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The Third Commandment— Worshiping God

A FAMILY REUNION

When you get together at a family reunion with all your cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandparents, everybody has a great time. Grandma fixes your favorite dessert, each of the separate families brings their favorite dish, games are played, people do a lot of visiting, grown-ups relive the stories from when they were children, perhaps everybody goes swimming or plays cards, and, when the reunion is over, you see people everywhere hugging and kissing good-bye.

Somewhat similarly, when we come together as a family of God on Sundays for worship, we are coming to a family reunion. We are God's family. Our purpose in coming together is not just to have a good time but also to strengthen our family ties.

1. Many of the things we do at a family reunion sound much the same as those we do when we worship. Use the following as a guide to list what we do in worship.

a. A meal:

b. Retelling past events that happened in the family:

c. Doing things together:

d. Sometimes family members of various ages are together; at other times the family separates into age groups:

2. When the family of God comes together for its reunions, which parts do you like the best? Explain why.

WHY GOD STARTED HIS REUNION GATHERINGS

When God created the world, it seems that He wanted people to rest on one day of the week as He did (**Genesis 2:2-3**), and that He wanted people to worship Him at all times. But when God brought His people out of the slavery in Egypt, He commanded them to worship Him specifically on that day of rest. The ceremonial laws told them exactly what to do in worship and even how to construct their place of worship in order to help them look forward to the coming of the Messiah. The ceremonial laws no longer apply now that Jesus has already come. So, today most Christians worship on Sunday as a reminder of the victory Jesus won for us when He rose from the dead on Easter Sunday.

1. According to the following, what type of family reunion activity does God give as one main reason for worship?

Deuteronomy 5:15: Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and



