

Unit 22

Rules to Live By

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”
Matthew 22:37

When your family sits down to share God’s Word, use this devotion on its own or go to <https://davidccook.org/echoes/resources> to watch **Rules to Live By** before doing the devotion together. This devotion works well in June.

In the video, the kids talk about how they speak and behave differently when they think about what would please God. Then later, a girl prays about an important decision she is making and chooses to honor God.

- How are your words, thoughts, and actions different when you put God first?
- When have you had to make a hard choice? What did you do?

God gives us rules to help us make decisions that honor Him and that are good for us as well. It isn’t always easy to follow God’s rules. But when we put God first, it helps us remember to seek His will and follow His plan.

- Memorize Matthew 22:37.
- How can you love God with your heart? with your mind? with your soul?
- What is one of God’s rules that you will especially focus on following this week?

End with a short prayer: Dear God, rules aren’t always easy to follow, but we know that You give them to us because You love us. May our love for You grow in such a way that we always think first about what would please and honor You. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Unit 23

Who God Is

“The LORD does not look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”
1 Samuel 16:7

When your family sits down to share God’s Word, use this devotion on its own or go to <https://davidccook.org/echoes/resources> to watch **Who God Is** before doing the devotion together. This devotion works well in July.

The kids in the video explain who God is, how He helps them, and what that means to them.

- How would you describe who God is to a friend?

The stories in this unit help us see that God is holy, loving, forgiving, and that He looks at people differently than we do. God sees each of us exactly as we are, and He loves us anyway. In fact, He loves us so much that He sent His only Son to die so that we could live in Heaven with Him forever. No matter what we’ve done, God looks at us with love.

- Memorize 1 Samuel 16:7. What does it mean to say that God looks at our hearts?
- How would the world be different if we all looked at each other as God sees us?
- Challenge each person in your family to silently choose someone they will make a special effort to look at differently because of what they’ve learned today.

End with a short prayer: Dear God, thank You for seeing past what the world sees and for looking into our hearts. May we learn to look at ourselves and at others in the same way You do. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Unit 24

Living Out Our Faith

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.
Galatians 6:2

When your family sits down to share God's Word, use this devotion on its own or go to <https://davidccook.org/echoes/resources> to watch **Living Out Our Faith** before doing the devotion together. This devotion works well in August.

The kids in this video talk about ways to live out our faith—by treating people with respect, standing up for others, obeying God's rules, and more. The family at the end of the video packs food to send to someone who needs it.

- What are some ways you live out your faith?

When we believe in God, it changes the way we live, the way we speak, the way we think, and the way we treat other people. If we truly love God, we must love those around us. The Bible stories in this unit have taught us to choose our words carefully, to work out our problems without fighting, to share in the work of others, and to never give up doing good.

- Memorize Galatians 6:2. What is a burden?
- Is there someone you know who is carrying a burden right now? How can you help?
- Make a plan as a family to reach out this week to someone carrying a heavy burden.

End with a short prayer: Dear God, there are so many hurting people in the world right now—in our schools, in our neighborhood, and even in our family. Please help each of us to do our part in carrying the burdens of the hurting people in our lives. And as we do, may we give all the glory and praise to You. In Jesus' name, amen.