

7

TEACHING THE ELEVEN COMMANDMENTS
REAL LOVE, REAL BOUNDARIES

look back

First, **LOOK BACK** at the past week by asking, "How did we do?" Begin with prayer, then check in with one another—sharing honestly, celebrating victories, acknowledging struggles, and graciously offering practical help.

PRAYER - Begin with prayer, inviting Jesus into the conversation.

Then discuss last week's assignment:

- Were you able to talk with a grandchild or NextGen loved one about how our words can give life?
- What did they identify as a practical way to encourage or care for someone else?
- What did you discover about how your own words and actions either build others up or tear them down?

look up

Next, **LOOK UP** to God's Word by asking, "What does Jesus want us to know?" If you haven't already, watch this week's video: *"Real Love, Real Boundaries."* Then use the summary, questions, and Scriptures below to draw out the main truths together.

WATCH: Episode 7: Real Love, Real Boundaries

Episode Summary

The Seventh Commandment, "You shall not commit adultery," is not simply a restriction on human sexuality. God created sex as a good and joyful gift and established marriage as the safe place for that gift to flourish. Scripture presents an order of commitment, covenant, and consummation, while our culture often reverses that order.

Rather than focusing primarily on everything that violates God's design, grandparents can give NextGens a compelling picture of the real thing: faithful, lifelong love within marriage. When we teach that design positively, model it faithfully, and speak truth with compassion, we help the generations behind us understand that God's boundaries are ultimately intended for our good.

HOW TO USE THESE RESOURCES

Whether you're studying on your own or with a group, each guide follows a simple yet powerful rhythm: **Look Back / Look Up / Look Forward.** For group leaders, additional instructions for leading a small group are included at the end of the first workbook in each series.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

God's commandments give us a moral compass for navigating a world where truth and values are increasingly up for grabs. This eleven-part series explores the Ten Commandments and Jesus' "new commandment" to love one another as He has loved us. More than a list of restrictions, God's commands reveal His character, show us our need for Jesus, and guide us in passing on His legacy of love to the next generations.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. How does seeing God as the creator of sex change the way we talk about the Seventh Commandment?
2. Why are boundaries necessary for love and sexuality to flourish rather than become destructive?
3. What does the sequence of commitment, covenant, and consummation teach us about God's design for marriage?
4. Why might presenting a positive picture of biblical marriage be more effective than concentrating primarily on sexual sin?
5. What are the NextGens in your life learning about love, marriage, and sexuality from the relationships they observe, including yours?

The best way to teach them how to spot counterfeit love is to teach them God's design for marriage.

Episode Notes

1. God created sex as something good.

- Sex is a joyful expression of love within the boundaries God established.
- Those boundaries are designed to protect love, not diminish it.

2. God established a design for marriage.

- Genesis describes marriage between a man and a woman.
- God's order is **commitment, covenant, then consummation.**

3. Know the real thing.

- The best way to recognize counterfeit love is to know God's design.
- Teach the beauty of marriage and sexuality, not merely what is forbidden.

4. Biblical principles are caught as well as taught.

- NextGens need to see healthy relationships modeled by the adults around them.
- Begin age-appropriate conversations before the culture defines these issues for them.

5. Speak truth with compassion.

- Biblical conviction should never become an excuse for judgmentalism.
- Help NextGens understand the goodness behind God's boundaries.

WHAT DOES GOD'S WORD SAY?

KEY SCRIPTURE

Genesis 2:24 - "That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh." Jesus pointed to Genesis to explain God's design for marriage. If that approach was good enough for Jesus, it should be good enough for us.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE

Matthew 19:6 - "So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." Jesus affirms marriage as a covenant intended for faithful, lifelong union. Teaching the Seventh Commandment means helping our grandchildren understand not merely what adultery violates, but the beautiful and enduring relationship God intends marriage to be.

look forward

Finally, **LOOK FORWARD** by asking, "What does Jesus want us to do?" Commit to practical steps for living out this week's lesson. Review the assignment, share commitments with the group, pray for one another, and move forward together in faith and hope.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

Exodus 20:14
Matthew 5:27–28
1 Peter 5:8
John 10:10

THIS EPISODE'S ASSIGNMENT

This week, help a grandchild or NextGen loved one see the goodness of God's design for love and marriage. Dialogue about what makes a marriage strong and lasting. Listen, then explain commitment, covenant, and consummation in an age-appropriate way.

Discuss why God designed sexual intimacy for a faithful marriage covenant. If appropriate, share honestly how these principles have worked in your own life.

If married, reflect on how you might better align your own relationship to biblical principles.

PERSONAL GROWTH COMMITMENTS



- What has God laid on my heart?
- What is the Holy Spirit leading me to change?
- What will I do in my own life, in my relationships, and to reach NextGen loved ones?

SHARE WITH THE GROUP



Encourage sharing commitments, prayer needs, and real-life stories. Close in prayer, asking God to help you model and teach His good design for love and marriage.