Unit 1: Disobedience in the Bible

Lesson 2: The Israelite’s Disobedience (Exodus 20:3-17, 24:7, 32)

4th grade or Juniors

Performance Objectives:
1. The student will be able to recite the first 5 Commandments in less than 5 minutes.
2. The student will be able to sing “Obedience” without the visual.


Opening Activities:
Prayer
Sing “Obedience”
Teach the 10 Commandments with hand motions.
1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.
3. Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD they God in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
5. Honor thy father and they mother.
6. Thou shalt not kill.
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
8. Thou shalt not steal
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against they neighbor
10. Thou shalt not covet.

Sequence of Activities:
A. Review and Motivation: Ask questions from last week about Adam and Eve
B. God called Moses up to the top of Mt. Sinai so God could give Moses the 10 commandments and other things that the children of Israel were supposed to do. He stayed on the mountain for 40 days and 40 nights. Before Moses left the Israelites had made a promise. “All that the LORD hath said will we do, and be obedient.” The children of Israel did not know how long Moses was going to be on the mountain, so they began to grow impatient. Moses had left Aaron in charge, so the people came to him and said, “Make us gods, which shall go before us: for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.”

Aaron told the Israelites to break off the golden earrings that they received from the Egyptians and give them to him. He took all the gold that was given and made it into a golden calf. The people began to worship this calf that Aaron had made. They even offered burnt offerings to the calf. They were only supposed offer burnt offerings to God! Do you remember the first two commandments? “Thou shalt have no other gods before me” and “Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image”

But God knew what they were doing. Last week, I told you that God is omnipresent, which means He is everywhere at the same time, and He is omniscient, which means He knows everything. God told Moses that the children of Israel had “turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have
sacrificed thereunto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

Moses comes down from Mt. Sinai and sees for himself what the Israelites have done. In his hands were two tables of stone with the words of God written on them. Moses became so angry that he threw the tables on the ground and broke them. He took the calf that Aaron had made and burned it in the fire. Then he took the remains and ground it into powder. Moses added the powder to the Israelites’ drinking water and made them drink the mixture.

This account of the Israelites’ disobedience is similar to Adam and Eve’s. Just like when Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed the serpent, Aaron blamed the people when Moses asked him why he had done such a horrible thing.

C. I cannot overemphasize the fact that sin has consequences. The Israelites were made to drink their “god”. Later on, Moses asked the people, “Who is on the LORD’s side?” Those who did not follow Moses were put to death, and the Bible says that 3,000 men died that day. Now, the punishment you get when you disobey is a spanking, but you must remember that God hates sin.

D. Review the first 5 Commandments again.

E. Application: Worksheet reemphasizing the 10 Commandments, review game covering both this week’s and last week’s lesson.

_Evaluation:_ The students should be able to recite the first 5 Commandments with the hand motions in less than 5 minutes. The worksheet will reinforce what has been learned. Sing “Obedience” one more time with the visual, then put it away and sing it again. Observe (have class helpers observe as well) the students as they sing to see whether or not they know the words.