

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT

ACTIVITY

REPUTATION

Theme: Reputation is easy to damage but difficult to repair; therefore, God calls us to choose our words wisely and deal mercifully with one another.

Materials: Aluminum cans, a pencil or pen labeled *forgiveness*

Procedure: (15 minutes)

Using masking tape or a label, put the word *forgiveness* on a pencil or pen. Pass out empty aluminum cans to the students. Then have each student pair up with an opponent. Say, **Using your can, try to make dents in your opponent's can.** Give them ten seconds (simply count down from 10 to 0). Ask, **What happened to the cans?** Students will observe that when they tried to dent someone else's can, they also dented their own. Explain, **When we damage the reputation of others with gossip or slander, we also damage our own reputations.** Now use the pencil to pop out the dents. Say, **When we damage our reputations, the only way to repair them is through God's forgiveness in Christ.** Have each student use a pencil or pen to repair the opponent's can.