



THE BIG IDEA

We obey God by loving everyone.

THE BIBLE

The Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Commandments: Exodus 20:15-17

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

WELCOME TIME

- MUSIC | Road Trip Jams!
- ACTIVITY | Rest Stop Challenge
- ACTIVITY | Love Road Signs

TEACHING TIME

- **SCRIPTURE** | Exodus 20:15-17
- THE BIG IDEA | We obey God by loving everyone.
- **VIDEO** | Road Trip, Episode 4
- STORY | A Traffic Jam
- PRAYER

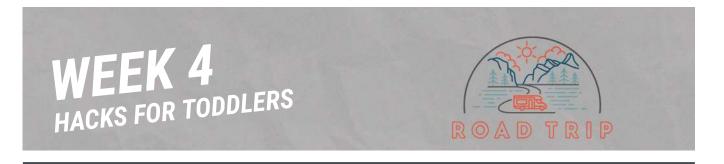
DISCUSSION TIME

- **SNACK** | Love Cookies
- **ACTIVITY** | Share the Love
- ACTIVITY | Care Bags
- MEMORY VERSE | Love Bug!

PLAY TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Coloring Page
- **ACTIVITY** | Bubbling Over
- **ACTIVITY** | Heart Hunt

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BY KATHIE PHILLIPS

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR TODDLERS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week, but toddlers tend to get overlooked. But you know your toddlers need more than just babysitting, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your toddlers more engaged.

ACTIVITY | Rest Stop Challenge

Simplify this activity by having the kids do simple arm stretches and arm curls together instead of rotating through stations.

ACTIVITY | Share the Love

Encourage the kids to pass the pillow and when the music stops, ask them to share the name of someone they love.

ACTIVITY | Care Bags

Instruct the kids to decorate the care bags with stickers. Also, if you leave out the supplies that go in the bags in an assembly line, the kids might enjoy putting them in the bags! Be sure to have them wash their hands before touching the items.





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THE BIBLE

The Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Commandments: Exodus 20:15-17

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Road Trip Jams!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Turn up your car radio. . . it's time to worship God on the go! Don't forget to put these on repeat!
 - <u>"Ten Commandment Boogie"</u>
 - <u>"Ten Commandments Song"</u>
 - <u>"Put God First"</u>

ACTIVITY | Rest Stop Challenge

- Guess what, everyone? We made it to the last week of our pretend road trip! Since we've been in our make believe car so long, it's time to get out and stretch our legs!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can do the exercises together as a large group or set up stations with leaders at each post to guide the kids through each one. Some of the exercises you can do are: jumping jacks, push-ups, arm curls, arm stretches, sprints, lunges, squats, sit-ups, etc.
 - **TODDLER HACK:** Simplify by having the younger kids do simple arm stretches and arm curls.

ACTIVITY | Love Road Signs

• Today, we'll talk about how important it is that we love all people everywhere. What does that mean to you, to love everyone?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out supplies, allowing the kids to make road signs that help them answer the statement: "Loving everyone means _____." Talk with them as they work and about how they answered the statement.
- There are so many great ways to love people!

TEACHING TIME

SCRIPTURE | Exodus 20:15-17

- We are nearing the end of our pretend road trip to discover ten rules God has given us to keep us safe. These rules are called the Ten Commandments.
- So far, we talked about seven of them:
 - God first.
 - No idols. Worship God only.
 - Respect God's name.
 - Worship and rest on God's day.
 - Honor your parents.
 - Don't hurt others.
 - Keep the promises you make.
- Let's take a look at the remaining three commandments!
- INSTRUCTIONS: Read Exodus 20:15-17 aloud from a preschool-friendly Bible.
- These commandments are all about living happily with others and loving them. God wants us to love people. **Do you want to know how?**
- We show love by respecting people's things and not taking things that belong to someone else.
- We can show love by always telling the truth.
- We can show love by being happy for someone when they get something good instead of being jealous and wanting it for ourselves.
- Because we love God, we have to try to love the people God loves, too! It's a good thing God gives us these examples of things to do and not to do as ways to show our love to others!
 We obey God by loving everyone.

THE BIG IDEA | We obey God by loving everyone.

- Oh, my goodness! My bag is so heavy. I must have collected a lot of souvenirs from this pretend road trip. Wanna help me unpack my bag?
- INSTRUCTIONS: Prepare today's road sign. Then, take all the Big Idea road signs from the previous weeks and stuff them into your bag, with week one on top and week four on the bottom. Then, take them out one by one, and review all the Big Ideas from this series.
- And finally, we have one more Big Idea to discover together: We obey God by loving everyone.

VIDEO | Road Trip, Episode 4

• INSTRUCTIONS: Play this week's preschool teaching video.

ACTIVITY | A Traffic Jam

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** As you tell the following story, slowly place toy cars on the ground, back-to-back, each time Travis lies, steals, or covets. Then ask kids what Travis should do to fix his situation, and start reversing the cars out of the "jam."
- There once was this kid named Travis. One day, as he was walking out of school, he found this really cool toy on the ground that he's always wanted.
- He knew he should take it to the lost-and-found, but he really, really wanted it. [Place a car.]
- And it looked brand new. So he picked it up and put it in his backpack. [Place a car.]
- As soon as he got home, he showed his little brother the cool toy. When his brother asked where he got it, he told him, he said someone gave it to him. [Place a car.]
- His little brother told his parents, and his parents asked Travis who had given it to him. So Travis said it was their neighbor, Dee. [*Place a car.*]
- Travis' parents say they should go to Dee's house to make sure that it's okay that Dee gave away such a nice toy. Travis tries to convince his parents that they know about it already and they don't need to ask. [Place a car.]
- Travis then calls Dee and asks her to say that she gave him the toy. [Place a car.]
- Then one of Travis' classmates, Young, calls Travis' house and asks if Travis saw a toy he lost today the exact same one Travis brought home.
- Oh no. Travis is in quite the traffic jam!
- What can Travis do to make things right?

PRAYER

• Dear God, Help us to love others enough to respect their things, to tell the truth, and be happy for the good things they have. Teach us each day to show our love for You through our love for others.

DISCUSSION TIME

SNACK | Love Cookies

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a heart-shaped cookie.
- Do you remember any of the commandments we've talked about?
- Why did God give us ten commandments to follow?
- What makes it hard to follow rules sometimes?
- God gives us rules to keep us safe, and we obey God by following those rules. And one of the best rules of all? **We obey God by loving everyone.**

ACTIVITY | Share the Love

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Seat the kids in a circle. Explain that you are going to play some music as they pass the heart pillow. As they pass the pillow, tell them to imagine they're passing love to each other. When the music stops, the kid holding the pillow has to say today's Big Idea. Continue to play as time allows.

- **TODDLER HACK:** Tell the younger kids to pass the pillow, and when the music stops, ask them to share the name of someone they love.
- Today, we talked about three ways we can show love to others. Can you tell me what they are?
- How can we respect what belongs to others?
- Why is it important to tell the truth?
- When is a time you've been happy for someone else?

ACTIVITY | Care Bags

- Today, we've talked a lot about love and how we obey God by loving everyone. Let's take a few minutes to prepare a care bag for someone God wants us to show love to. That way, they have a little love to take along with them!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask the kids to prepare notes and bags of treats for someone in need of love. The bags can be distributed to your pastor/church leader, elderly congregants, nursing home residents, the homeless, neighbors, etc. You choose!
 - **TODDLER HACK:** Encourage the younger kids to decorate bags with stickers.
- Why do you think God wants us to love everyone?
- What makes it hard to show love sometimes?
- Who is someone you can show love to?

MEMORY VERSE | Love Bug!

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Hide a bunch of cut-out VW bugs, each with the memory verse printed on it, around the room. Anytime a kid spots one, they have to grab it, and yell, "Love bug!" When all the bugs are found — make sure each kid has one — say the verse together.

PLAY TIME

While you're waiting for parents to pick up their kids .

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute this week's coloring page along with some crayons or markers. Review today's Bible story and Big Idea as they color.

ACTIVITY | Bubbling Over

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Blow bubbles and encourage the kids to try and pop them.
- Let's celebrate loving everyone by having a bubble popping party!

ACTIVITY | Heart Hunt

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Place foam hearts of different sizes into a bin filled with shredded paper and tell the kids to try to find as many as they can.
- Let's try to find all of the hearts hidden in this bin! These hearts remind us that we can show love to others.

Encourage your preschoolers to help clean up the room while they wait for their parents.