

Concept Development – Christianity – Obeying governmentObjectives

- 1) Tell why God wants men to support civil government
- 2) Tell why breaking a law set up by government is sinful

Visuals

- 1) A pie chart with the different relationships (family, work/school, government, neighbor, church)
- 2) Figures of authority (president, policeman, fireman, judge, teacher, boss, elder, deacon, father, mother)

Memory Verse

Rom. 1:16 - For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Lesson

We have several different relationships with people (use pie chart). Today we'll be discussing how we are to be subject to our rulers. Being 'subject' means being under someone's authority or control.

In old English times, the policeman might come to the criminal's house and say "open up in the name of the king". That meant "we have come here with power from the king to take you to jail." Let's read Rom. 13:1-7.

Sometimes Christians are made fun of because we always insist on obeying the ones that God has given power over us. Our memory verse says the gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believes. Our reward is salvation or heaven. Rom 13 says that if we resist we shall receive damnation or punishment.

Worksheet

For each example choose 'subject' or 'resist'. Fill in the blanks of the memory verse. Fill in the blanks for books of the NT.

Subject or Resist

Some people make excuses for why they don't have to obey our rulers. Read these statements and indicate if they are being subject.

"I don't read about the speed limit in the Bible so I don't have to obey the speed limit."

"I'm hungry, I don't want to wait my turn in line to eat. I'm going to get ahead of them, I'm bigger than they are."

"The light is red, I must stop."

"I want this, I need this, so I can steal it."

"Everyone is yelling out the answer, but the teacher says, we must raise our hand. I am quiet and raise my hand."

"I want to play 'hide and seek' behind the cars in the parking lot but the elders from church said the kids must stay on the grass – I'll stay on the grass."

"That governor didn't pay his taxes so I won't either."

BIBLE FACTS

What books are the Epistles in the New Testament?

A decorative rectangular frame with a geometric pattern of interlocking triangles. Inside the frame, there are seven horizontal lines for writing.

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Wall decoration: Enlarged picture of Paul writing to churches. (If the saved picture cannot be found, the picture can be transposed from the transparency onto butcher paper taped to wall. The picture can be colored with tempera paint or suitable alternative and laminated). Enlarged envelopes with each church's name and related topics from that letter affixed or springing from coiled pipe cleaners as if springing from the envelope. Letters above arrangement say 'Paul wrote to the . . . ' with the envelopes surrounding Paul on wall.

Rom. 13:1-5, (I Tim. 2:1-4, I Pet. 2:13-17)

Lesson

Review Sunday's lesson by referring to wall arrangement with envelope that says 'Romans'.

Read these verses in Romans 13

- 1,2 – God setup/established authority. If we resist, *policeman, teacher, father we are really resisting who?*
- 3,4 – Who should be afraid of the policeman or the judge or the fireman
- 5 - We need to obey not only for fear of jail or a spanking but for *conscience sake. What is our conscience?*
- 6,7 – Pay taxes, custom, fear and honor. We owe love to our neighbor – *does no wrong to neighbor*
- 12, 13 - Most people that do wrong, like night time because it *covers up their sin. Works of darkness: drinking liquor partying, fighting, jealousy*

God's plan for us to obey our rulers was wonderful. Obeying the king or governor or rulers *provided protection for us. We need to pray for these people that have power over us so that we can live peaceful lives, worship without someone hurting us and protect us from evildoers.*

Read newspaper clipping where policeman apprehended the evildoer.

Song

"Blessed are they who do His commandments"

"Trust and Obey"

Worksheet

Answer questions.

Lesson 2

April 7

Reading Text: Romans 13

- 1. List at least 4 governing authorities that you are familiar with.*
- 2. Why should we obey governing authorities? vs1*
- 3. Verse 2 speaks of resisting authority. Give an example of how a person might resist authority and also state what this verse says about a person who resists authority.*
- 4. Are we told to obey authority if their laws disobey God's laws?*
- 5. What does vs. 10 say about love?*
- 6. Verses 9 and 10 speak of loving our neighbor. In Luke 10, Jesus was talking with a lawyer about loving his neighbor. The lawyer asked Jesus who his neighbor was in verse 29. Jesus answers the lawyer by telling him about the Good Samaritan. Who does Jesus say our neighbor is?*
- 7. What are "works of darkness"? vs13*
- 8. What is the "armor of light"? vs13*
- 9. Verse 14 tells us to "put on Christ". How do we "put on Christ"? Galations 3:27*

Text: Romans 13

Memory Verse: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek."
Rom. 1:16

1. "Let _____ be subject to the governing authorities.

For there is _____ authority except from _____ . . ." Rom. 13:1

2. Put a circle around the titles of some governing authorities you know:

Policeman

Governor

President

Mailman

Librarian

Judge

Preacher

King

3. "Render therefore to all their due: _____ to whom taxes are due,

_____ to whom customs, _____ to whom fear,

_____ to whom honor." Rom. 13:7

Can you find these things in these things in the bible text below?

12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

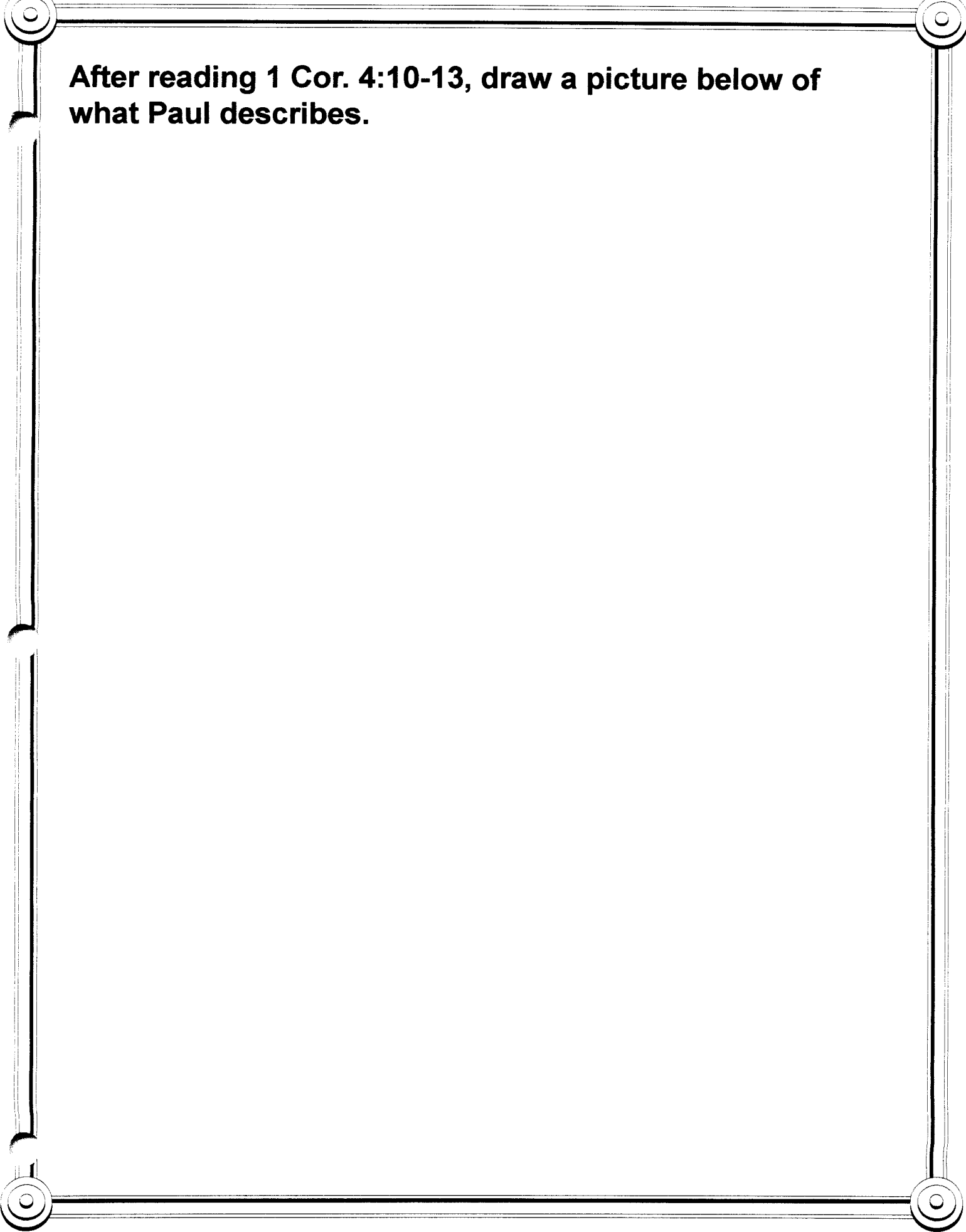
13 Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in licentiousness and lewdness, not in strife and envy.

14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

4. Highlight all the things God wants us to do in yellow.

5. Underline all the ways God does NOT want us to act.

After reading 1 Cor. 4:10-13, draw a picture below of what Paul describes.

A large rectangular frame with decorative corner pieces, intended for drawing. The frame is composed of two parallel lines, with circular decorative elements at each of the four corners. The interior of the frame is empty, providing space for a drawing.

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