

## DISCOVERING JESUS FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Adapted from <https://www.kidssundayschool.com>

### LESSON 3: WE CAN OBEY JESUS

#### Supplies needed:

- A Bible for each parent and child (the International Children's Bible version is very kid-friendly)
- Copy of coloring page for each child
- Crayons or markers in these colors: yellow, dark blue, light blue, brown, green and white
- White board or paper & marker for memory verse activity
- Print out copies of the Mini Roles of Obedience page, and cut out each role-play

#### OPENING PRAYER

#### OPENING ACTIVITY

##### PREPARATION:

Lay out on the following colored crayons or markers on the table: yellow, dark blue, light blue, brown, green and white.

##### WHAT TO DO:

Give each of your children a copy of the coloring sheet, and tell them to follow the directions, and do the best they can to make a pretty picture. By following the directions, the items in the picture will be colored wrong. When finished, discuss how the kids felt following the instructions.

Explain that sometimes it is easy to obey, especially when it is something you want to do in the first place. But at other times, obeying may not make sense, like going to bed when you're not tired or coloring a silly picture. Today we will find out why it always feels good when we obey Jesus.

#### MEMORY WORK

#### **"If you love me, keep my commands." John 14:15 NIV**

##### PREPARATION:

Have white board or paper and marker available

##### WHAT TO DO:

On the board or paper, draw a line to represent each letter of this verse. Have the kids in turn choose a letter, and if the letter is part of the verse, place it above the corresponding blank line. Letters that are called and not used can be written on the board also. The first child to correctly say the entire verse can be given a prize. (Played like the popular game "hangman").

PRAISE MUSIC - use these or choose your own

[Good News song for kids with dance moves](#)

[Jesus Song - animated](#)

[Animated robot singing B.I.B.L.E.](#)

The following link is from RightNow Media, which you have a free subscription for through our church. If you have been unable to sign in, please contact Mary Kamas @ 979-777-1038, so you and your family will have access to the wonderful children's programs and youth/adult Bible teaching.

[Praise music of Bible verses for children](#)

### SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION

(You can assign the scriptures to different children to read aloud or read them aloud yourself. However, if you choose to read them, help your children to find the verses, so they will become comfortable with their Bibles.)

SAY: A little while ago, you colored in a picture using a guide. You were asked to follow the directions, even though they didn't make sense. But by following them, you probably knew you were obeying the directions. The commands that Jesus asks us to obey do make sense. Unfortunately, the devil will do his best to make us do the wrong thing anyway. He tempts us with all sorts of things. Fortunately, Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit to live in us, to teach us and guide us to do what is right. In our Bible story today, we find Jesus talking to his disciples about the Holy Spirit.

WHAT TO DO:

Before reading the scripture, look up the word Counselor in a Bible dictionary, or refer to the following definition:

Counselor: An adviser in any matter.

**Read John 14:15-21; 23-27**

Discussion Questions:

1. If we love Jesus, what will we do? (Obey His commands.)
2. Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit in a special way. What name does He give the Holy Spirit? (Counselor.)
3. In verse 21, How does Jesus show Himself to us when we obey His commands? (He shows Himself not by sight, but by the life He lives in us through the Holy Spirit.)
4. What will the Holy Spirit do in our lives? (Teach us all things and remind us of everything Jesus said.)

5. Is the peace that Jesus leaves with us different from what the world gives? (Yes) How so? (Allow for discussion.)

### MINI ROLES OF OBEDIENCE ACTIVITY

#### PREPARATION:

Have the cut-out role-plays on the Mini Roles of Obedience page available along with pencils/pens to write down the last line of the dialogues.

#### WHAT TO DO:

Have family members pair up and give each group a role-play. Let the kids pick who will play each part, but tell them to work together when coming up with the last line. Tell the kids that the last line is very important, so give it some serious thought. To help come up with ideas, suggest they think about what they could say to convince their partner not to do what he or she is about to do in their situation. The teams should consider how Jesus would feel if they went ahead and did the wrong thing. They can write this line down in the space provided at the end of each role-play. After giving a few minutes to rehearse, have each group act out their role-plays, using the final line they added to the dialog. Give praise to each group after presenting their situation. When all have finished, continue with the discussion questions.

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How difficult was it to come up with a reason for not doing the wrong thing, why? There are many different reasons why we should not do what is wrong. However, the purpose of this exercise is to know that the Holy Spirit is at work in us, to guide us in doing what is right.
2. How do you know when doing something is wrong?
3. Have you ever felt something odd inside of you when you did something wrong?
4. What do you think that feeling was?
5. Have you ever been in a situation similar to your role-play? What did you do? Jesus said, "The Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." (John 14:26). This verse tells us that the Holy Spirit will help us by teaching us all things, including what is right from what is wrong. If we let the Holy Spirit speak to us instead of shutting Him out, we can tell when the devil is trying to tempt us into doing something wrong. The Holy Spirit is very unhappy if we go ahead and do it anyway, but He still helps us. Perhaps that is why we feel ashamed of ourselves or feel guilty. Then we know never to do it again.

## APPLICATION:

SAY: So how can we obey Jesus?

First of all by doing what He teaches us, through His Words in the Bible. But Jesus asked the Father to give us someone very special to help us obey: the Holy Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit, the devil would easily get us to do bad things, lie, steal, cheat, corrupt our minds. But the Holy Spirit actually shows us these things are wrong. He doesn't hit us over the head with a hammer, no, but He does give us a bad feeling when we do something bad. He also gives us a good feeling when we do what is right, even when it doesn't make sense to us at the time. Jesus calls this good feeling, love.

The Holy Spirit speaks to us through many ways. Prayer is a great way to prepare your heart to hear the Holy Spirit speak. He also speaks to us when we read the Bible, or when we listen to someone used by God to speak the truth, such as our pastor. Sometimes we hear the Holy Spirit speak to us through things that happen in our life. However, we must be careful not to confuse what we think is the Holy Spirit talking when it really is not.

The best way to know for sure is to compare what we think we hear to what the Bible says. The Holy Spirit always agrees with God's Word.

## CLOSE IN PRAYER

Dear Lord, I know that I don't always do what is right. Thank You for forgiving me. Lord, help me to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit, so I can do what is right, and live according to Your will. Amen.