A Lesson for KIDS CHURCH

Lesson Title: God Our Protector (10 Commandments)
Text: Exodus 20
This lesson by: Pastor Karl Bastian

Lesson Summary: Kids live with ‘laws’ and ‘commands’ all day every day. They can come to dislike (if not hate) all the ‘rules’ in their life. The point of this lesson is not so much to teach each of the Ten Commandments, but to help kids find an appreciation for the rules in our lives.

Main Point: God’s Laws are for Our Good

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<td>Intro</td>
<td>Review the Kids Church Rules: 1 – Stay in Your Seat 2 – Raise Your Hand to Speak 3 – Follow Directions 4 – Have FUN! Ask why we have these rules? So that Kid’s Church will go well, we will learn, and have FUN! No #4 without #1-3.</td>
<td>Rules Power Point</td>
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<td>Singing</td>
<td>Ah lalala  Deep Deep  Making Melodies  Great and Mighty  God is So Good (offering song)</td>
<td>Songs PowerPoint</td>
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<td>Gus</td>
<td>Gus' Ten Commandments (what if everyone followed those?) Oh, no. That wouldn't work! Only me. (Show weaknesses in them)  1. People shalt give their candy to Gus. 2. Gus shalt be able to take anything he wants, anywhere, anytime. 3. Pizza shalt be free anywhere. 4. Vegetables shalt not be grown or eaten. 5. Cash Machines shalt give Gus free money. 6. There shalt not be bedtime, ever. 7. Schools shalt never be open. 8. Girls shalt not like boys. 9. Parents shalt do their children’s homework. 10. The Cubs shalt win the World Series.</td>
<td>Gus  His Ten Commandments in a mini-scroll</td>
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<td>Molly</td>
<td>Has written THREE LAWS for Gus that she would like Karl to enforce with Gus, they are: 1) LOVE ME 2) BRING ME FLOWERS 3) KISS ME Karl explains that for the love to be real, it must be a choice. That is why God gave us commands – because he loves us, and he wants to give us a chance to show our love to Him. When we obey, we show love. When we disobey, we love ourselves over God.</td>
<td>Molly  Molly’s Laws</td>
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| Game | **Please Tell Me The Rules** - Choose four kids from the audience. However, ahead of time tell ONE of them the RULES, but they are not to tell the others that they know the rules of the game or that they were given rules. Then play the game. Since three of them don’t know the rules, they will struggle to do well, but the one who does know the rules will do very well, award the winner. (the one you gave the rules too)

**THE RULES:**
1) If I mention any color, such as RED or BLUE, sit down.
2) If I mention a number, such as ONE or TWO, stand up. *(NOTHING ELSE I SAY MATTERS* including the words ‘stand up’ or ‘sit down!’)*

**THE GAME:**
1) Sit down if you are wearing BLUE. *(sit)*
2) Stand up if you have TWO legs. *(stand)*
3) Stay standing if stop signs are RED. *(sit)*
4) Stand up if the sky is BLUE. *(sit)*
5) Sit down if dogs have FOUR legs. *(stand)*
6) Raise your arms above your head if an orange is ORANGE. *(sit)*
7) If TWO plus TWO is FIVE stand up. *(stand)*
8) If you can eat NINE bananas sit down. *(stand)*
9) If bananas are YELLOW stand up. *(sit)*
10) If these TEN questions confused you sit down. *(stand)*

**AND THE WINNER IS:** (announce) then ask them what the rules were, and let them explain the rules. The others will feel cheated because they didn’t know the rules and lost.

**THE POINT:** There are a LOT of people in this world who are losing in the game of life simply because they don’t realize that there are RULES for life – that lead to success. Not knowing, OR not obeying the rules leads to mistakes and problems. God’s Rules for Life are called the Ten Commandments. *(Based on an idea from Mark Nations)*

| Math Moment w/ Doc | Doc appears and says he has a word problem for Pastor Karl this week. Karl reluctantly agrees. Doc asks, If you had two people on a raft, and then two more people got on the raft, how many people would be on the raft. Karl says, well, 2 + 2 = 4, right? Doc, “I’m asking you.” Karl, “Well, last I checked, 2 + 2 was still equal to 4. Doc: “Are you sure it isn’t five?” Karl: “I’m positive. If it ever was four than it will always be four.” Doc: “Is that true?” Karl: “Yes, it is TRUE that 2 + 2 = 4 and truth does not change.” Doc: “But what if I wanted it to be 5?” Karl: “Well, you would be wrong, it is four.” Doc: “But what if I was really nice, and really sincere, and really believed it was five?” Karl: “Well, then you would be a really nice person who was sincerely wrong.” Doc: so it is true that 2 + 2 is still equals four? Karl: Yes, and like all truth, it will always be true.” Doc: “O.K., I’ll let you know if it changes. Karl: “It won’t, it can’t.” Doc: “O.K., later!)

| General Epistle | Military Puppet – “PK! We got a problem in the camp!” (we do what is it?) You’re talking about the Ten COMMANDMENTS, right? (Yes, we are) Well, we got a major problem, PK. (What is it?) They’re called the Ten COMMANDMENTS, right? (Yes….?) Well, we got toooo many people acting like they are the Ten SUGGESTIONS! They aren’t suggestions, PK, they are COMMANDMENTS. We are to
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<td>1-3 Your Relationship w/God</td>
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<td>4-10 Your Relationship w/Others</td>
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<td>Summary: Put God First, and Others second</td>
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**Object Lesson: Jell-O Rules**

Start the lesson by asking the kids "How many of you are tired of being told what to do? How many of you want to get away from all the rules?" Many of the kids will raise their hands to agree. Now tell the kids that you can show them how they can be their own boss. They can stop having adults tell them what to do all the time. First, show the kids the two molds full of jell-o. Show them that one is already firm and ready to take out of the mold. The other is runny. Ask the kids, "When is jell-o ready to take out of the mold?" They will probably say "When it is firm." Now pop the firm jell-o out of the mold. The jell-o will remain shaped like the mold. The real answer to the question above is jell-o is ready to take out of the mold when it will retain the shape of the mold all by itself without any help from the mold. The second jell-o is not ready to take out of the mold because it will run all over if you dump it out. It doesn’t have the ability to stay all together in the shape of the mold yet. Now, let's imagine that the jello molds represent the rules that kids and teens live by. Those rules are there to shape and mold them into a responsible adult. The rules are there to make sure they turn out to be honest and Christ like. The rules are there to mold them into the image of Christ. So when can the rules be taken away? They can be taken away when you are able to obey them all on your own without being made to do so. When they are able to act like a responsible adult and Christian all on their own. Tell the kids if they are tired of being told to clean up their room, then clean it up all on their own and no one will never tell them to do it. You are like jello. The mold (or rules) can be taken away when you can retain the shape you are supposed to all on your own.

(Idea from Mark Nations)

**Krew Puppet**

Pastor Karl, what if I am the only one who obeys, do I still have to?
1) you aren't only one!
2) you are better off obeying
3) you will give an account

**Object Lesson: Tear the Paper**

Some newspapers are printed "with the grain", and some "against the grain." This means that if you hold a piece of newspaper vertically, and begin to tear strips from top to bottom, they will either come out very straight, or very ragged (despite your best efforts), depending on the way the grain is running. Find a newspaper that tears straight vertically. Choose about eight volunteers and divide into two groups. Give each one a sheet of newspaper. Ask one group to tear the sheets into strips from top to bottom as straight as they can and the other group to tear in the opposite way - across the page. The first group will end up with straight strips of paper, and the other group with a big mess!

**THE POINT:** We are all on a path through life, either under God or living without God. God is the No.1 Boss. He is the king of all kings. He is Sovereign. That means He has the last say in everything. We have a choice to accept God's Lordship and to live under His will or to
live without His help, guidance or friendship and go against Him. Proverbs 3.6 says "In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." One of the things this verse is saying is that we should accept God's will and live under His rulership, not our own. The team that tore the paper from top to bottom represents the people who chose to live under God's rulership. They believe that He is No. 1 Boss and try their best to live under His rules. To these people, God is God. What He says is important. They find it safe to live, knowing that He is in charge. The other team has shown us what people are like who choose to live outside of God's rulership. They do not accept that God is No.1 Boss. Look now at the two results. One group has a crooked mess, the other group has a life that is honest, right and good. At the end of their life, they will be able to say it was good to have God as No.1 Boss. (Idea from David Goodwin)

**Verse**

Kid James, is there a verse in the Bible that promises that things go better if we obey? Oh, Pastor Karl, there are many! The word ‘obey’ is in the bible 161 times! It is important to God. But bless or blessing is in the Bible almost as many times. God wants to bless us, but we need to obey first. Luke 11:28 say, “He (that's Jesus) replied, *Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.*"

**Toybox Tale**

See [www.toyboxtales.com](http://www.toyboxtales.com) Toys act out a story with a moral point.

**Lessons Learned**

**Lessons from Moses**

1) Commands are for our own good.  
2) Obeying shows we love the one giving the commands.  
3) When we disobey God we cheat ourselves  
4) Someday we will do what right without ‘rules’

**Story**

Heracio the Cat – a cat that runs away and learns that staying in the yard is safer.

**Review Game**

**Noggin’ Knocker Review Game** (See power point)  
Qualifying Question: Why is “HAVE FUN” the 4th Kid’s Church rule and not the first? (We will only have fun if we are obeying numbers 1-3)  
1) Name one of Gus’ commandments (see above)  
2) T/F God gave Moses the Ten Suggestions. (F)  
3) The first three commandments are about what? (Our relationship w/ God)  
4) T/F Rules and commands are designed to make life miserable. (F)  
5) On what mountain did God give Moses the commandments? (Mt. Sinai)

**Closing**

Game: "Karl Says" (Simon Says) At end: this week play "God Says" - only do what God says to do, and if God doesn't say to do it, don't!

**Assignment**

Give the kids something concrete and practical to do this week.
OPTIONAL:

1) We have an authority over us that we must obey.
2) The laws are for our own good.
3) If everyone obeys, no accidents
4) Responsible whether you knew the law or not.
5) Review often!

Skit: Tic Tack Toe - moving X's and O's
GENERAL EPISTLE

“PK! We got a problem in the camp!” (we do what is it?) You’re talking about the Ten COMMANDMENTS, right? (Yes, we are) Well, we got a major problem, PK. (What is it?) They’re called the Ten COMMANDMENTS, right? (Yes….?) Well, we got toooo many people acting like they are the Ten SUGGESTIONS! They aren’t suggestions, PK, they are COMMANDMENTS. We are to OBEY THEM without questioning them, without wavering, without scratching our head to think about it, without deciding if we feel like it. (you’re right) Those are ORDERS from the COMMANDER IN CHIEF! They are NOT SUGGESTIONS! We are to OBEY them right away without hesitation or reservation. You got that PK?!?!?!!? (Uh, yeah, I’m with you, I agree) GOOD! And you kids – you with me! (allow kids to answer) God didn’t give Ten Suggestions, he gave us TEN COMMANDMENTS! Humph! (exits in a huff)
KID JAMES:

KARL: Kid James, is there a verse in the Bible that promises that things go better if we obey?

KID JAMES: Oh, Pastor Karl, there are many! The word ‘obey’ is in the bible 161 times! It is important to God. But bless or blessing is in the Bible almost as many times. God wants to bless us, but we need to obey first. Luke 11:28 say, “He (that's Jesus) replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."
MOLLY’S LAWS

Since Pastor Karl is teaching on LAW, Molly has written THREE LAWS for Gus that she would like Karl to enforce with Gus, they are:

1) LOVE ME
2) BRING ME FLOWERS
3) KISS ME

Karl explains that for the love to be real, it must be a choice. That is why God gave us commands – because he loves us, and he wants to give us a chance to show our love to Him. When we obey, we show love. When we disobey, we love ourselves over God. How do you think God feels when you don’t love him.

Molly: The same way I feel when Gus doesn’t love me….. SAD! (wail and cry) I guess I will work on my love for God and hope Gus decides to work on his love for ME!
Doc appears and says he has a word problem for Pastor Karl this week. Karl reluctantly agrees. Doc asks, If you had two people on a raft, and then two more people got on the raft, how many people would be on the raft.

Karl says, well, 2 + 2 = 4, right?

Doc, “I’m asking you.”

Karl, “Well, last I checked, 2 + 2 was still equal to 4.

Doc: “Are you sure it isn’t five?”

Karl: “I’ m positive. If it ever was four than it will always be four.”

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Karl: Yes, and like all truth, it will always be true.”

Doc: “O.K., I’ll let you know if it changes.

Karl: “It won’t, it can’t.” Doc: “O.K., later!)
KREW PUPPET

Pastor Karl, I know that obeying is important, and most of the time you will get in trouble if you disobey, but there are other times when you can get away with disobeying, and others aren’t obeying - what if I am the only one who obeys, do I still have to? Even if others aren’t?

KARL:
1) you aren't only one!
2) you are better off obeying
3) you will give an account
GUS’

Ten Commandments

1. People shalt give their candy to Gus.
2. Gus shalt be able to take anything he wants, anywhere, anytime.
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