

CALL to FAITH

FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

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Unit 3
Chapter 7

Materials Needed to Complete Session

Chapter Seven *Call to Faith* Parent Handout

Pencils

Crayons

Blank piece of white paper (one per child)

Live the Commandments activity sheet
(one per child)

Live Your Faith activity sheet (one per
child)

For the opening prayer:

- Bible (Psalm 119)
- Small table covered with a table cloth
- Crucifix
- DVD: John Burland, *Move! Pray! Celebrate!*, "God's Love Is" (Track 4)
- DVD player with monitor

Time Frame (60 minutes)

Welcome and Call to Prayer
10 mins.

Conversation One
15 mins.

Conversation Two
15 mins.

Conversation Three
15 mins.

Closing
5 mins.

HOSPITALITY

Warmly welcome participants as they arrive and invite them to find a seat together at a table. Ask them not to do anything with the handouts on the table until you are ready to begin the gathering prayer.

WELCOME AND CALL TO PRAYER **10 mins.**

Welcome parents/guardians and the children. Thank them for being there and say that you hope they will enjoy some special time to talk about how the Ten Commandments and Jesus' teachings guide us to love others. Begin the gathering prayer.

Prayer

Gather participants in a prayer circle and sing "God's Love Is" using the music and gestures.

Have participants quiet themselves, be still, and introduce the prayer with the Sign of the Cross.

Read, or invite a parent—or child—volunteer to read, Psalm 119:10.

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Say: **Dear Jesus, You are love.
Help us love our neighbors.
Help us obey rules.
Thank you for loving us. Amen.**

Lead children in the Sign of the Cross.

Conversation One

15 mins.

1. Direct participants back to their seats.
2. Ask them to open their book to page 93 (page 113 in School Edition) and to place the parent handout beside it. Explain that the handout is self-directed and that you would like them to **complete steps 1-4**. Make sure each child has a blank piece of paper, pencils, and crayons.

Conversation Two

15 mins.

1. Invite participants to turn in their book to page 94 (page 114 in School Edition) and their handout to page 2.
2. Ask them to **complete steps 5-7**. Make sure each participant has a pencil and the *Live the Commandments* activity sheet.

Conversation Three

15 mins.

1. Tell participants to turn their book to pages 96 and 97 (pages 116 and 117 in School Edition) and their handout to page 3.
2. Invite them to **complete steps 8-11**. Make sure each child has a copy of the *Live Your Faith* activity sheet.

Closing

5 mins.

1. Guide the parents to the **For Home** page (page 4 in handout). Thank the parents/guardians and children for their participation and say that you look forward to seeing them on _____.
2. Conclude with *Pray with God's Word* from page 98 (page 120 in School Edition).

COACHING PLAN

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Begins on page 93
(page 113 in School
Edition)

COACHING PLAN

Conversation One

Thank you for coming to spend time in conversation with your son/daughter! Talking about faith with your child at any age is important. Your child needs to see you model your faith as he/she continues the journey of faith.

To love God and others is the call of every Christian. After the Israelites were freed from slavery in Egypt, they sometimes lost their way on their forty-year journey through the desert. They worshiped false gods and lost faith when there was not enough food to eat or water to drink. God gave the Israelites the Ten Commandments to guide them. The people received his commandments and laws with good intentions, responding with one voice, "All that the Lord has said, we will heed and do" (Exodus 24:7). The Israelites found that the promise was easier made than kept.

Jesus summed up God's commandments in one word: love. For Jesus, faithfulness to all of God's commandments could be shown in love of God and love of neighbor. Loving God and others is challenging. Throughout our journey it is important to stay focused on God for guidance. He is love, and that love must be your strength as you journey with others to the Kingdom.

1. Read together *Let's Begin* on page 93 (page 113 in School Edition). Name two playground rules that help make recess a good time for everyone.
2. Now, talk about rules in your home. What are two important rules in your home that help everyone get along? (*For example, you don't take anyone's things without asking their permission, you clean up after yourself.*)
3. Discuss with your child: What might happen if there were no rules in your home? (*Things might get lost; someone might need something that we took from him/her without asking first; more fights might happen.*)
4. Create a poster with your child that describes why we need rules. (*For example, Rules keep us safe...Rules help us live in peace*). Help your child to decorate the poster with images that illustrate your words.

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5. Turn to page 94 (page 114 in School Edition) and take turns reading the Ten Commandments chart.
6. Work with you child to complete the *Live the Commandments* activity sheet.
7. Now read together page 95 (page 115 in School Edition). Ask your child: How can you show love? (*Possible responses: be kind; listen to parents; help others, share.*) Help your child be as specific as possible. Using examples in your own family life will help him/her see what love truly looks like.

Share a story about a time in your childhood when you witnessed a loving choice that really affected your life.

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Conversation Three

8. Read together *Parables* on page 223 (page 293 in School Edition). Talk with your child about how important stories have been to both of you. Can either of you remember a favorite bedtime story you read over and over? Why did your child love that story so much?
9. Turn back to page 96 (page 116 in School Edition), and use this text below to introduce the Parable of the Good Samaritan found there:

In Jesus' time, the Jews and the Samaritans disliked each other for racial and religious reasons—they usually did not talk with each other or help each other out. Jesus' listeners in this parable would have been surprised that the Jewish man in the story did not help. They would have been more surprised that a Samaritan, someone considered an enemy, did help. Now, let's read together.

10. Discuss with your child: What better choice could the Jewish priest or temple worker have made? (Possible response: they could have helped the injured person or gone to get help for him.)
11. Work together to complete the *Live Your Faith* activity sheet.

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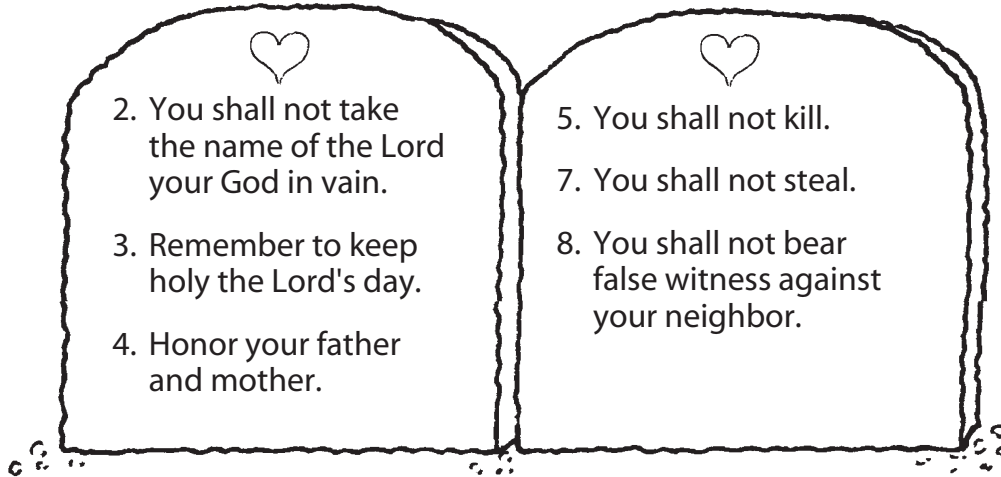
For Home

1. Read together John 15:11-15 and talk about what name Jesus gives his followers.
2. Work together to complete the *Live Your Faith* activity on page 100 (page 122 in School Edition). Hint: You could create two columns, the first with the Ten Commandments listed, and the second with the household rule that might line up to each.
3. Read together *People of Faith* on page 100 (page 122 in School Edition). Close by praying the *Family Prayer*.

Grade 2

Name _____ Date _____

Live the Commandments



After each sentence, write the number of the commandment you are obeying. Then write one way you can live the commandment at home or at school.

1. I do not take what does not belong to me. _____

2. I always listen to my parents. _____

3. I do not use God's name in a bad way. _____

4. I praise and honor God on Sundays. _____



Draw a Helpful Action In the first box, draw a picture of someone who needs help. In the other box, draw a picture that shows you helping that person. Write about your pictures on the lines below.

