

Kid's Slot –August 27-Sept 2

“Do What I Command”

OVERVIEW: Do What I Command •Jesus wants us to promise to obey Him.

PREPARATION: Pieces of Paper, Markers or Crayons

BIBLE STORY & VERSE: John 15:9-10, 14

ICEBREAKER:

- What is your favorite fast food restaurant?
- What do you like to order at that restaurant?

READ: “Do What I Command”

MEMORY VERSE: John 15:14 “You are my friends if you do what I command.”

LIFE APPLICATION:

- What are some ways that we can hear what Jesus is commanding us to do?
- How do you respond when Jesus commands you do to something that you don't want to do?
- What ways do you need to follow Jesus' command this week?

“Do What I Command”

I am so glad that you are here this week for our 2nd week of our Flourish theme. Does anyone remember what it means to Flourish? Flourish means to grow big and healthy. During our Flourish theme, we want to grow healthy with God!

Last week we talked about staying connected with Jesus. What are some ways that we can stay connected with Jesus? Did you do some things that helped you be connected with Jesus last week? *Allow the kids some time to talk about ways that they connected with Jesus last week.*

One way that we stay connected is reading and learning the word of God, the Bible. Does anyone know the Bible verse from last week? *Have the kids spend some time reciting John 15:5, “Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in Me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from Me you can do nothing.”*

I am so glad that God gave us His word to get to know Him better and stay connected with Him! Today we are going to find out another great way to stay connected with God. We are going to read John 15:9-10 and John 15:14.

Read John 15:9-10 “Just as the Father has loved me, I have loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love. In the same way, I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love.”

John 15:14 “You are my friends if you do what I command.”

Jesus doesn't say, you are my friends if you are nice to me or you are my friends if you occasionally follow me. Jesus says, “You are my friends if you do what I command.” The word command is a little word with a big meaning. When you command someone to do something, you are not just asking them. You are giving them an order.

When I think of the word command, I think of an officer in the military. An officer in the military commands his/her troops. When an officer gives the troops an order, the troops don't stop to think about it. They don't wait until they feel like obeying. They obey right away because they know that the officer is in charge. In fact, it is so important for a soldier to follow commands that when they join the military, a soldier has to take an oath (or make a promise) to obey. This oath is a legal oath. It is against the law to disobey their commanders. In the oath, they have to promise, “I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the order of the officers appointed over me.”

Just like soldiers promise to obey their commanding officers, Jesus wants us to promise to obey Him. Our memory verse this week is John 15:14, “You are my friends if you do what I command.” We are not able to fully experience friendship with Jesus unless we can do what He commands. It is impossible to follow Jesus' commands if you are not listening to Him. Reading the word of God, attending church and praying will help us hear what God has commanded us to do.

Sometimes we may be excited about following Jesus' commands, but

sometimes Jesus' commands may be hard. Jesus commands us to love others. This might mean that Jesus is commanding you to love the boy or girl in your class that no one likes. Jesus commands us to give to the Lord. So maybe instead of spending all of your money at the candy store, you need to set aside some to bring to church in your offering. When we read the Bible and hear from the Lord, we will begin to hear Jesus' commands. The great things about Jesus' commands are that even though they may be hard, they always are the best thing for your life. In verse 14, Jesus says that if we obey His commands we will be His friends. Jesus always wants what is best for His friends.

Follow My Commands

What You Need: No Supplies needed

What You Do:

- Lead the kids in a game of Simon Says. One child is Simon. That child gives the other kids directions and the other children follow the directions if “Simon” says “Simon says” before the direction. If “Simon” does not say “Simon says” then the other children do not follow his/her directions. The child that is Simon tries to trick the children in when to follow the directions.
- Let the kids take turns being Simon.

What You Say:

“Sometimes it is hard to listen hard and follow Simon directions. Just like we have to listen closely to Simon, we also have to listen closely and follow Jesus’ commands.”

Memory Verse Illustration

What You Need: Paper, Markers or Crayons

What You Do:

- Give each child a piece of paper and some markers or crayons.
- Have the children draw a picture of the memory verse. They can draw any picture that will help them remember the verse.
- As they are coloring, talk with the children about different ways they can get closer to God.

What You Say:

“Make sure that you spend some time reading and reviewing the verse this week.”

RETURN:

Return to the Life Group and have the kids share their **Bible Verses or Craft Activity**. The children then join in the prayer and fellowship time. Or, you could watch one of the many, many awesome kids’ videos available to you on www.rightnowmedia.org – it’s free!