

Leader's Guide for
TO LIVE AS JESUS DID
The Wall

1. How would you sit and talk with friends on the wall?
2. You are an important person. What you say and do makes a big difference to people around you. List some ways you can make another person's day better.
3. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." This identification with the way others feel is one way we can use our consciences to work for us. Name an experience when you were able to do this.
4. When we are learning to use our consciences, peer pressure gets in the way a lot. Have students respond to the following scenarios:
When someone says...
 "This isn't gossiping. Whatever I say is true, I don't make things up."
 What do you say?
 "I don't mean to say anything unkind about her, but do you know...?"
 What do you say?
 "Yeah, when you talk about someone you feel good because you're not the one being talked about."
 What do you say?
 "Well, la de da, who does she think she is anyway?"
 What do you say?
 "I'll lose her as a friend if I don't tell her what I heard."
 What do you say?
5. Talk about misunderstandings that have come from spreading false rumors. Role play these situations. Discuss the meaning of slander.
6. Name and talk about the 8th Commandment (reminds us to speak the truth) and the 7th and 10th Commandments (speak of the value of every person, their privacy, reputation and trust of others). What are some positive things one could do to live out these commandments?
7. In making good choices, we want to look to what Jesus said and did as our guidelines. Think of words Jesus spoke or something that he did that would help you in choosing to speak kindly about others, say helping words and walk away from people who gossip.
8. Extend large newsprint across a wall. Design with confetti words of support and encouragement

for others. Write your favorite topic of conversation.

9. Have students complete the following:

With friends, I like to talk about...

When my friends talk unkindly about someone, I...

When I gossip about someone, I...

The reason people gossip is...

10. Engage students in a HELPING WORD CELEBRATION.

Place the names of all participants in a hat. Let each participant then choose a name from the hat.

Give each participant a small scroll on which to write the name of the person they have chosen and one good thing about them.

Form a circle with each participant holding the scroll they have written on.

READER ONE: Do not use harmful words but only helpful words. (Pause) Sometimes we use harmful words.

RESPONSE: Lord, forgive us.

READER TWO: Do not let anyone deceive you with foolish words. Have nothing at all to do with such people. (Pause) Sometimes we believe the false and foolish words of others.

RESPONSE: Lord, forgive us.

READER THREE: Let what you say do good to those who hear you. (Pause) Sometimes we hurt others with the words we say.

RESPONSE: Lord, forgive us.

PRESENTATION OF SCROLLS: In ceremony, read and present each scroll to the intended participant.

QUIET REFLECTION: Reflect on the goodness of each person. We should never hide the goodness in ourselves and in others through gossip or by hurting someone's good name.

COMMITMENT: In turn around the circle, invite participants to speak these words to the person to their right: "I will try to speak only helping words."

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For use with: *To Live as Jesus Did: The Wall* on VHS (K140A) and DVD (D1400)

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www.AmericanCatholic.org

Leader's Guide for
TO LIVE AS JESUS DID
The Kickball Game

1. Has anything like *The Kickball Game* ever happened to you? With whom do you identify in the story? Why?
2. Bad language cost these boys and girls a place to play. What rules would you make to help guide others in participating in this game in a more peaceful way?
3. For what reason do you think people use bad language? Have students rate the following statements from 1 to 5. 5 means you strongly agree
_____ “Bad language means you want to hurt the person who hears it.”
_____ “I feel real big when I use those cursing words.”
_____ “Cursing doesn’t make you feel good inside.”
_____ “They just use bad language to show off.”
_____ “People try to get your attention by cursing.”
_____ “Don’t be silly. It doesn’t matter. You can use the name of God in anger or in ridicule of others.”

Ask students to name their reasons for their agreement or disagreement with these statements.

4. The Second Commandment talks about not taking God’s name in vain. “In vain” means with disrespect. We should speak God’s name with respect. How do you help others show respect for God’s name?
5. Can you think of a person with “class”? Why are classy people careful about their language?
6. Heroes are important in forming our view of life. Who has been a good example for you? Who leads and helps you? Who have you helped?
7. How do you feel and how do you handle the situation when people use the name of Jesus in anger?
8. We want to STOP, LOOK and LISTEN and use our consciences in making good choices. List the helps we have for doing this.
9. If you had been present at *The Kickball Game*, how would you have reacted? Felt? What would you have done? How would you describe the feelings?
10. Engage the students in a GOOD WORDS CELEBRATION.

Write petitions for use with the Prayers of Petition. Have each student cut out a paper leaf and write a good word on it. Form a circle with the students. Place a bare tree branch in the center of

the circle. In turn, have each student place their "Good Word Leaf" on the tree.

READING ONE: Ephesians 4:31-32

READING TWO: Colossians 3:8

QUIET REFLECTION: Silently think of ways to live the message of these two readings.

PRAYERS OF PETITION:

Leader: You have given us, Lord, a beautiful gift of speech. We give you this tree of Good Words, a sign of thanksgiving for your gift. Just as you helped us learn to speak when we were younger, help us now to choose words that do not hurt or ridicule others. Our response will be: "Help us always use words that do not hurt."

In turn, each student speaks their petition....RESPONSE

Leader: May we never use your name carelessly but always in awe and respect. May we choose to use some of these good words....(Each student speaks the word he/she has placed on the tree). Together we pray: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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Leader's Guide for
TO LIVE AS JESUS DID
The Candy Store

1. “No one will ever know.” Have you ever said those words to yourself? Or, “I’m not getting involved. It’s none of my business.” Fold a sheet of paper in half. On the top, draw a picture of a situation in which you said one of those expressions. On the bottom half of the paper, draw a picture of yourself. Put a sign of the power you have to be a good, honest person.
2. Conscience is a gift from God that helps us to choose what is good. Recall and discuss the WHAT and WHO questions that we can ask ourselves when making a good decision. Have students offer more situations and dilemmas from home, school and in the community in which a choice is required. Apply the WHAT and WHO questions: *What* do I think I should do? *What* will happen if I don’t do this? *What* will happen if I do this? *Who* will get hurt if I do this?
3. There are consequences to every choice we make. Imagine a store owner saying to you, “That person who came in with you seemed like your friend. I think they just took something without paying for it. Can you tell me who it is?” What do you do? Do you say nothing? Do you tell the store owner? Do you talk to your friend who took the item? List other choice—then list the consequences of these choices.
4. Sometimes we need to talk to someone when deciding right from wrong. Have the students write down the following names: mom, dad, brother, sister, teacher, adult, priest, friend. Next to each name, write the word that shows how often you ask that person for help—always, sometimes, never. Name the area in which you consult with them.
5. In making decisions, we have certain helps. What are those helps the video talked about? (rules, laws, commandments, guidelines which tell us how to care for others, *What* and *Who* questions, the words and life of Jesus, advice from friends and adults, placing yourself in the shoes of another through empathy).
6. Sometimes we excuse our actions. What are some excuses that were used in *The Candy Store*? What are some excuses you have heard or given?
7. How do you feel inside when you say you are sorry for what you have done? Do you ever remember feeling like Timmy, Annie and Billy when they felt “good inside” again?
8. Engage the students in a NO MORE CELEBRATION.
Have each student make a picket sign with the words “NO MORE _____.” Fill in the blanks with words like lying, stealing, hurting, etc. They will use their picket signs as responses to the petitions.

Form a circle for a quiet reflection with each participant holding their picket sign.

READING ONE: Ephesians 4:28

READING TWO: Matthew 25:40

QUIET REFLECTION: Think of the good things you do for others. (Pause) Think of the not-so-good things you do to others. (Pause)

PRAYER OF PETITION: In each blank, mention something wrong we may have done. Respond with a picket sign from one of the students.

Sometimes we.... RESPONSE

Sometimes we.... RESPONSE

Repeat as many times as you feel necessary.

CLOSING SONG: March in a circle singing an appropriate song or chanting the messages on the signs.

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