what belongs to them.
- We show responsibility in caring for the things we use.
- We make up for any damage we do.
- We lend our things generously.
- We work to help others to have what they need in order to live.

Talk about the difference between wanting and needing. Introduce the work of social justice.

5. From the way Jesus lived his life, he showed us what our attitude should be toward things and taught us to respect the rights of others to own things as well as to guard against greed. Dramatize different incidents from Jesus’ life which show him doing these things. Talk about the values that Jesus lived.
6. Read Ephesians 4:28. Draw pictures to illustrate. Share. Have students reflect on the meaning of these words in their own life.

7. A PRAYER EXPERIENCE

Create an atmosphere of quiet. Sit still and feel the warmth of God.

God loves you and will always be with you.

Breathe in God’s love and, as you breathe out, send that love to surround someone you love. (Pause)

Thank God for loving you .

Ask God’s help in showing you how to love others. Decide on one thing you will do in respecting the property of others.

8. Have students write a litany of forgiveness to be used in the prayer service. Offer these possibilities: refusing to lend our things, being greedy and wanting more and more things, being careless, borrowing and not returning or returning in poor condition, giving excuses for taking what belongs to others, their own. Complete as a group: “Sometimes we...”
9. Make signs for the 7th and 10th Commandments. Place the words “Respect property (7th)” and “Respect goods (10th)” on each sign. Be prepared to place these on the friendship treaty banner during

the prayer service. Choose food (suggestions in general introduction) for sealing covenant.

10. PRAYER SERVICE

Preparation: Before friendship treaty banner, place candle, Bible, food. Have signs ready for the 7th & 10th Commandments and litany. Choose people to do the reading, litany, presentation of signs.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: The Lord said I am your God. I take care of you. I protect you. I love you. I want you to love one another. We light this candle and ask for light to understand God's Word in our life.

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

READING

Reader: This is a reading from Ephesians 4:28...The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

LITANY OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: We ask God's forgiveness for the times we have failed to live the gift of the commandments. Our response will be: "Forgive us, Lord. Help us to respect the property of others."

(Litany from #8 is read.)

Let us be silent and from our hearts speak with God and ask forgiveness.

PRESENTATION AND PROMISE PLEDGE

Leader: We place a sign of the 7th & 10th Commandments on our friendship treaty banner. We are asked to be God's people. We say, "Yes."

We sign this treaty by speaking our names. (Do so.)

Leader: Please repeat after me our promise pledge:

We love you, God.

We love your people.

We show our love by living the 7th and 10th Commandments.

We respect the property of others.

BLESSING

Leader: Let us lift our hands to God. (Hands outward at waist with palms up.) Our response will be: "Amen."

May the Lord bless you...Amen.

May the Lord keep you...Amen.

May the Lord's light shine upon you and guide you...Amen.

May God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit bless you all forever...Amen.

We share food as a sign of our friendship with God and with one another. (Pass food. Each person holds food until all are served. In ceremony, the food is eaten.)

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