

SINCE WHEN IS IT COOL TO BE BAD?

Bring it on, **MONDAY**

Groovy, it's **TUESDAY**

Be ...

respectful

So, here's the story ...

The Lord said to Joshua, "Israel has sinned; they have violated My covenant, which I commanded them to keep. They have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen, they have lied, they have put them with their own possessions. I will not be with you anymore unless you destroy whatever among you is devoted to destruction. In the morning, present yourselves tribe by tribe. The tribe that the Lord takes shall come forward clan by clan; the clan the Lord takes shall come forward family by family; and the family that the Lord takes shall come forward man by man. He who is caught with the devoted things shall be destroyed by fire, along with all that belongs to him. He has violated the covenant of the Lord and has done a disgraceful thing in Israel."

Early the next morning Joshua had Israel come forward by tribes, and Judah was taken. The clans of Judah came forward and He took the Zerahites. He had the clan of the Zerahites come forward by families, and Zimri was taken. Joshua had his family come forward man by man, and Achan, son of Carmi, the son of Zimri, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken. Then Joshua said to Achan, "My son, give glory to the Lord, the God of Israel, and give Him the praise. Tell me what you have done; do not hide it from me."

Achan replied, "It is true! I have sinned against the Lord, the God of Israel. When I saw in the plunder a beautiful robe from Babylonia, two hundred shekels of silver and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I wanted them and took them. They are hidden in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath."

Read the story for yourself in Joshua 7

Take it to God

Ask God to show you how to behave. Being rebellious and not following His word always leads to trouble. It means you should trust Him and obey His teachings; they are meant to help you.

Halfway there
WEDNESDAY

A.M.

Noon

P.M.

Eve

You wanna be ...

wise
clever; intelligent;
learned; shrewd;
sharp; knowledgeable

or

foolish
stupid; halfwitted;
idiotic; thoughtless;
irresponsible



'Abstain from every form of evil. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.' --

1 Thess. 5:22-23

Throw your hands up
THURSDAY

A.M.

Noon

P.M.

Eve

Make a difference ...

Step up:

What's a rule you hate to go by? Have you ever genuinely asked someone in authority why that rule is there? And, no, I don't mean yelling with an attitude. I mean really asking, to understand what the deal is. Most times I bet you're going to realize there is a good reason. Maybe not your preferred one or a pleasant one, but one worth following. Pick one and ask about it.

Take it up a notch:

Follow all the rules you are supposed to without argument for the rest of the week. Challenge yourself to do it without being forced to. (Before someone has to get on your case about it.) See how much better interactions between you and your parents, teachers and other authority figures go. Not everything has to be a battle. Especially stuff like doing your chores or classwork.

Poll your friends ...

Do you think you should be able to do whatever you want no matter what?

Yes

No

Jesus did lots of miracles while He was on the earth. Read about one of them here:

Matthew 12:22



FRIDAY

Finals

Bad is called bad for a real good reason

Anywhere you look these days, often the most influential things like movies, videos, songs, and books push the fun and joy of being bad. Not only is it exciting, but it hints at permission to act like you know is not right.

The message soon becomes one of "rules are no good," and "anyone in authority is just out to make my life miserable for no good reason."

Did you ever stop to think why rules were established in the first place?

The very first rulebook, or law, was given by God. They were instructions to His people to help them understand and know Him better and to keep them protected from the consequences of doing bad.

The Ten Commandments, found in Exodus 20:2-17, are very important guidelines God provided to us through His servant Moses. Here is a brief summary of them — be sure to look them up and read the whole verses for yourself.

We must not have any other gods; we must not make or worship idols or images; do not use the Lord's name disrespectfully; keep the Sabbath day holy — one day a week should be for rest; honor your parents; do not kill; do not cheat on your spouse; do not steal; don't lie about someone else; and do not covet (crave for) what belongs to someone else. More on that below.

WEEKEND

Woo Foo!

Sat.

Sun.

A.M.

Noon

P.M.

Eve

Did you know?

So, let's explain the difference between the words covet, envy and jealousy. They are similar, but there are very distinctive differences in all of them.

Covet: When you wrongly desire or wish for what belongs to someone else. (Example: I'd do anything to get Sally's red balloon.)

Envy: Begrudgingly discontented over someone else's advantages or blessings. (Example: Sally doesn't deserve that beautiful red balloon. I'm just going to take it for myself.)

Jealousy: Watchfully guarding over what is your own; it belongs to you. (Jennie took my favorite blue balloon. I have to get it back.)

So, let's wrap it up



Vicky's
view

When you are fully committed to someone or something, you make a bond — a covenant agreement — that is to never be broken.

All in.

God, when He made a covenant with His people, was all in. But, the Israelite Achan, well, he was clearly only sort of committed (Which, if we're being honest, is not the definition of commitment at all). He was looking after his own desires, instead of respecting the partnership he and his people had agreed to. God kept His bargain, blessing His people with protection, giving them things they needed, and fulfilling other promises He made, while Achan decided to hold a little something back, keeping it for himself. He knew it was punishable by death, but he chose to do it anyway. And, yes, he

died for it.

God was angry when Achan broke the deal. One thing I always found fascinating about this story is that God could've just come right out and said it was Achan. But He didn't. After all, He sees everything. He knew who the culprit was from the beginning. God took His time revealing who the transgressor was. First, He told Joshua to wait until morning. Everybody got to spend a sleepless night in trouble. Ever been there? It gives you plenty of time to think over what you've done or didn't do. When the sun came up, all of Israel was on pins and needles, wondering if they were going to get called out for something. Then tribe by tribe, family by family, house by house — finally right down to the man who had sinned

— God exposed Achan's wrongdoing and (probably shook and in a full sweat by now) he confessed. In Matt. 5:37, Jesus says, "Let your 'Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No' be 'No.'" He is telling us that when we make a covenant, a commitment, a vow — a promise — we need to keep it. How is anyone supposed to be able to trust you or rely on you if you don't hold true to what you say? Some might think it was harsh of God to strike Achan and his family down for their broken vow. But He is a just and fair judge. If Achan and his crew died over those actions, it was deserved, and necessary. I also think the way God rounded up the guilty party served as a good reminder to everyone that they all needed to assess their commitment and respect their vows — to rethink

any nonsense that might be running through their thick heads at that point. You see, we all get full of ourselves at times, and it's easy to get to thinking you've got all the right answers and all the slick moves. Well, you don't. If you try to pull a fast one, there's a chance you may get away with it if it's up to the people involved, but, make no mistake ... God sees everything. Your deceitful ways are not clever enough to get by Him. The next time you see someone looking like they're getting away with something bad, remember, eventually it's going to catch up with them. "Be assured, an evil person will not go unpunished, but the offspring of the righteous will be delivered." Proverbs 11:21

Ponder this:

How many times have you purposefully done wrong this week just to do things your way?

Time to take charge of your life:

(Fill in the blank ...)

_____ has been bugging me lately, bringing me down. What can I do to change that? Do I need help from someone else? Who?

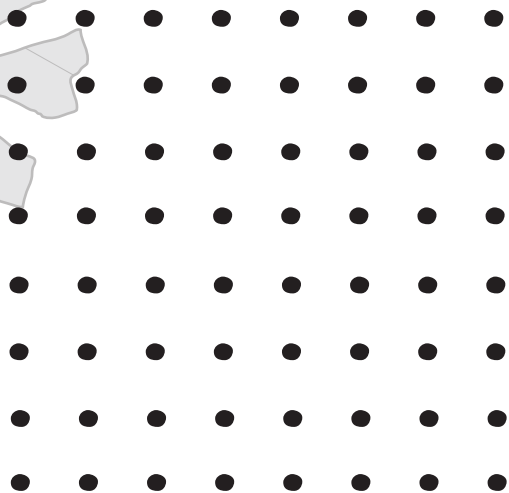
Something good that happened this week was:

Let's read:

Joshua 7 and 8

Claiming the promised land

To play, connect two adjacent (next to each other) dots. Take turns with your opponent. If you complete a square, you get another turn. The one with the most squares at the end of the game wins.



Matthew 7:7

answer on page 315

A	T	T	A	C	K	O	B	D	C	D	R
A	A	I	O	H	S	P	Y	O	T	E	E
C	K	D	F	A	U	H	S	O	J	S	V
C	E	J	W	S	T	G	N	M	E	T	I
U	N	A	R	E	C	A	A	E	R	R	L
R	Y	M	I	D	S	T	H	D	I	O	E
S	T	R	U	C	K	E	C	R	C	Y	D
E	N	E	M	I	E	S	A	M	H	S	U
D	E	S	T	R	U	C	T	I	O	N	T

AI
 ACHAN
 JOSHUA
 JERICHO
 ACCURSED
 SPY

ATTACK
 GATE
 CHASED
 STRUCK
 ENEMIES
 DELIVER

TAKEN
 DESTRUCTION
 DOOMED
 DESTROY
 MIDST
 AWAY

You are ...

resourceful

Design

Wandering the wilderness

Make your way along the words to make a sentence. Your journey will form one single path. You can only go north, south, east, or west and the path must never cross over itself. Start at the northwest corner and finish at the southeast corner.



answer on page 331

Save your answers and look at them again next month, next semester or next year!

DATE: _____

The time capsule

My favorite food is ...

My favorite hobby is ...

My favorite color is ...

My favorite song is ...

My favorite animal is ...

My favorite actor is ...

My favorite outfit is ...

My favorite movie is ...

My favorite book is ...

My favorite TV series is ...

My favorite music group is ...

My favorite dessert is ...

My favorite friend is ...

My favorite actress is ...

My favorite drink is ...

My favorite sport is ...

My favorite class is ...

My favorite car is ...

My favorite teacher is ...

My favorite shoes are ...

My favorite place is ...

My favorite store is ...

My favorite relative is ...

My favorite video is ...

My favorite time of day is ...

My favorite characteristic is ...