

Commitment means making a plan and putting it into practice.

WEEK
5
1ST

Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

DAY

1

Live Loud

What is your favorite song? Sing it as loud as you can! That was fun! So, we know that singing loud to God is a way to worship, but did you know that you can live loud too? Living loud means that you live your life in a way that points others to Jesus. Grab five index cards and on each card draw a picture or write one way that you can LIVE LOUD this week and do it!

Ask God to help you LIVE LOUD this week!

DAY

2

Honor and Show Love

Have you ever thought that it would take practice to live for God? Trying to include God in every part of your day takes practice! It won't become a habit overnight but that's why we have to practice living for God.

Circle the correct response below that would be honoring to God: I could copy my friend's homework. OR Do the work myself like I'm supposed to. / My friend didn't get me anything for my birthday. Get revenge by giving her nothing. OR Forgive and get her a gift.

Remember to honor God and show love to others.

DAY

3

I Spy

When we live for God, we need to show love to others. We have to be on the lookout for opportunities to show others love. Ask an adult to help you find two empty toilet paper rolls and a piece of string or yarn. Tape the toilet paper rolls together to create binoculars. We are going to use our binoculars to look for ways to show love to others! Maybe you see toys that need to be put away or a pet that needs to be fed. Keep your binoculars around your neck and when you "spy" an opportunity to love this week, do it!

Look for ways to show love to others!

DAY

4

Love Is . . .

Part of living for God is loving others. Look up 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 and read it out loud. Take some time to talk through anything you have questions about or don't understand. Flip this page over and every time you see a blank where love was in the verse, replace it with your name because if love is patient, then you have to be patient too! If love is kind, then you have to be kind too! After you are finished, color the page and put it somewhere in your room as a reminder to LIVE LOUD and SHOW LOVE!

Dear God, Thank You for giving us an example of how to live loud, to honor You, and to show love to others! Help us this week to do just that!

Practice living for God.

PARENT CUE

Read Day 4 for instructions.

_____ is patient. _____ is kind.

It does not want what belongs to others. It does not brag.

It is not proud. It does not dishonor other people. It does not look out for its own

interests. It does not easily become angry. It does not keep track of other people's wrongs. _____ is not happy with evil. But it is full of joy when the truth is spoken.

It always protects. It always trusts. It always hopes.

It never gives up.

Commitment means making a plan and putting it into practice.



DAY 1

Read Ephesians 5:1-2

Fill in the blanks with your name below. Then read this verse aloud along with the blanks.

“_____, you are a child that God dearly loves.

So follow His example.

Lead a life of love, just as Christ did.

He loved you, _____.

He gave himself up for you.

He was a sweet-smelling offering and sacrifice to God.” Ephesians 5:1

(That last sentence might seem a bit confusing. It’s a reminder that Jesus took our place by taking the punishment for the wrong things we do when we died on the cross.

And He rose again so that we could have a relationship with God forever when we put our trust in Him.)

DAY 2

Read 1 Timothy 4:12

Name some things you cannot wait to do when you are older. Say them out loud or write them in the space below.

Maybe you’re thinking, man, I cannot wait to drive. I cannot wait to finish school! I cannot wait until I have my own refrigerator that I can fill up with my favorite ice cream that no one else eats except me!

While you might have to wait for the stuff you’ve listed above, there is one big thing you don’t have to wait for. When it comes to following God, you can start right now. You can set an example for others, even as an 8- or 9-year-old. You can choose to do the right thing, even when it’s hard. You can tell the truth. You can be kind even when the other person is unkind. You can listen and help. There are so many ways you can practice living for God, right now.

Ask God to help you today to make choices that honor Him. Remember that others (even those who are older) are watching your example as you practice living for God!

DAY 3

Read 1 Timothy 4:8

Set a timer for one minute. Complete the following tasks, resetting the timer for one minute for each one:

- Sit ups
- Squats
- Star jumps
- Push ups
- Jogging in place

Are you tired? What might happen if you kept doing that routine, day after day, week after week, increasing the time by one minute each week? Would you get stronger? Absolutely!

Today's verse reminds us that training the body has value but being godly is even better! We've been learning all month long that we can grow in our faith (and become godlier, more like Jesus) when **we practice hearing from God, praying to God, talking about God and living for God**. And when we live for God, it will make a difference right now and forever in heaven.

DAY 4

Read Mark 12:43-44

When is a little actually a lot?

Imagine standing with Jesus across from the spot where everyone dropped off their offering. You watch as several rich men drop in large sums with lots of showing off. Then a poor widow (a woman whose husband has died) walks up and quietly places two small coins in the box.

Who gave more? Which amount cost more?

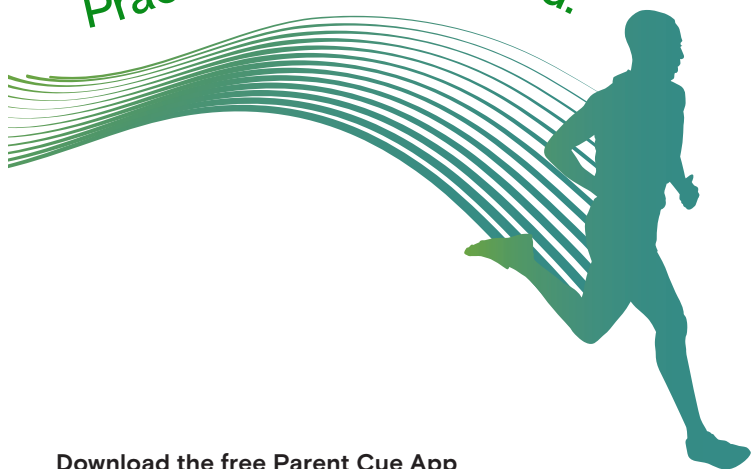
The widow, of course. Those two small coins cost the widow far more than the large amount the wealthy men gave. The rich men gave out of all their extra. They still had plenty leftover, so it wasn't a sacrifice for them. But this widow, by giving all she had, showed that she trusted God to take care of her.

You might not think you have that much to give. But you do. Because this isn't just about money. Every time you are generous, every time you share, every time you listen or go out of your way to help, you are living for God.

As you practice living for God this week, ask yourself: **Is this honoring God?**

Remember, every little choice you make to live for God, points others to know Him too!

Practice living for God.



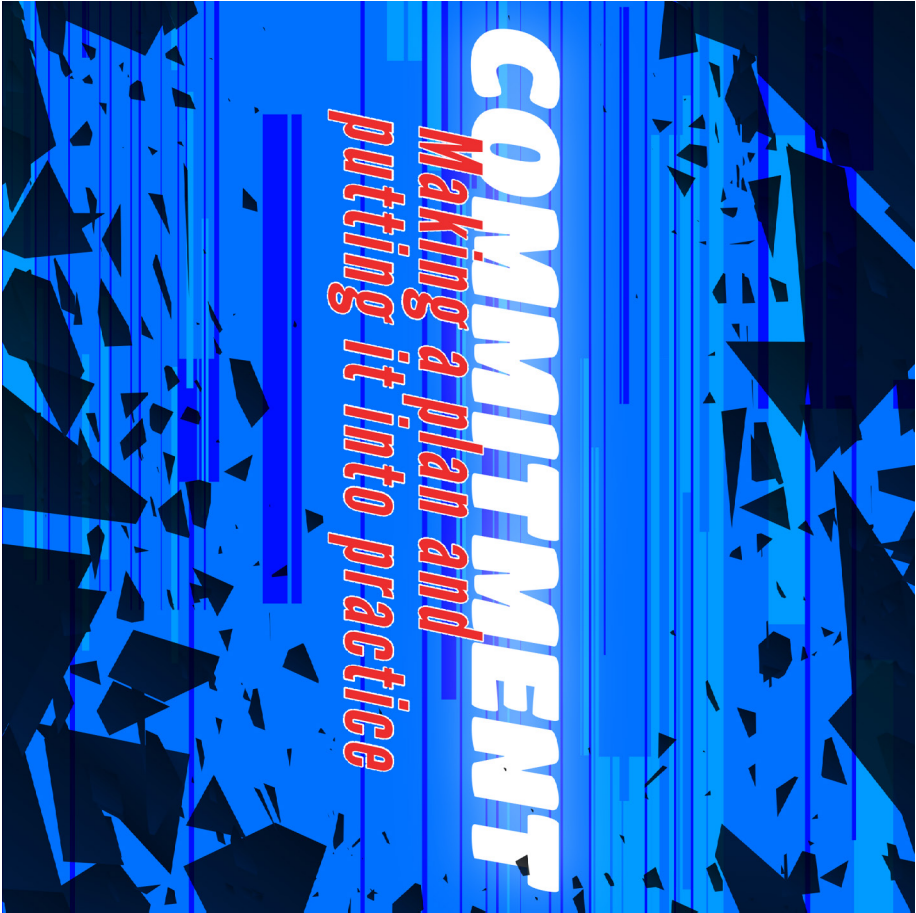
Journal

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.

How can you live for God?

4th-5th

Week 5



Day 1

Go to bit.ly/SundaysAtHomePretteen and watch this week's episode of The So & So Show.

➡ Click on Fun2Watch! then The So & So Show.

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that:

1. You liked: _____

2. You learned: _____

3. You'd like to know: _____



Day 2

Read Mark 12:41-44

As you read Mark 12:41-44, imagine that you are one of the disciples. If you saw people putting large amounts of money into the offering boxes, and one woman putting in only two copper coins, be honest: whose gift would you say was worth more?

Most of us would say the larger gifts were worth more, right? Jesus went on to explain to His followers that it wasn't what the woman gave that was important—it was what she kept for herself: nothing. This woman gave everything she had, because she was putting her trust in God. She was living for Him—total commitment.



Day 3

What is the nicest thing you own?

Or the talent you have that you're the proudest of? Or the friendship that means the most to you? Write your answer(s) in the first blank below.

Now, imagine yourself standing at the offering box and offering that thing, that talent, that relationship to God. This doesn't mean that you won't have it anymore, but just that you'll recognize that God has given you this gift to use for Him. Finish filling in the blanks in the prayer below, and then pray it out loud to tell God you're committing to live for Him.

“Dear God, thank You for the gift of _____, I know that you have given me this [item/talent/friendship], and I am very thankful. Help me to use this [item/talent/friendship] to show others your love. Please give me the strength to follow through and to continue practice living for You. **Amen.**

It is not easy to live out commitment like the poor woman did in Mark 12. It definitely takes practice. And thankfully, we're not doing it alone. Daily, ask God for help, and as you practice living for God, you'll find it gets easier to keep your mind focused on Him which will help you live for Him!

Day 4

Practice living for God.

There are so many ways to practice living for God. There may be some things that come more naturally for you, and other things that take a lot of practice. You may be a pretty patient person, but you struggle with being generous to others. Or maybe you have no trouble sharing, but you often lose your temper.

Sometimes it's hard for us to see our own blind spots—the places where we might need a little practice. That's why it's good we live in community. Your family, your close friends, even your small group leader or teacher can probably see an area where you could use a little extra practice. Today, you're going to do a little research to find out which area of your life you're like the poor widow, giving your all, and which area you could use a little more practice.

Find one person you really trust—someone who will be truthful with you, but also kind and loving. Then ask them these two questions:

- What is one way you see me living for God?
- What is one area you think I might need a little practice living for God?

As you process what your trusted friend shares with you, remember, we all need practice living for God each and every day. Just keep practicing, and you'll soon find it becomes more natural to live for God!



Day 5

How can you live for God?

Have you ever wondered what it means to really live for God? Thankfully, Jesus Himself told us exactly what it looks like:
Love God
Love others

That means anytime you have to make a decision about the wise thing to do, you just need to ask yourself this question: **“Does this show love to God and to others?”**

Grab a blank sheet of paper and write this out using creative lettering. Use markers, colored pencils, stickers, whatever you'd like, to make it fun. (If designing something on the computer and printing it is more your style, that works too!)

Now hang the question somewhere you will see it every single day. And maybe even write it in your school notebook and put another copy in your sports equipment bag or your backpack. If you ask yourself these questions, it will help keep your mind on God. It will help you think about how Jesus lived and loved others. It will help you **practice living for God.**