

Summary: SDA Fundamental 19: God's Laws

Read Before:

Aim: We try to obey God's laws because we love God, not because we think they will save us. God's law tell us how we should live, how we should treat other people.

The first activity is from "What We Believe for Kids" J. D. Thomas

Have a bag containing common items such as scissors, knife, pills, cleaning products, ball, Bible, keys etc. Each person takes an item and tells a rule about it and why.

Why do we need rules and laws? (To keep us safe, to stop us from hurting others)

Rules and laws are supposed to help us have a happy and safe life. We said last week that the Bible was the instruction manual for living; well the laws in the Bible are there for the same reason – God wants us to be happy too.

The 10 commandments are God's special laws, and they can be summed up by Luke 10:27 – read it.

What does Luke 10:27 mean?

Sometimes people forget why they are trying to obey God's laws; they think – "If I don't do everything just right I won't be able to go to heaven" and you know what? They won't be able to do everything right, and sometimes they get too discouraged to try anymore.

But does keeping the law help us get to heaven?

Read Ephesians 2:8-9

It is not the good things that we do that gets us to heaven. If we want to go to heaven we:

- Ask: Jesus to forgive and take away our sins – 1 John 1:9
- Ask: God to send His Holy Spirit to be in us. Another way of saying this is "Jesus lives in my heart"
- Believe: that Jesus came to save us – John 3:16 (Note: if we are having trouble believing we can even ask Jesus to help us believe just like a father did who wanted Jesus to heal his son in Matthew 9:24)
- Thank God for doing this. Jesus did this when He raised Lazarus to life in John 11:41.

So the good or bad things that we do don't save us. But that doesn't mean that we should stop trying to do good things.

What does John 14:15 say?

If you love God you will want to obey Him – it won't always be easy, sometimes you will fail. But God promises that He will forgive us when we ask (Read 1 John 1:9 if you didn't before) – and we can always ask God to be with us and to help us do the right thing.

If there is time read the story "Your Traffic Lights" from Uncle Arthur's Bedtime Stories Volume 6 Page 53