



3RD - 5TH

5.2
The Golden Calf



CONNECT TIME

Greet kids by name and play table games as kids arrive. Be sure to welcome any new families. Ask kids:

Have you ever done something you were told not to do? Did you have a consequence for your actions? How did you feel after you received the consequence?



COMMANDMENT QUIZ

Start by 9:20/10:45

In your groups, designate one side as “true” and one side as “false.” As you read the statements on the Commandment Quiz (sheet provided in your bin), kids will have to decide if that statement is one of the 10 Commandments (true) or not (false) by moving to the appropriate side.

When finished, say: **Last week, we learned about the commandments God gave His people. God gave commands to His people to show them how to love Him and others. Today, we will see that His people broke His commands. The Israelites sinned by making and worshipping a golden calf.**

START BY
9:30/10:55

REVIEW **3** BE, LISTEN, FOLLOW



LARGE GROUP

SMALL GROUP



BIBLE REVIEW

Guide kids to open their Bibles to Exodus 34. Tell kids that most people believe Moses was the author of Exodus. Share how certain passages in Exodus (Exodus 17:14; 24:4,7; 34:27-28) reveal that Moses kept written records of the events that happened throughout his life. Choose a volunteer to read aloud Exodus 34:6-7 or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verses aloud. Then discuss these questions:

- Which words in these verses tell us that God is kind and loving?
- What do you think it means that God is “merciful and gracious”?
- (How does God treat people when they do something wrong?)
- Why is it good news that God is “slow to anger”?
- God forgives sin, but He also says sin is serious. Why do you think both of those things can be true?

How do these verses help us understand why we need Jesus?



DISCUSSION

- **Intercede means to step in and help someone who is in trouble by speaking or acting for them. How did Moses intercede for Israel?** Moses went to God and asked Him to forgive the Israelites and show them mercy when they sinned.
- **How does Jesus intercede for us?** When we trust Jesus as our Savior, He stands before God the Father for us. Because Jesus died on the cross and shed His blood for our sins, we are forgiven and accepted by God. Jesus also continues to pray for everyone who believes in Him, caring for us and speaking to the Father on our behalf. (Option: Read 1 John 2:1.)
- **What is an idol?** An idol is anything we love, trust, or put ahead of God. Sometimes idols are things we look to for happiness, comfort, or security—things we hope will give us what only God can truly give. In the Bible, idols are often shown as statues or images that people worship. But idols are worthless. They cannot help us, love us, or take care of us. They will always let us down. Only God is truly good and faithful, and only He can give us what we really need. (Option: Read Isaiah 40:18-22.)
- **Why did Jesus have to die for our sin?** When Jesus died on the cross, He took the punishment for sin in our place. His blood paid the price to rescue those who trust in Him. Only Jesus could do this because He lived a perfect life, and His sacrifice took the punishment for sin that we deserve and made things right with God. (Option: Read Ephesians 1:7)



BIBLE SKILLS TEAM CHALLENGE

Form kids into teams of three or four and provide each kid with a Bible. Tell kids they will have multiple challenges where they will need to use their Bibles to find the answer. The first team to find the correct answer earns a point. Start with the challenges below. Then consider creating more of your own.

- Turn to the book of the Bible where the story of God blessing Abraham is found.
- Find the verse in Genesis 50 where Joseph said God planned evil for good.
- What does Exodus 20:3
- Who are the three people Moses mentions in Exodus 32:13?

It's important to read our Bible and know God's Word. The Bible teaches people easily forget what God has done. Even today, we saw how Israel said the golden calf brought them out of Egypt. When we read God's Word, we are reminded of all He has done and of His great love for us.



Take prayer requests and allow kids to pray.



Match parent pick-up numbers, with child name tag numbers.
Build relationships with parents, encourage them to take a picture of the parent recap page to go over on the ride home.