

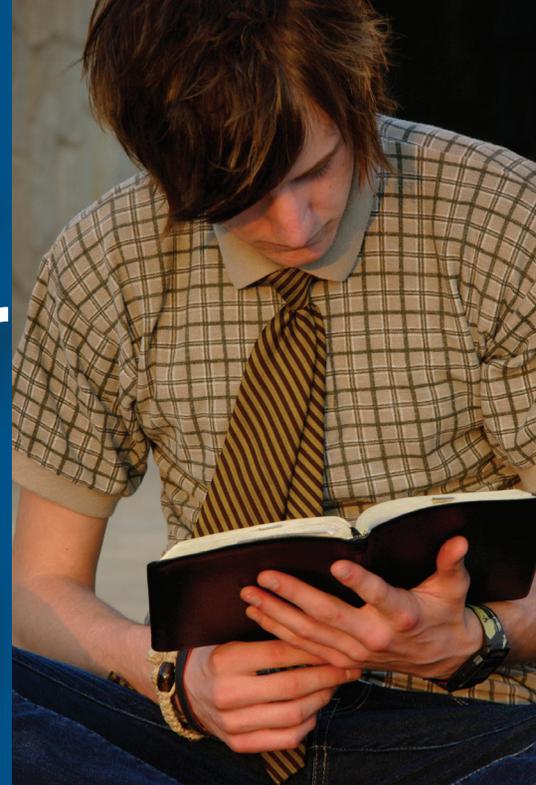


KID for Teens: Leader's Guide

Mirror, mirror

It feels so good to put on a snowy white shirt, sleep between immaculate white sheets, or sit down to a three course meal at a table covered in starched white linen. We don't feel so good if there is a grass-stain on our shirt, ink on our sheets or tomato juice on our tablecloth. We like things to be perfect. So does God. The wonderful thing is that he has created the perfect solution for removing all of our stains.

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Before you start:

1. Prayerfully read through the whole lesson at least twice.
2. Gather all the materials you need for each section (see right).
3. Work with another team member and plan who will manage each section of the session.

Leadership Personal Preparation:

Living a pure life is a challenge, especially for today's teens and young people. On a scale of 0-10, where 10 is totally pure, how pure would you say your life is? The good news is that Jesus has died to take away every impurity in our lives, so we can feel clean, white and fresh again. What areas of impurity have you struggled with in the past, and how has God helped you to become more like him? If the Holy Spirit invites you to do so, be willing to share something of your experiences during the welcome or conclusion. Otherwise use the inspiration of your personal experience to fill you with enthusiasm for today's session.

You will need:

- Marker pens/felt pens

Introduction:

- A large, safe mirror that has been thinly smeared with greasy fingers and food like mashed bananas and cooked oatmeal and left to dry out

- Paper towel
- Bowl of warm water
- Different glass cleaners

Icebreaker:

- Sheets of plain paper – 1 per person
- Scissors - 1 per 1-2 people

Mission Possible:

- A stack of newspapers
- Scissors - 1 per group
- Glue sticks
- Large sheets of blank paper

Word Search:

- Copies of Word Search studies - 1 study per person

Family Focus Time:

- Cups and pure water or pure juice
- Family Discussion Cards - 1 card per family

Praying Together:

- One hand mirror or mirror tile per family
- Vaseline or other thick skin cream
- Wipes, paper and glass cleaner

Jesus and Me (JAM) Session:

- CD player and CD of soft worship music
- One set of 'Jesus and Me' Journal Pages per participant

Take-away Menu (optional):

- Heart shapes cut from white card

By the end of the session, the group members will:

- Know that God can make us feel clean and white again, whatever we have done.
- Feel a desire to live a pure life that reflects God's character so that others will understand more about who God really is.
- Respond by asking God to help them live pure lives that reflect his character.



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KIDS IN DISCIPLESHIP
Trans-European Division



20 KID for Teens: Leaders Guide: Mirror, mirror



Welcome and Prayer – 5 mins

Say:

“ It feels so good to put on a snowy white shirt, or sleep between immaculate white sheets, or sit down to a three course meal at a table covered in starched white linen. We don't feel so good if there is a grass-stain on our shirt, ink on our sheets, or tomato juice on our tablecloth. We like things to be perfect. So does God. The wonderful thing is that he has created the perfect solution for removing all of our stains. ”

Introduction - 8 mins

You will need:

1. A large, safe mirror prepared according to the directions given in the 'You will need' section on page 1.
 2. Paper towel
 3. Bowl of warm water
 4. Different glass cleaners
- Hold the mirror with its back to the group so that they can't see how dirty it is. Then invite someone to come and look at themselves in the dirty mirror.
 - Let the group see the person's reaction to looking in the mirror, then turn the mirror around so everyone can see how dirty it is.
 - Ask the group to think about how frustrating it is to try and see yourself properly in a dirty, smeary mirror.
 - Then lay the mirror face up on a table, for safety, and invite some people to come and clean the mirror using water, kitchen towel and other glass cleaners.

Ask: 'How different does it feel to look into a clear mirror?'

Say: 'God needs us to reflect his pure character as perfectly as possible in an impure world, so that people understand who he really is and what he is really like.'

Icebreaker - 8 mins

You will need:

1. Sheets of plain paper - 1 per person
 2. Scissors - 1 per 1-2 people
 3. Marker pens/felt pens
- Ask each person to take a piece of paper and cut it carefully into any shape they like.
 - Wait until everyone has cut out their shape.
 - Then ask them to swap their shape with someone else's in the group.
 - Ask them to make a mark on the shape they have been given by either scribbling on it with a pen, tearing it a little, crumpling it, or by making a hole in it. But they must not destroy it or write any words on it.
 - Allow five minutes for the shapes to be passed around the group and then ask everyone to lay their shapes on the table.
 - Then let each person find their own shape, take it off the table and see how it has been changed.

Ask: 'How has your shape changed by being passed around the group? You created a perfect, purewhite shape. How do you feel about getting a messy shape back? Your shape has been transformed, but not in a good way. It has been defaced and vandalised. What would it take to change it back and make it perfectly pure and white again? Could you fix it on your own?'





20 KID for Teens: Leaders Guide: Mirror, mirror



Mission Possible - Exploring brokenness - 15 mins

You will need:

1. A stack of newspapers
2. Scissors – 1 per 3-4 people
3. Glue sticks
4. Marker pens/Felt pens
5. Large sheets of blank paper

Say: ‘The Ten Commandments are like a mirror that helps us to live in ways that reflect the character of God.’

- Read the Ten Commandments and work as a group to write a positive (‘do’ rather than ‘do not’) command for each of the commandments – e.g. ‘Do not commit adultery’ could become ‘Keep sexual relationships inside marriage.’ ‘Do not murder’ could become ‘Protect people from harm’, etc.
- Ask everyone to form groups of 3-4 people.
- Give each group a newspaper, 1 pair of scissors, a glue stick and 2 large sheets of paper.
- Allow the groups 7 minutes to cut out 1 or 2 newspaper stories that illustrate what happens when humans break one or more of God’s Ten Commandments and misrepresent God’s pure character.
- Ask them to stick each story onto a blank sheet of paper.
- Then ask them to write around the edge of the blank paper, which of the Ten Commandments have been broken in the story. Often there is more than one broken commandment (coveting and stealing), or a chain of broken commandments. Perhaps greed can also be seen as having other gods before God.

Mission Possible Feedback

Let each group present their newspaper article and the different ways in which the reflection of God’s character was damaged by the commandments that were broken in the story.

How do humans reflect God’s character by keeping his laws, or distort his image by breaking his laws?

Word Search – 25 mins

You will need:

1. Paper and pens
 2. Copies of Word Search studies - 1 study per person
- In small groups of 2-3 people discuss and fill out the Word Search sheet.
 - Ask them to share any fresh thoughts they have had about the Ten Commandments and their purpose for us.

Ask:

- ‘What difference does it make when we live out the Ten Commandments because our hearts have been transformed by God, rather than because we are ‘conforming’ to expectations or performing for others to see our good behaviour?’

Then ask:

- ‘What new things did you enjoy discovering in this Word Search?’
- ‘What was the most important lesson for you in this Word Search?’
- ‘What does this Word Search tell you about God’s love for you?’

Family Focus – 15 mins

You will need:

1. Drinks and cups - pure juice or pure water
 2. Family Discussion Cards
- Serve drinks.
 - Let everyone re-assemble into their family groups, collecting a drink on the way.
 - Give each family a discussion card.





20 KID for Teens: Leaders Guide: Mirror, mirror



Praying together - 10 mins

You will need:

1. One hand mirror or mirror tile per family
 2. Vaseline or other thick skin cream
 3. Wipes, paper and glass cleaner
- Give each family a mirror smeared with Vaseline or thick cream and the materials to make it clean again.
 - Ask the family to mark their mirror into sections so that there is one section per person.
 - During the prayer time the mirror is passed from person to person.
 - Each person prays silently that God will help them reflect his loving character by transforming the attitudes of their heart.
 - When they have finished praying, they clean their section of the mirror as a symbol of their desire to reflect the loving character of God in a more perfect way.

Take-Away Menu (optional)

You will need:

1. Heart shapes cut from white card
 2. Pens
 3. And/or small mirrors or mirror tiles
- Give each person a small, heart-shaped piece of white card.
 - Let them think about one thing they have learned from the study today that will help them to reflect God's character in a purer way.
 - Ask them to write this message on the back of their card to take away.
 - You could also give them a small piece of mirror to take away as a reminder to be pure reflectors of God's character.

Closing Prayer

JAM Session (Jesus and Me) – 5 mins

You will need:

1. CD player and CD of soft worship music
 2. One set of 'Jesus and Me' Journal Pages per participant
- Give out the 'Jesus and Me' journal pages for this week.
 - Allow at least five minutes for people to make a start on their pages so that they will be encouraged to complete their projects during the week ahead.





20 KID for Teens: Handout: Mirror, mirror Word Search - Total White Out!



Transformers

God gave his people the Ten Commandments as a simple outline picture of his character. They are also intended to be guides that help us to live out our lives in ways that reflect a picture of him as a loving God. He wants to write these commands on our hearts because he doesn't just want us to live perfectly - he wants us to love perfectly. He wants our behaviour to flow freely, naturally and transparently from our pure intention to love him and to love others.

On the left-hand side of the table below is a list of the Ten Commandments. On the right-hand side is a list of texts showing attitudes that can change our thinking and our behaviour. Instead of being conformers to the law, or performers of the law, these attitudes are transformers that transform us into perfectly loving people that reflect God's perfectly loving character.

Read the texts on the right-hand side and discover how God wants to help you to be transformed from the inside out.

<i>Laws written on the stone - Exodus 20</i>	<i>Attitudes written on the heart</i>
<i>You shall have no other gods before me.</i>	Deuteronomy 6:4-9
<i>You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them.</i>	Deuteronomy 6:4-9
<i>You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.</i>	Psalm 148:13
<i>Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work.</i>	Isaiah 58:13-14
<i>Honour your father and mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.</i>	Ephesians 6:1-3
<i>You shall not murder.</i>	Matthew 5:21-22
<i>You shall not commit adultery.</i>	Matthew 5:27-30
<i>You shall not steal.</i>	Titus 2:9-10
<i>You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour.</i>	Colossians 3:9-10
<i>You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or his donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.</i>	Romans 13:9-10



KID for Teens: Handout: Mirror, mirror: Word Search - Total White-out! ii



Read Matthew 22:36-40

Compare these verses with the discoveries you made as you filled out the table on the previous page.

What thoughts do you have about these verses?



LESSON 20 -

FAMILY DISCUSSION CARD

One aspect of God's character that I would like to reflect more purely in my life is....

A time when I glimpsed something of God's pure character reflected in another person's life was...

I am really glad that God's character is pure because...

God needs me to be a reflector of his character because...

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God needs me to be a reflector of his character because...



20 Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 20: Mirror, mirror: Acting Positively



Choose your favourite Bible version and write the Ten Commandments in the left hand column. Rewrite them in your own words as positive commandments (what to do rather than what not to do) in the right hand column. You did this as a group during the session, but this time you can write them in the way that you find most helpful. For example instead of 'You shall not murder': 'You will protect life and be gentle with each other.'

Ten COMMANDMENTS	Positive COMMANDMENT





Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 20

Mirror, mirror: Pure Potential



Living purely is not just about not sinning.

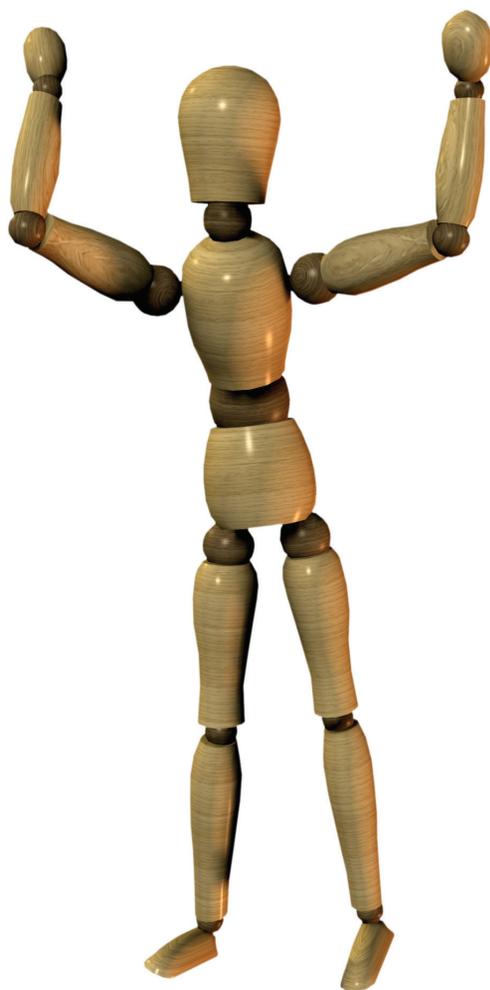
Living purely is about protecting our lives, minds and hearts by actively avoiding temptation. Living purely is about choosing to live in ways that reflect God's loving character. What changes would you like God to help you make in your life?

Draw a picture of yourself on the next page, and then think about the following questions:

Mind: what does your mind need to focus on so that your thoughts about other people will be loving and forgiving?

Heart: what changes need to be made to your heart so that you can love people the way God loves them?

Feet: where do your feet need to take you so that you can show God's love where it needs to be felt?



Hands: what do your hands need to do to show God's love to others?

Eyes: what do you need to do so that you can see people through loving eyes, the way God sees them?

Mouth: what does your mouth need to be saying so that it can express God's love to those around you?

Pray and ask God to transform you in every area of your life so that your character can become more like his.



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Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 20 Mirror, mirror: Pure Potential



My Picture





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Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 20 Mirror, mirror: Acting from a pure heart



What really motivates you to obey God?

Think hard about some of the different things that may be motivating you and read the texts to find out more...

I want my character to reflect God's perfect character

- 2 Corinthians 3:16-18
- Ephesians 4:17 - 5:20
- Colossians 3:12-17
- Matthew 5:1 - 7:28

Other motivation
(find a Bible verse to help)

I want to impress others
- Matthew 6:16-18

I want to please those
in charge
- Colossians 1:9-14

I want to show God's love
to others
- 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

I am afraid of being
punished
- 1 John 4:16-18

I want to do everything right so
I will be able to go to heaven.
- Ephesians 2:9-10



20 Jesus and Me: Journal Lesson 20

Mirror, mirror: What helps me stay pure?



Pure collection

- Make a collection of things that are all pure in some way.
- How do they remind you of what it means to be really pure?

Pure verses

- Make a list or write in a notebook, Bible verses that remind you how to reflect God's character.

Pure water

- Pour a glass of water and then add one small drop of food colouring. Stir the water.
- Even though you added only a tiny drop, all the water is now contaminated.
- What if you added something nasty, however small? Would you still want to drink the water?
- What does this help you to understand about purity?

Purification

- Make a pile of your own things that prevent you from being or feeling clean and pure in some way.
- What would you like to do with these things? How can you get rid of them in a way that will protect other people from using them and feeling bad, too?
- Pray that God will help you to keep your actions, thoughts and words clean and pure.

