

for use as  
**STEP 1**
**Lesson 4****Focus:**

Act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

**Lesson 4****Bible Basis:**

Micah 1:1; 2:1-2;  
6:6-8

**Lesson 4****Memory Verse:**

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. —Micah 6:8

**Students will discuss rules and how they affect our lives and behavior as they focus on how God wants us to live.**

**Materials:**

- Whiteboard and marker (or screenshared document)

Welcome your students to class. As students are entering and getting settled, ask your students to think of some of the silliest or most ridiculous rules they've ever had to follow. Feel free to share your own example as well.

- **What makes a rule good or bad/unnecessary?** (Answers will vary and could include things like: a rule is good if it keeps people safe, it's bad if it just makes more work for someone.)
- **If you were to make the rules for your school, what rules would you put in place? What rules would you get rid of?** (Allow students to offer all suggestions, even silly ones.)

Next, ask students what rules they would put in place if they were in charge of your Sunday school class. Encourage them to think outside the box. Write their suggestions on the white board. Allow the students to discuss their suggestions together as a group. Encourage them to think about what would be good/better with certain rules and what the consequences would be of having certain rules. For example, if someone suggests a rule that students can spend the hour playing on their phones, encourage them to think about the negative effects of that rule as well. Help your students make a long list of suggested rules for class.

- **What would be better about following all of these rules? What would be worse?** (Answers will vary. Students will likely say the number of rules would be a lot.)

**Rules and laws are a part of just about everything we do. Sometimes they're good; sometimes they seem ridiculous. In our Bible lesson today, God's people have gotten caught up in all the wrong rules and forgotten the most important thing. Let's see what God says to them about that.**

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

# Walk This Way

By RLD Editorial Team

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**Materials:**

- Internet access
- Butcher paper (if your class is meeting online, you can use a screenshared document)
- Markers
- Tape or sticky tack to hang banner on the wall
- Optional: Scissors, smartphones

➤ **What were the three things Micah reminded God's people that God wanted from them?** (To act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly.)

➤ **Where do you see justice, mercy, and humility in our world?** (Answers will vary. Some examples could include teachers offering extra credit after students fail an assignment, a really great athlete who is humble about his or her abilities, or fair consequences for a poor choice.)

**It's easy for us to get caught up in the bad stuff happening in the world, but if we look, we can find examples of acting justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly all around us. God calls us to walk genuinely in our faith in those ways. It can be easy to think that acting justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly require grand gestures or huge effort, but small, everyday actions are a big part of walking with God too! Let's watch this video of young people helping others during the beginning of the pandemic.**

Share this video with your students [3:27].

How young people are helping others during the crisis - BBC My World

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qXKdbcLHh-k>

➤ **What did you see or what can you guess about that young people's motivation to do good?** (Accept all reasonable answers.)

➤ **Were they looking for praise or thanks for their actions?** (The teens don't appear to be looking for recognition.)

**That's just one small example of efforts to make the world a little bit better. God calls us to act in the same way!**

Show students the large sheet of butcher paper. Have them write “Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly” on it. Ask them to visually brainstorm together ways that they can act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly in their lives. They can write words or phrases, draw pictures that represent actions, or even abstractly represent how God might be calling them to live out His will in one of those three categories. Encourage creativity! Help your students make this paper into a work of art while they consider how God is calling them to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

When your students have finished, stand back and admire your work together. Ask your students to decide on something from the banner that they will do this week to act more justly, be more merciful, or walk more humbly. You could hang this on the wall in your classroom, or consider letting each student, as a reminder, cut out the idea from the banner that they plan to work on (if more than one student wants to choose the same activity, they might take a photo of that portion of the banner on their smartphone).

Read the memory verse one more time together and end in prayer, asking God to help each of you commit to walking genuinely with God in the way each person feels called.

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