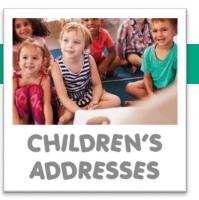
SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR: Proper 25A

Please refer to Guidelines for Children's Addresses in Worship document produced by the LCA Department of Liturgics and Grow Ministries - download guidelines <u>here</u>.

MAIN POINT Love the Lord

SCRIPTURE FOCUS



Growminist

'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and most important command. And the second command is like the first: 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.' (Matthew 22:37-39)

AIDS

Make your own 'Ten Commandments on two tablets' – maybe on cardboard. Write the first three commandments on one side of a tablet and the first of the great commands (see v37) on the other side of it. Write the 4-10th commandments on the second tablet and write the second great command (see v39) on the other side of it.

ADDRESS

Who has heard of the Ten Commandments? A long time ago God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses at a place called Mount Sinai. God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses to show us how we can live well *(show tablets)*. A commandment is a rule to live by. Ever since God gave these commandments, people have created more rules to live by. Once God's people had 613 rules to live by. That's a lot of rules to remember!

Someone in the Bible who knew the rules really well wanted to test Jesus. He asked Jesus which was the greatest rule to live by? Jesus answered him by simplifying all the rules down to just two commands.

Now look at the first three commands God gave Moses (show first tablet). They are all about God.

(*Turn the tablet around to reveal the first and greatest command*) **Jesus said the first and most important command is to 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.**'

Now look at the last seven commands God gave Moses (show second tablet). They are all about how we love the people around us. Jesus summarised these seven commandments into the second most important command.

(Turn around the tablet to reveal the second great command) 'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.'

One way God shows us his love for us is by giving us his commandments to show us how we can live well. Let's ask God to help us live well following his commandments.

PRAYER

Dear Jesus, thank you for helping us to understand the commandments you give us. Help us to love you by following them in our lives. Amen.

You may wish to hand out *Growing Faith at Home* or another resource before the children return to their seats.

