



1st & 2nd

Unit 5 - Rules to Live By

Story 13.B - Tabernacle and Idol Worship (Exodus 25-30, 32-34)

INTRODUCTIONS - Introduce yourself and consider having students do the same if you have children new to the group. Fill out the top of the Roster and take attendance.

BIBLE TIME - Have kids open their bookmarked Bibles (**Exodus 32**).

Read Exodus 32:1-6

What did the people want from Aaron? (They wanted him to make a god to lead them.)

Why did they want that? (Moses had been gone for too long and they didn't know what had happened to him.)

What were the first two commandments that they heard directly from God? (#1 Put no other gods before me. #2 Do not make idols out of anything and worship them.)

Which of these commandments were the people breaking already? (Both of them. They were creating a god and worshipping it instead of worshipping the Lord.)

What was Moses doing up on the mountain at this time? (Learning from God how the people can worship him so they can be in his presence. This included sacrifices and building a tabernacle.)

Is it possible to make something that can become alive? Can you take this playdough and with it make a living, breathing animal? (It might have the form of an animal, but it can never be alive.)

Knowing that we can't make even the tiniest living thing, does it make sense that humans could make a god? (Encourage discussion. Be sure to have the kids think about the fact that we don't even know what God looks like and that the qualities of God that we do know cannot be created i.e. God is: all knowing, all powerful, never ending, all loving, fair, ever present, etc.)

Read Exodus 32:7-14

Did the Lord know what the people were doing? (Yes.)

What did he call the people? (stubborn)

What does it mean to be stubborn? (Stubborn means that you want to do things your own way and will not do what the person who is charge says.)

Did the people know that it was wrong to build this statue out of gold? (Yes! They heard God's actual voice tell them not to do it.)

What did God say first that he was going to do? Why didn't he do it? (He said that he would destroy them, but Moses spoke on their behalf.)

What promise did Moses ask God to remember? (The covenant that God made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.)

Read Exodus 15-20

What was Moses bringing down the mountain? (The 10 commandments, also known as God's law)

Who wrote the commandments on the stone tablets? (God wrote them with his finger.)

[What did Moses do when he found the people breaking God's law and worshipping an idol?](#) (He broke the tablets which contained God's law. *This may be the origin of the phrase, 'breaking the law'.)

[What did he do to the golden calf that the people were worshipping?](#) (He burned it, ground it down, added it to water, and had the people drink it.)

(Summary of missing text: The Lord made a second set of tablets with the 10 Commandments carved into them to be placed in the Ark of the Covenant.)

Read Exodus 32:35 - 33:3

[What was the first way that the Lord punished the people?](#) (The Lord struck them with a plague, which is a sickness.)

[He also gave them a second punishment. What was it?](#) (The Lord would not go with them as they travelled to the promised land.)

[Which punishment was worse?](#) (Encourage discussion.)

***Extended Discussion:**

[What was the ultimate consequence of Adam and Eve's sin?](#) (They were separated from God and made to leave the Garden of Eden.)

[When Cain killed Abel, what was his consequence?](#) (He had to leave his family and be separated from God.)

[What is the ultimate consequence of our own sin and how did Jesus repair it?](#) (We face eternal separation from a holy God. Jesus paid the penalty for our sin so that we can be forgiven and be in God's presence again.)

[Preview Next Week:](#) This week we learned about how God showed mercy on his people once again even though they were a stubborn people. Next week, we will learn about how on the Day of Atonement he provided a way for them to atone for their sins each year.

CRAFT: PUT GOD FIRST WHEEL - Give each child a plate, large arrow, small arrow, and a brad. Have them write the word GOD in marker at the top of the circle. Talk about what things pull our attention away from God, and how these can become idols if we aren't careful. Have them draw and label these things around the rest of the circle. Show them how to attach the arrows using the brad to the plate, then have them use a glue stick to keep the larger arrow with the word 'first' pointing to the word GOD. Explain that we need to be sure to always keep God first in our lives.

MEMORY VERSE - Practice the verse together using one of the activities on the Memory Game List.

[Unit 4 Memory Verse:](#) "I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you." ~Psalm 119:11

PRAYER

Ask the group if they have any prayer requests before leading the kids in prayer.

COMMUNITY & SNACK TIME

Hand out snacks, and water. This is an intentional time to create a sense of community within the group. Sit at the table with the kids and encourage conversation as they eat. If you have extra time, consider playing one of the [community building games](#) from the list.