

TEACHER GUIDE

TELL Bible Pathway

Part 1

Lesson 8



The Third Commandment | tellnetwork.org

Lesson Goal: The goal of this lesson is to understand the Third Commandment and its importance to our faith.

Pre-Lesson Preparation: Read Matthew 4:1-11, the account of Satan tempting Jesus in the wilderness.

Live Class Greet those who are listening to the class.

Prayer Asks for God's blessings, focusing on the theme of the lesson, and effectively ending the greeting time and calling the lesson to order. The following prayer can be used:

Dear Holy Spirit. We thank you for your life-giving Word in which we learn about our Salvation and the great love the Holy Trinity has for us. Forgive us the times when we have not appreciated the Word as we should. Give us hearts eager to learn more and more from the living message. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Introduce The Course

- a. Explain the purpose of the course.
- b. Ask all to show respect for the teacher and other students by writing appropriate questions and comments on the Facebook Live chat.
- c. Explain that the **TELL** method is a teaching style with the goal of telling others what you've learned. The letters **T-E-L-L** represent four sections of study: **T** for Think, **E** for Evaluate, **L** for Learn and **L** for Lead.

Think: A powerful introduction that gets you thinking about an interesting topic, or question

What does it mean to remember the Sabbath Day?

Evaluate (brings more meaning and context to the lesson)

1. Who are the characters in the story? *Jesus, the Devil, the angels*
2. What are the objects in the story? *The wilderness, a mountain, the Temple*
3. Where did the story take place? *In the wilderness*

4. When did the story take place? *After Jesus was baptized by John. He then spent 40 days fasting in the wilderness.*
5. What is the problem in the story? *The Devil is tempting Jesus to turn away from the Father and worship him instead.*
6. What events occurred in this story? *Note that the Devil misuses the Word of God, while Jesus returns to the Word again and again to rebuff the Devil.*
7. Is the problem solved? *Jesus never sinned, even amidst these difficult temptations. He remained perfect in our place.*

Learn (identify that sin is the problem and only God has the answer)

1. What is the main theme of the lesson? *Physical food is certainly a needed blessing from the Lord and we pray for it in the Lord's Prayer—"Give us today our daily bread"—however, our deeper spiritual need is only satisfied with God's Word. Only in God's Word can we see the true depth of our sin and the true extent of God's love for us in Jesus. Every time Satan tries a new temptation to trick Jesus into worshiping him, Jesus goes back to the Word of God.*
2. What sin does this lesson teach you to confess?
 - A. Apathy – Hebrews 10:25 tells us, "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." God wants us to meet together regularly to worship Him, to encourage each other, and to study the gospel together. We should follow Jesus' example by knowing God's Word and using It to resist temptation.
 - B. A lack of appreciation for God's Word – Jesus showed reverence for the Word and its teachings. Even though he was hungry and he was capable of creating bread for himself, he valued God's Law above his discomfort. Psalm 1:2 says, "His delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night." We sin when we do not appreciate God's Word perfectly and constantly, always with a good attitude.
 - C. The Devil used the word of God to teach falsely. Jesus did not succumb to his temptations. Romans 16: 17 says, "I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them." We sin against the Third Commandment when we teach things as God's Word when they are not biblical. We also sin when we allow false teaching and false teachers to remain with us as if their teaching were not dangerous. Jesus' stubborn clinging to the Word caused the Devil to leave him.
3. Where do you see the love of God in the lesson?
 - A. God showed us how to deal with temptation by giving us Jesus as an example and by giving us Jesus as a substitute. We can expect to fall into temptation, but Jesus did not.
 - B. God provided angels to serve Jesus when he needed them most. He provides his love, his Word, and his angels when we need them.
4. What does God teach you to do in the lesson?

God wants us to value hearing his Word, to support one another with his message, and to steer clear of false teachers.

Lead (share this with a group of your brothers and sisters in Christ)

1. What would be a good situation to in which to share this message? *With people who say that they can worship God without relying on or listening to the Bible.*

Additional questions (add depth to the lesson)

1. How did Jesus fulfill this commandment in our place? *Ask the students to remember examples from the Bible of Jesus keeping the Sabbath holy. One of the best examples is found in Luke 4:16: "Jesus went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom." Jesus regularly gathered with others to be in the Word. His perfect attendance now counts as our attendance.*
2. God wanted the Israelites in the Old Testament to worship on Saturday. Why don't we have to worship on Saturdays? *The teacher will want to let the students discuss this. Some import ideas follow. There are three types of law – moral, civil, and ceremonial. The three types of law are mixed together in the Third Commandment. God wants all people of all time to obey his word, but he only wanted the Israelites to worship on Saturdays. Colossians 2:16-17 says, "Do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ." Observing the Sabbath day on Saturdays was part of the ceremonial law. That ceremonial law pointed to Jesus, who fulfilled it. We are no longer under those regulations that dictated the worship life of the ancient Israelites. The Sabbath Day pointed to the true spiritual rest we now find in Jesus.*
3. Why do we often have church services on Sundays? As New Testament believers, we don't have any specific rules about when we should worship. God does want us to hear his word regularly and to meet together regularly. It seems that meeting on Sunday quickly became a regular custom for most of the church, even as early as the time when the New Testament was being written (Acts 20:7 and Revelation 1:10). We do not have any biblical explanation for why Sunday was chosen. Perhaps they began to gather together on Sundays because it reminded them that Jesus rose triumphant from the dead on a Sunday. Any day of the week is a good day to gather together and to worship our Savior God.

Lesson Wrap-Up

1. Why is the Third Commandment important for us today? *Allow time for participants to share their answers, but emphasize that God's Word shows us His plan for salvation. Meeting together to study it reminds us that we are saved by his grace and helps us to encourage one another in the faith.*

Closing End with a prayer thanking God for the people he has brought together to learn about him and his Word, or with a blessing for the group.

