

commandments. He was the perfect loving son. The good news for sinners is that if you trust Jesus then his perfect obedience to God will be counted as if you had done it. Not only will you get credit for Jesus' obedience, he will start teaching you to obey God more and more each day.

Object lesson – Washing away the stain

See if you can find something around your house that has some stains in it

Ask – How easy is it to get stains out? What would you use to try?

Explain – Our sins are like stains that can never be removed no matter how hard we try. Jesus washes us and makes us completely clean by his blood.

Go Deeper – Why is it important that Jesus obeyed all of God's laws perfectly?

## Day 5 – Heart and Life Obedience

*Scripture – Matthew 22:37-38 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.*

The purpose of your life is to bring God glory. That is why he made Adam and Eve in the beginning. That is why he made you. That is why he ultimately sent Jesus to die for you. Jesus died to wash away the stains of your sin and make your right with God. He did this so you could love God and obey him. If you have believed in Jesus then his perfect obedience to God the father is counted as yours. Not only do you get credit for being the perfect son like Jesus, he also starts to help you every day to love God better by doing what he commands. The commands of God are not just a short list of rules we need to follow. They are actually a way of life. If you are going to obey God, it will involve obeying him in ever single thing you do for the rest of your days. Jesus says the greatest commandment is, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." You can't just obey God half-heartedly. You must do it with everything you are!

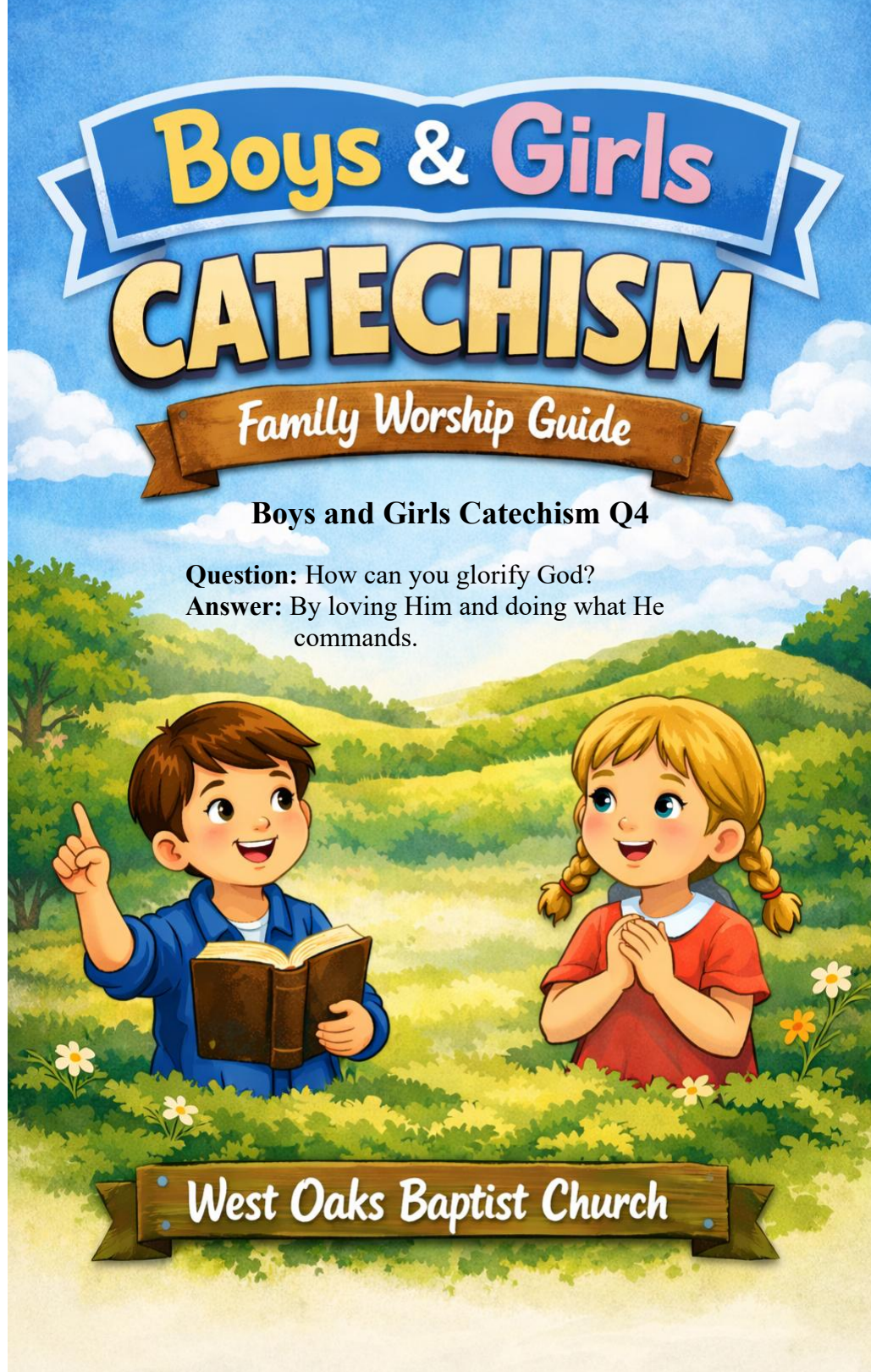
Object Lesson – Just a little bit

Everyone get a Bible. Show different ways you could hold the Bible but not look like you are really reading it (eyes closed, Bible upside down, slouching and looking bored, whispering with your neighbor)

Ask – What does it look like when you are really interested in reading the Bible?

Explain – Obedience to God must involved your whole person. Your mind, body, strength, everything.

Go Deeper – What are some areas of your life that you have only a superficial obedience to God. Pray that he would help you have a true heart-obedience to his commands.



## Boys and Girls Catechism Q4

**Question:** How can you glorify God?

**Answer:** By loving Him and doing what He commands.

West Oaks Baptist Church

## Day 1 – You were made to love God

*Scripture – Genesis 3:8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day...*

What sort of things do you like to do with the people you love? Sometimes people will share meals with those they love. Friends will hang out and watch a movie. Other times you may find tasks to accomplish together. Siblings may play games. Married couples look for time to sit together and talk. There are any number of things that those who love each other will choose to do. The key with all of these activities is that they are ways in which we can spend time together. If you love someone you want to be with them. God made you to have that sort of loving relationship with Him. In Genesis we read that God used to walk with Adam and Eve in the garden in the cool of the day. God made Adam and Eve with the purpose that they would spend time with Him. He would love them and they would love him. That was how wonderful the garden of Eden was before sin ruined everything. Adam and Eve sinned, preventing us all from being able to spend time with God. Jesus came to die for our sins and restore our relationship with the God who loves us.

Object Lesson – Time Together

Hold hands with someone next to you (some teens may prefer to shake hands)

Ask – Why do we hold hands, hug, or wrestle with people we love?

Explain – God made us to have relationships with one another. It is how we are intended to love each other. These relationships remind us of what we need with God.

Go Deeper – What does it look like for Christians to have a relationship with God since we can't see or touch him?

## Day 2 – Jesus loves us first

*Scripture – 1 John 4:19 We love because he first loved us.*

God made each and every one of us for his glory. We are made to glorify God and one of the ways we do that is by loving him. God made Adam and Eve, and each of us, to spend our lives in relationship with God. The problem is that our sin keeps us from this relationship. Instead of loving God and bringing him glory we selfishly hate God and seek our own glory. How can we start loving God like we should? Jesus has given us an answer to this question. Jesus came to die on the cross for our sins and to bring us back into a loving relationship with God. We couldn't start loving God first because of our sins. We needed God to love us first. John 3:16 says "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." Because God loved us so much first, we can now love God back! You can start loving God today by believing in Jesus. Ask him to forgive your sins and to save you. Thank him for loving you first!

Object lesson – A helping hand

Have someone sit with their eyes closed and arms crossed. Then have another

reach down, take their hand, and pull them up so they are now standing looking at one another.

Ask – Does the person with their eyes closed and arms crossed look like they are ready to love other people?

Explain – The one who reaches down to lift up his neighbor is a picture of Jesus. By showing us love and dying on the cross he reached down to save us.

Go Deeper – Why couldn't you love God first? How does 1 John 4:19 relate to the new birth?

## Day 3 – Loving God is obeying him

*Scripture – 1 John 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.*

God made us to glorify him. While we have not loved God as we ought because of our sin, God loved us first. He sent Jesus to die on the cross and save us from our sins. By doing this, God made a way for us to love him again. But what does it look like to love God? We talked about how we enjoy spending time with those we love. The Bible teaches us that love is more than just spending time together. When it comes to God, we love him by obeying him. 1 John 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. Children know that they should obey their parents. They can give hugs and kisses and say they love them, but if they do that and then refuse to obey they aren't loving their parents well. Even more so, if we say we love God but don't obey him we aren't loving him like we should.

Object Lesson – The Ten Commandments

Ask – How many of the 10 commandments can you remember?

Explain – the 10 commandments are a summary of the law of God. If we want to know what he commands we can look at these commands.

Go Deeper – We often fail at doing what God commands. How does the gospel help us to love God like we should?

## Day 4 – Jesus obeyed God

*Scripture – John 14:31 but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father.*

You were created to glorify God. That is why he made you! How are you to give him glory? By loving him and doing all he commands. God has very clearly told us in his word what he requires us to do. The 10 commandments are a summary of God's moral law and you can love God by obeying his commands. The problem with each of us is that we haven't loved God like we should. Instead of obeying God's law perfectly, we have broken his commandments. We are sinners like Adam and Eve. The wonderful news of the gospel is that Jesus came to do what we were supposed to do but failed. We haven't loved God but Jesus did it perfectly. How did Jesus love his Father? He loved God by obeying him. Jesus perfectly and completely obeyed all of the law of God. He obeyed all 10