

# Lesson Plan for Lesson 26

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## Honoring God

### Preparation and Supplies

- Study chapter 26, “Honoring God,” in the handbook.

### Pray It! (5 minutes)

**Tell** the participants that class is going to begin with a prayer for avoiding false gods. **Direct** them to turn to the Pray It! “Avoiding False Gods,” on page 288 in the handbook. **Ask** four volunteers to read the “when I” statements in the second paragraph in the prayer. **Lead** the prayer by reading the first paragraph and the opening of the second paragraph. After the participants have read the “when I” statements, **close** with the rest of the prayer.

### Study It! (40 to 50 minutes, depending on your class length)

#### A. The First Commandment

1. **Ask** the participants to make a list of the things they own that represent false gods or that are superstitious in nature. **Invite** volunteers to share items on their list. **Write** their lists on the board.
2. **Direct** the participants to read the chapter introduction and the section “The First Commandment,” on pages 287–291 in the handbook. The content covers points 1 through 4 on the handout “Lesson 26 Summary” (Document #: TX003410).
3. **(Optional)** **Direct** the participants to the Reflect questions on pages 289 and 291 in the handbook and **lead** a discussion using them.

#### B. The Second Commandment

**Direct** the participants to read the section “The Second Commandment,” on pages 291–292 in the handbook. The content covers point 5 on the handout “Lesson 26 Summary.”

*Note:* If you are running short on time, you may wish to just briefly summarize this section of the handbook.

#### C. The Third Commandment: Origins of the Lord’s Day

1. **Direct** the participants to form two groups, one to be the “pro” side and the other to be the “con” side in a brief debate on whether Christians today truly observe the Lord’s Day. Give the groups some time to develop their arguments, and then have each group choose one person to speak for the group per round (you decide how many rounds to allow).



2. **Direct** the young people to read the sections “The Third Commandment: Origins of the Lord’s Day” and “Observing the Lord’s Day,” on pages 293–296 in the handbook. The content covers points 6 through 7 on the handout “Lesson 26 Summary.”
3. **(Optional) Direct** the participants to the Reflect questions on pages 294 and 296 in the handbook, and **lead** a discussion using them.

## Live It! (10 to 15 minutes)

1. **Ask** the participants to think about a typical day and to write down their schedule, detailing what they do at any given time during the day. **Tell** them to start when they wake up and to conclude when they go to bed at night.
2. After a few minutes, **ask** one or two participants to share a bit of their schedule with the rest of the class. Then **ask** each participant to do the following:
  - Add up the amount of time you spent doing different activities (watching television, eating, sleeping, going to school, and so forth).
  - Based on your typical schedule and the amount of time spent doing certain activities, list your top five priorities.
  - After you have listed your top five priorities, compare and contrast any similarities between your schedule and priorities with the list written on the board in the opening activity in section A.
  - In reviewing your schedule and priorities, consider whether your schedule and priorities on Sunday are different than on any other day.
3. **Share** the following comments in your own words:
  - The First Commandment is a summons—a call—for us to believe, to hope, and to love God above all else. It comes first because it is the basis for our life and happiness.
  - This Commandment also tells us that we must adore God, pray to God, and offer worship that belongs to God alone. Most of us cannot imagine worshipping idols, yet we may idolize the false gods of power, pleasure, popularity, or money. To idolize these things or anything else is idolatry, a sin against the First Commandment. It is making them more important in our life than God.
  - With its origins in the Jewish observance of the Sabbath, Sunday has become the day of rest for Christians. Sunday is also when Christians celebrate the day of Christ’s Resurrection, so Sunday is known as the Lord’s Day.
  - If God rested and was refreshed, we too ought to rest and encourage others to take a day of rest. We need to set aside time to pray and play. Time to worship our God and leisure time are fundamental human rights.

**Optional Activity:** Use the handout “Lord, This Is for You” (Document #: TX003411) to help the young people continue to reflect on how they make God a priority in their lives.



## Closing Prayer (5 minutes)

Following any announcements, **invite** the young people to offer a prayer of petition. **Tell** them that the response after each petition is, “God strengthen us.” If the group is shy or unsure of what you expect from them, begin the prayer yourself, or use the following prayer:

- God, for the times when I do not recognize your presence in my daily life, please grant me new eyes to see more clearly. We pray to the Lord.

