

# Sunday School Family Sheet: Do Not Murder

## Sunday, December 6, 2020

This sheet is for an adult member of the home to use as a guide for discussing the Sunday School Bible lesson with children.

**For this lesson:** You will need either:  
1) a Bible, or  
2) 365 Bible Stories and Prayers  
ISBN: 978-1-68052-407-9  
*(Call the church office 9715-848-7286 for help getting one)*

1. **Read and Talk.** Read aloud either Genesis 37:1-3 or pp. 44 in 365 Bible Stories and Prayers. Before reading aloud, explain the following: “Remember how Jacob hurt his family by tricking Isaac, his father? Well, because God is good, He still worked to bless Jacob and his family, and in time, Jacob had his own family. We’re going to start hearing about it in this story. Then ask the children to keep these questions in mind. **Then, *after reading*, go over the answers and guide them towards the answers here:**
  - a. How many sons did Jacob have? *(He had 12 sons!)*
  - b. What was the name of Jacob’s favorite son? *(His name was Joseph.)*
  - c. How did Jacob treat Joseph? *(He spoiled him.)*
  - d. How do you think Joseph’s brothers felt about this? *(They probably didn’t like it!)*
2. **Teach.** After you’ve talked a bit, share these or similar thoughts: Remember, God promised Jacob’s grandfather, Abraham, that his family would become big and bless the world. Here we see that promise start to happen: Jacob has 12 sons, a big family (he also had one daughter, Dinah)! But already we see that there are problems in Jacob’s family: he is treating one son, Joseph, better than the others.

This will make the other brothers feel *jealous*—that is, they will want what Joseph has, and they will get angry at him for being treated in such a special way. This *jealousy* can sometimes make people do bad things that hurt other people’s lives. God has a commandment that teaches us how we are to respect life: it says, “You shall not murder.” Do you know what murder is? *(pause for possible answers.)* Yes, it means to kill someone. God does not want us to kill people, but to treat them well and help them live happy and healthy lives. Do you think that Joseph’s brothers will listen to that command? We’ll find out next week!

3. **Pray.** Continue to teach the children to remember their Baptism by crossing themselves and saying, “In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Also, lead them in a prayer for life: “Dear God, who made everything: help us to respect life and serve You by helping others keep and improve their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen”