

Grade 4 Safe Environment Lesson Plan
Grade 4 Theological Concept – The Ten Commandments

Lesson 1
(1 of 4 Lessons)
Inappropriate Actions

Objective - Students will be able to answer the following questions:

1. How do you take care of your own body?
2. What are some things your parents tell you not to do?

Resources and Connections – Copy of the Ending Prayer for each student. This could be covered with the 10 Commandments.

Estimated Time: 20 minutes

Lesson: Lead a group discussion on the class objectives. Suggestions for class discussion:

- ? *Whole class discussion* – have students raise their hands to respond.
- ? *Small group discussions* – divide class into small groups (3-4 students). Have each group discuss each question for about 5 minutes. Have a reporter from each group report the groups' answers.

1. How do you take care of your own body?

Guide the students into these conclusions:

- ? *You take care of your body by obeying the 4th and 5th Commandments:*
- ? *4th Commandment – Honor your father and your mother. You do this by obeying your parents. Obey them by asking permission to go somewhere, and by letting them know if something has changed. Do not go anywhere they have forbidden you to go. Do not do anything they have forbidden you to do.*
- ? *5th Commandment – You shall not kill. You obey this commandment by taking care of the body that God has given to you as a gift. Take care of your body so you can take care of other people.*

1. What are some things your parents tell you not to do?

Guide the students into these conclusions:

- ? *Your parents may tell you not to go to someone's house.*
- ? *Your parents may tell you not to stay at someone's house, or at the store, past a certain time.*
- ? *Your parents may tell you to stay away from someone.*
- ? *Your parents are guided by the Holy Spirit. That is how they know where and who you should be with.*

Ending Prayer:

Recite the following prayer with the students.

Dear Jesus,

When You walked this earth, You showed that You love little children.

We know that You love us.

It is hard for us to hear that some people do not treat children the way You did.

We know that some people hurt children by their words and actions.

Help us to forgive them.

Help us to learn how to protect ourselves, and others, from harm.

Bless all those who help us keep safe.

Amen.

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Lesson 2 (2 of 4 Lessons) Inappropriate Gifts

Objective - Students will appropriately answer the following questions:

1. If someone gives you something you shouldn't have, what should you do?
2. How do you honor what your mother and father tell you to do?
3. Do you owe a gift-giver anything?

Resources and Connections – Copy of the Ending Prayer for each student. This can be covered during the 4th and 10th Commandments.

Estimated Time: 20 minutes

Lesson: Lead a class discussion on the objectives. Suggestions for class discussion:

- ? *Whole class discussion* – have students raise their hands to respond.
- ? *Small group discussions* – divide class into small groups (3-4 students). Have each group discuss each question for about 5 minutes. Have a reporter from each group report the groups' answers.

1. How do you honor what your mother and father tell you to do?

Guide the students into these conclusions:

- ? *You honor your mother and father by saying “No” and walking away when someone gives you something you shouldn't have, even when it's something you would really like (10th).*
- ? *You are obeying the 4th and 10th Commandments.*

2. If someone gives you something you shouldn't have, what should you do?

Guide the students into these conclusions:

- ? *You should say “No” and walk away.*
- ? *Tell a trusted adult what happened.*
- ? *The trusted adult will know what should happen next. The Holy Spirit will help them know.*

3. Do you owe a gift-giver anything?

Guide the students into these conclusions?

(This is a review of an earlier lesson. Repetition is valuable on this particular question/answer. Gift-giving is key in the grooming process.)

- ? *No, a real gift is something freely given. A real gift is not given with the intention of getting something in return.*
- ? *Sometimes people do not have good intentions, and they want something in return for a gift they have given you.*

- ? *Sometimes people want you to do something bad for them in return for a gift they have given you. If you are asked to do something in return for a gift that makes you feel 'funny,' 'bad,' or unsafe' you must say 'No.' Walk away, run away, or yell loudly. Tell someone you trust what happened.*

Ending Prayer:

Recite the following prayer with the students.

Dear Jesus,

When You walked this earth, You showed that You love little children.

We know that You love us.

It is hard for us to hear that some people do not treat children the way You did.

We know that some people hurt children by their words and actions.

Help us to forgive them.

Help us to learn how to protect ourselves, and others, from harm.

Bless all those who help us keep safe.

Amen.

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Lesson 3
(3 of 4 Lessons)
Saying “No” and Letting Someone Know

Lesson Objective - Students will be able to answer the following questions:

1. Do you have a responsibility to protect yourself? Do you have a responsibility for others?
2. How is saying “No” and letting someone know something bad has happened to us protect others from harm?

Resources and Connections – Copy of Ending Prayer for each student. This can be covered during the 10 Commandments.

Estimated Time: 20 minutes

Lesson: Lead a class discussion on the lesson objectives. Suggestions for class discussion:

- ? *Whole class discussion* – have students raise their hands to respond.
- ? *Small group discussions* – divide class into small groups (3-4 students). Have each group discuss each question for about 5 minutes. Have a reporter from each group report the groups’ answers.

1. Do you have a responsibility to protect yourself? Do you also have a responsibility for others?

Guide the students into these conclusions:

- ? *Yes, you have the responsibility - you are obeying the 5th Commandment when you tell an adult about an unsafe situation. You are not only protecting yourself, but you are protecting others from being hurt by that unsafe situation.*

2. How is saying “No” and letting someone know something bad has happened to us protect others from harm?

Guide the students into these conclusions:

- ? *Letting someone know prevent someone else from being harmed in the same way.*
- ? *The person who did the bad thing needs to be helped by counseling and other services. It is not your job to protect them. (opt.)*
- ? *God asks us not only to be holy ourselves so that we can be with Him in heaven, He asks us to help other people be holy so they can be with Him in heaven.*

Ending Prayer:

Recite the following prayer with the students.

Dear Jesus,
When You walked this earth, You showed that You love little children.
We know that You love us.
It is hard for us to hear that some people do not treat children the way You did.
We know that some people hurt children by their words and actions.
Help us to forgive them.
Help us to learn how to protect ourselves, and others, from harm.
Bless all those who help us keep safe.
Amen.

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Lesson 4
(4 of 4 Lessons)

Letting Adults Know Where You Are and Who You are With

Lesson Objective – Students will be able to answer the following questions:

1. Do you let your parents know where you are and who you are with?
2. Why do you let your parents know where you are and who you are with?

Resources and Connections – Copy of Ending Prayer for each student. This can be covered during the 10 Commandments.

Estimated Time: 20 minutes

Lesson: Lead a group discussion on the lesson objectives. Suggestions for class discussion:

- ? *Whole class discussion* – have students raise their hands to respond.
- ? *Small group discussions* – divide class into small groups (3-4 students). Have each group discuss each question for about 5 minutes. Have a reporter from each group report the groups' answers.

1. Do you let your parents know where you are and who you are with?

Guide the students into these conclusions:

- ? *You should obey the 4th and 8th Commandments by first asking permission from your parents about where you want to go and who you want to be with.*
- ? *You should be completely honest with your request. Tell them where you want to go and exactly who you want to be with. Do not leave out any information. Obey your parents' response.*

2. Why do you let your parents know where you are and who you are with?

Guide the students into these conclusions:

- ? *When you tell your parents exactly where you want to go and exactly who you want to be with, you are being honest with your parents – you are obeying the 8th commandment – you are sharing the truth with them.*
- ? *When you tell your parents exactly where you want to go and exactly who you want to be with, they can make a good decision because they know the truth. They will be guided in their decision by the Holy Spirit.*

Ending Prayer:

Recite the following prayer with the students.

Dear Jesus,

When You walked this earth, You showed that You love little children.

We know that You love us.

It is hard for us to hear that some people do not treat children the way You did.

We know that some people hurt children by their words and actions.

Help us to forgive them.

Help us to learn how to protect ourselves, and others, from harm.

Bless all those who help us keep safe.

Amen.