

St. James Episcopal Church
A Moment for Kids—of All Ages!
FEBRUARY 12, 2017—THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
THE LAW OF LOVE



Jesus said "If you are angry with someone...first go and make up with them and then come offer your gift to God."
Matthew 5:22-24

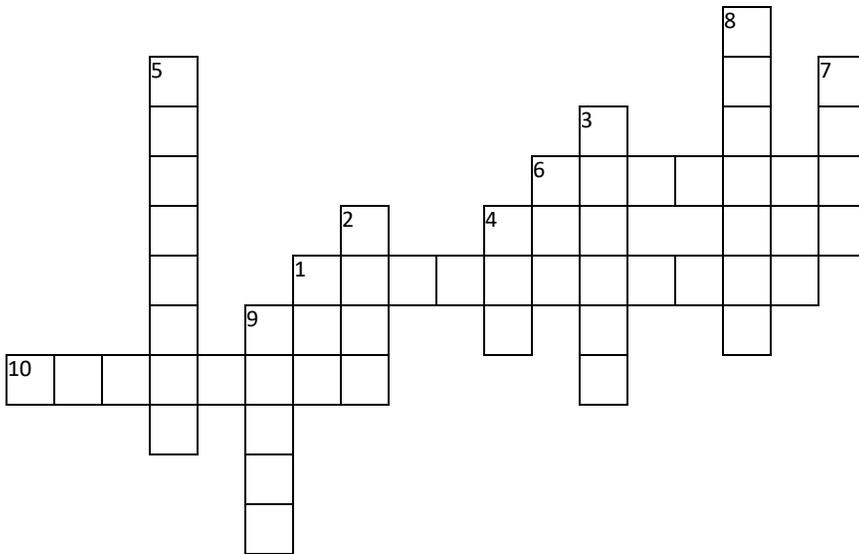
How many ways can you see people in this picture asking for and giving forgiveness?

THE GOSPEL AND REAL LIFE:

The Law of Love—It's all about Relationships

Rules, Rules Rules! The world is full of rules, isn't it? Rules about what we can't do and what we must do. Why? Jesus knows the answer to that—because he knows that the world is a better place when we follow two simple rules: LOVE GOD, and LOVE EVERYONE ELSE. Simple right? Just love. Jesus says that if you are angry with someone, forgive them. If you have hurt someone—apologize to them. Jesus knows that the best thing for us is to have GOOD RELATIONSHIPS with each other. It sure does make the world a better place. How many rules can you think of that help us to treat each other with kindness, respect and love?

The Law of Love Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 What we ask for when we have done wrong
6 God is our _____
10 Who we should love

Down

- 2 Jesus said "____ one another."
3 A person you have fun with
4 An intentional action that hurts yourself or someone else
5 What you say when you've hurt someone
7 Jesus' mother
8 How we are brought into the family of God
9 The person that received the ten commandments from God

Forgiveness, Creator, Everyone, Love, Friend, sin, I'm sorry, Mary, Baptism, Moses

BRINGING THE GOSPEL HOME: THOUGHTS FOR PARENTS

There are no fewer than 613 laws in the Old Testament. They give us a lot of do's and don'ts. For centuries these laws have been the basis for how people have established societies and how we should live together. Jesus took the laws from the Old Testament (the Ten Commandments and the 603 other laws) and said that they sum up to loving God and loving each other. In the Gospel today Jesus is telling us that it is more important to obey the SPIRIT rather than just the LETTER of the law, and the spirit of the law is love. Kids understand rules—they have to follow them all day long. Start a conversation with your family about why you have these rules, and how they are based in love and respect for each other.

Dinner Table Conversation:

Have you ever been angry with someone? How did that make you feel?

Have you ever forgiven someone who has hurt you? Why did you do that? Did you feel better after you were friends again?

What rules you have to follow? Are they fair? Do they make the world better if everyone follows them?

Why is Love the most important Law?

This insert is prepared by Mother Bonnie. If you have any questions about it, please let me know.

It is posted weekly on www.stjamesbatavia.org