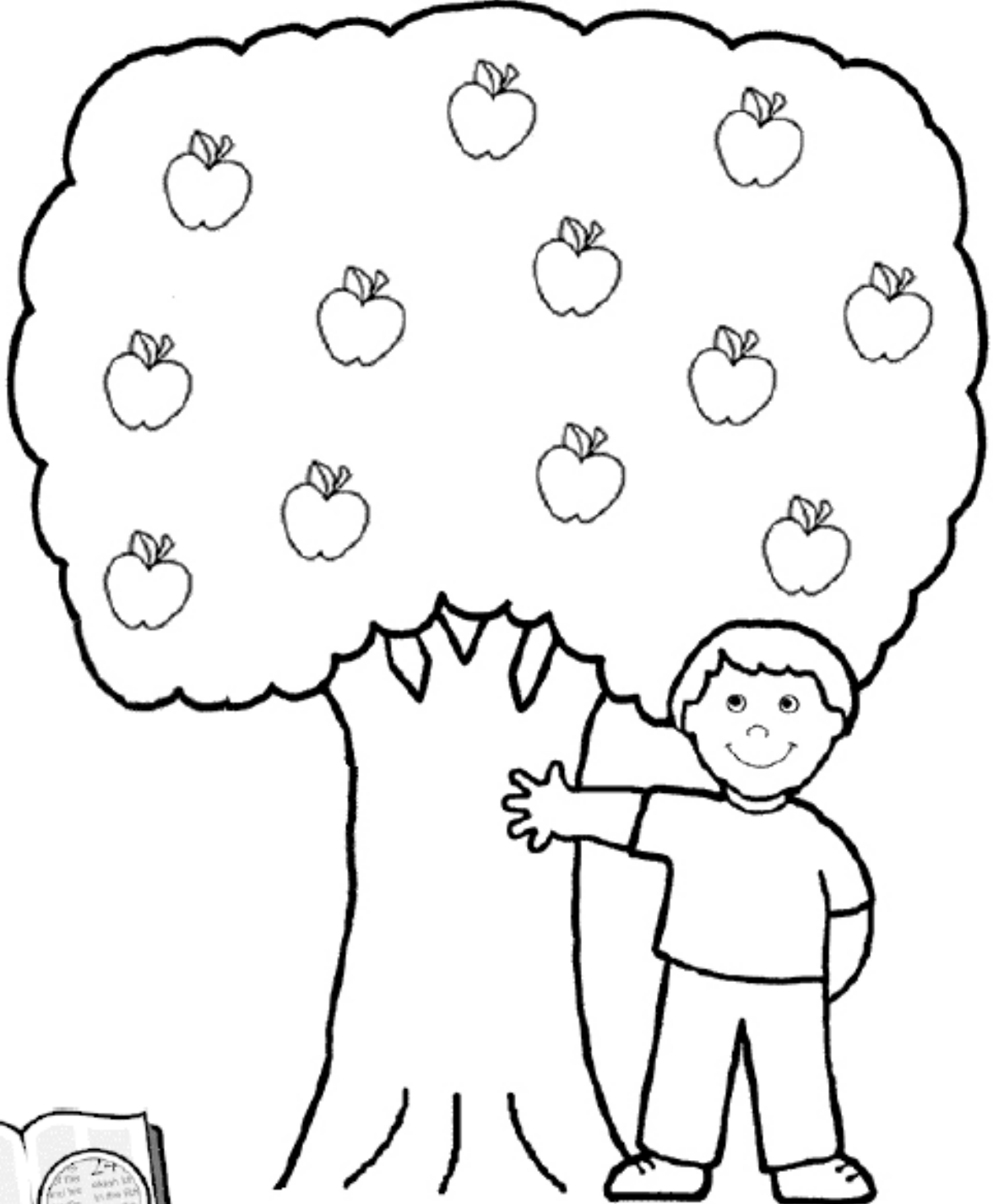


Jesus Preaches to Many People (II)

Jesus taught us many lessons which can help us live meaningful and happy lives. These lessons are found in the Bible. In the well known Sermon on the Mount we find lessons about anger, relationships, oaths, how we need to treat our enemies, giving to the needy, prayer, revenge, false prophets, etc.



“Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire...” Matthew 7: 19

**Why do we
obey Jesus?**



Which of these children is obeying Jesus?



Lesson 12

Jesus Preaches to Many People (II)

Bible Text: Matthew 5: 21-48, 6, 7: 1-20

Key Verse: Matthew 7: 19

Purpose: The children will learn how to live a life that pleases God.

Please note!

Plan suitable activities for your group of children. The following activities can be adapted depending on the group's size, age, ability, the amount of time available, etc.

I. Lesson

Read the passage from the Gospel, Matthew 5: 21-7: 20. The text is long, so use different pictures to illustrate Jesus' teaching from the Sermon on the Mount. The illustrations might be caricatures or amusing. Several are suggested. Explain the following lessons:

1. Anger

a. Lesson: Jesus said that we can commit murder even with a word, not only with evil deeds. We can commit murder by using harsh words such as "idiot" or "dummy" or when you curse someone.

b. Illustrations: Write the command: **Do not murder!** Draw a very fat man strangling someone with his long, thin tongue.

2. The relationships between husbands and wives

a. Lesson: Jesus said that it is a sin when a married man or woman cheats on his/her partner or divorces.

b. Illustrations: Write the command: **Do not covet your neighbor's spouse!** Draw a man holding a woman's hand with his head turned toward another woman, who also appears in the picture.

3. Oaths

a. Lesson: Jesus said we should not use oaths to show we are telling the truth. When we speak we must be honest and sincere. We must not lie.

b. Illustrations: Write the command: **Do not swear!** Draw two children hugging each other, but in fact they are thinking something else. Their thoughts appear in a "call out" above their heads. This shows the fact that the children are not fond of each other.

4. Revenge

a. Lesson: Jesus said "Do not resist an evil person". If we are slapped on the right cheek, we should turn the other cheek.

b. Illustrations: Write the command: **“Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.** Draw a little boy pulling a little girl's hair. The little girl with tears in her eyes is offering him a candy.

5. Love Your Enemies

a. Lesson: Jesus said we have to love our neighbors and our enemies.

b. Illustrations: Write the command: **Love your enemy!** Draw a child kneeling and praying for another child who is splashing water on him.

6. Giving to the Needy

a. Lesson: Jesus said that when we give a gift to someone in need, we don't have to make a big deal about it, because our Father sees our deeds and he rewards us.

b. Illustrations: Write **Blessed are the merciful.** Draw a little girl giving a chocolate to a poor and tattered child.

7. Prayer

a. Lesson: Jesus said that when we pray we shouldn't say useless words. We should pray using simple words out of respect for God. Jesus gave us the Lord's Prayer as a model.

b. Illustrations: Write the command: **This, then, is how you should pray.** Use a picture of a child who is praying.

8. Money and Possessions

a. Lesson: Jesus said we should not worry because He takes care of our needs.

b. Illustrations: Write the command: **Do not worry!** Use pictures of a beautiful lily and a swallow or a bird.

9. Judging the Others

a. Lesson: Jesus said that we shouldn't judge and criticize others. We make mistakes, too, maybe worse than our neighbors.

b. Illustrations: Write the command: **Do not judge!** Draw two men: one having a speck in his eye and the other a log. The one with the log tries hard to help the other get rid of the speck in his eye.

10. False Prophets

a. Lesson: Jesus said that people will come saying that they are Christians. In fact, they will come with false teachings. Let's not listen to them! You can detect them by the way they act.

b. Illustrations: Write the command: **Watch out for false prophets!** A picture of a child having a Bible in his hand.

II. Activities

1. The Bible Verse

a. Read the verse out loud:

"Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." Matthew 7: 19

b. Explain the verse:

We are like a tree. A tree that is cared for produces good fruit. Every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped and thrown into the fire. A child of God who fulfills God's commandments will produce good fruit. Otherwise, he will never see God.

c. Help the children memorize the verse using: games, contests, etc.

2. Review questions for the children

Show each illustration to the children. Have the children remember the commandments and say them out loud.

III. Conclusion:

If you want to be like a good tree, memorize these commandments and put them into practice.