

Student Make Up Work

November 29, 2023- Lesson “Best Possible Light/Defend Truth”

Parents this make-up work should be done together with you and your student. There will be questions to discuss verbally and question to answer in written format. Please sign the bottom of the sheet and return to the worship note drop off box.

Main Idea: Words matter. God wants our words to protect and preserve truth and to be used in respect and care for our neighbor.

Question: How do we honor and respect one another, starting with those closest to us?

✚ SHARE:

Invite each other to share one high (good thing from the week) and one low (harder part of the week).

✚ READ:

Read Genesis 1 the first three words of each of these verses:

Verses 3, 6, 9, 14, 20, and 24

What are the first three words in each of these verses?

Words have power! Note the power of words in this reading-all creation came into being because “God said.” Words can be used to create good, to encourage, to build-up, to inspire, and to care.

Words can also be dangerous and destructive!

Read James 3:3-10

Read Psalm 141:3-4

We need God’s help to guide our thoughts, guide our tongues in honor of God and our neighbor. These verses can be a prayer we use to ask God to help us speak with intention and love.

Read the 8th Commandment in your Small Catechism.

Read Ephesians 4:25-5:2

✚ TALK:

Think about a tube of toothpaste. If you squeezed it out onto a plate and it would be hard to get that toothpaste back into the tube. This is like our words, sometimes once they are said, they are hard to take back. This commandment invites us to live a life where we realize our words matter. They can hurt and they can encourage. We are invited to let our words reflect God’s love through all we say.

Which two relationships do the Ten Commandments address:

_____ and _____

Look at the 8th commandment in your Small Catechism.

What does this commandment have to do with our neighbor?

What does it mean to “bear false witness”? Give two examples of this.

What does this commandment tell us we should do with our words and perspectives in terms of our neighbor?

Discuss with your parents

- Luther says to “Interpret everything our neighbor does in the best possible light.”
- What does that mean for you?
- How easy is it to do?

Write an example of interpreting your neighbor’s actions/behavior in the best possible light.

From the Ephesians 4:25-5:2 text that you read, name three ways of how should we live in terms of our words and actions?

✚ PRAY

Find a quiet place to sit quietly or lie down. You might consider lighting a candle. You might also record yourself reading this prayer on your phone. Once you find a place to sit or rest quietly, read the following or play the recording.

Inhale deeply and whisper, “Spirit fill me.”
Exhale whispering, “Spirit cleanse me.”

Think to yourself of a time when someone told a lie about you and spread an ugly rumor. What did that individual take from you by spreading that lie? What did you lose? Now think of a time when you told a lie about someone. What did you take from that person by lying? Why did you do it?

Inhale deeply and whisper, "Spirit fill me."
Exhale whispering, "Spirit cleanse me."

Dear God,

When we think of these things, we can feel robbed and lied about. You do not want us to ever have to feel like this again, but in reality, we likely will. Not many people think much about this commandment that You have given to us. We will likely face this disappointment and pain many times in our lives. God, it hurts to be smeared. It hurts to be lied to and lied about. Please help us think twice the next time we start to do the same to anyone else because Lord, we know how it feels. Help us to prevent others from feeling this way because of something we have said or done. Take control of what we say, O Lord, and guard our lips. Give us the integrity to always speak in ways that we would if the other person was standing in front of us. Show us the ways that protect and defend our neighbor and our relationships with them. We want to honor and love you so that we can be YOUR LOVE in the world instead of being an obstacle to your love in the world. Thank you for guiding and leading us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Inhale deeply and whisper, "Spirit fill me."
Exhale whispering, "Spirit cleanse me."

✚ BLESS

Close with sharing a blessing with one another. Make a sign of the cross on the person's forehead or hand. Say, "May you know God is with you this week!"

Signature of Student/Date:

Signature of Parent/Date:
