

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

INTRODUCTION TO THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

ACTIVITY

GOD'S GARDEN

Theme: Because our hearts resist the message of the Gospel, God opens our hearts with the Law by confronting us with our sins. It is then that we can receive new life through the Gospel.

Materials: Pan filled with dirt or potting soil, seeds, pencils

Procedure: (10 minutes)

Before class, pack the soil tightly in the bottom of the pan. Have the students drop some seeds on the packed soil. Ask, **Will these seeds scattered on top of the soil be able to grow and flourish?** Then give pencils to the students and have them loosen and poke holes in the soil. Ask them to place the seeds in the holes and cover them up. Explain, **Before we know God, our hearts are hard and resistant like the packed soil. We cannot receive the Gospel. But once God softens and breaks up our hard hearts with His Law, the Gospel can take root and prosper. This is how God works through Law and Gospel. Although the Law cannot give us life, it prepares the way for new life. That is why we are studying God's Law, the Ten Commandments, first. Later, we will study the Gospel, the promise of forgiveness and new life through Christ.**