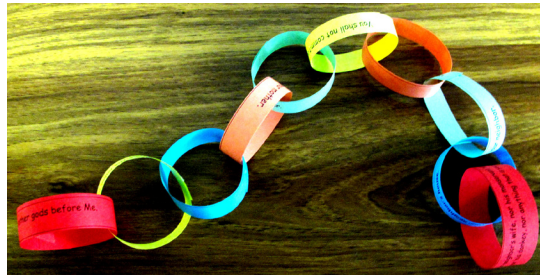


Make: Links of Life

In keeping the Ten Commandments we become linked to the Lord's love and life. Jesus said, "If you keep My commandments you will abide in My love..." (John 15:10). In this activity, students sequence the commandments and link them to form a "Chain of Life".



Materials Needed for Each Student

- Ten Commandments strips (see next page), cut apart
- *optional*: Print copies of the Ten Commandments strips on a variety of bright colors. After cutting the strips apart, re-distribute the colors so that each child receives a multi-colored set of strips to create a colorful chain.
- *Ten Commandments from Exodus 20* to share (see following page)
- tape

Preparation Needed Ahead of Time

- Cut apart the Ten Commandments strips. *Hint*: Using a paper cutter or stacking and cutting multiples with scissors will help this go quickly.

Directions

1. Distribute a set of Ten Commandments strips to each student, but do not give them the page with the commandments in order yet.
2. Invite students to put their strips into order. (If you have some non-readers, pair them with readers and have them do the activity as a team.)
3. Once they have finished, show students the page with the commandments in the correct order. Have them note which ones they had ordered correctly and which they had not.
4. Repeat the activity so that the students become more familiar with the commandments and their order. Praise them each time they get one more correct!
5. Once students are confident about sequencing the commandments, help them form a chain out of the ordered strips, fastening the ends of each strip together with tape.
6. As students are making their chains, talk about how we become linked with the Lord when we obey the Ten Commandments. We come into a close relationship of love with the Lord by obeying what He teaches. The more we practice doing the Ten Commandments, the easier it is for us to do what they teach—just as it became easier and easier for the students to put them in order as they practiced doing this! Keeping the commandments builds a strong bond between the Lord and us.

Ten Commandments Strips for Links of Life Project

<p>You shall have no other gods before Me.</p>
<p>You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.</p>
<p>Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.</p>
<p>Honor your father and your mother.</p>
<p>You shall not murder.</p>
<p>You shall not commit adultery.</p>
<p>You shall not steal.</p>
<p>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.</p>
<p>You shall not covet your neighbor's house.</p>
<p>You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's.</p>

The Ten Commandments from Exodus 20

1. You shall have no other Gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself any carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth....
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.
3. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work....
4. Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land that the Lord your God is giving you.
5. You shall not murder.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's.