



VISUAL REALITY

VIDEO ILLUSTRATIONS FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

LEADER'S GUIDE

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT—Clip Analysis

Running Time—+/-1 min.

Genre—Dramatic Vignette

Jesus summed it all up in Matthew 22:34-40. The Greatest commandment is to love God with all our heart, soul and mind and the second is like it: to love our neighbors as ourselves. This is a short dramatic interpretation of this powerful verse.

As this verse applies to so many different situations and topics, so will this clip. One important point to recognize and about the clip is the ending. Right after the line: "All the law and the prophets hang on these two commandments," several "commandments" fly up on the screen (do not steal, worship God, do not murder, etc.) ending in one word: love. This is meant to illustrate the point that every command, even all of scripture, is summed up in these two commandments. Anyone who truly loves God with all of their heart and truly loves their neighbor as their very selves will already be following all the commandments of the Bible.

Discussion Questions

- The Pharisees asked Jesus what the greatest commandment was. Why do you think they asked him this particular question? What were the Pharisees known for?
- What do you think it means to love God with all of your heart, soul and mind? How do you think a love like that would show itself practically?
- To what extent does the word "neighbor" apply in reference to those we are to love?
- What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself?
- After giving us these two great commandments, Jesus said that all of the law and prophets actually hang on these two commandments. What do you think Jesus meant when He said this?
- Look at The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17.) Which of these would be covered if we showed our love to God. Which would be covered if we showed our love to others?

Topical Index

- Commitment
- Love for God
- Obedience
- Grace
- The Law/Old Testament
- Legalism
- Major Teachings of Jesus

Scriptural Index

- Matthew 22:34-40—"Love the Lord your God..."
- Exodus 20:1-17—The Ten Commandments
- Matthew 5:17—"I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them" (the law and prophets)
- Galatians 5:13-14—"The entire law is summed up in one command..."
- I Corinthians 13—"The Love Chapter"



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VIRGIN TERRITORY—Clip Analysis

Running Time—+/-5 min.

Genre—On-the-street interview

We hit the campuses to ask some questions of a sexual nature. Warning: As usual, our on-the-street interviews seek to give you and your students an idea of what real people, sometimes young, sometimes old are thinking. Most of the people we talked to in this clip saw nothing wrong with having sex before marriage. We allowed them to explain why they felt it was ok and even why they thought it was necessary. Of course we also talked to students who were waiting until marriage to have sex. They share their viewpoint as well. We also asked if any of these students knew anyone who was waiting. It's interesting and important to note that the majority of those we talked to who said they would wait were girls. Very few guys held this up as a standard for their lives. Finally, we asked if they thought it was even possible to wait. Of course, most of the guys thought that it is not even a possibility. Make sure this clip is not used by your students as an excuse to have sex, but have God's word ready to show them that it is not only possible to wait, but it is necessary and is ultimately God's plan for their own happiness and well-being.

Discussion Questions

- What was your overall impression about the opinions expressed on this clip?
- Several people on this clip saw nothing wrong with having sex before marriage, as long as you were in love with the person? Do you agree with them? Why or why not? Do you know people who claim to be Christians, but still hold this view? What reasons do they give?
- What do you think are some other reasons to wait until marriage to have sex?
- Some people don't even think it is possible to wait in today's culture. What do you think of this viewpoint? Do you know anyone who has waited until they were married? Do you think it would be worth it? Why or why not?
- Do you know anyone who has experienced any negative consequences from not waiting? What do you think some of those would be?
- Genesis 2:24 says that man and woman are to become "one flesh." What do you think this means?
- What are some practical things someone can do to help them wait until they are married?

Topical Index

- Pre-marital sex
- Purity
- Patience
- Commitment
- True Love
- Obedience
- Temptation
- Dating

Scriptural Index

- 1 Corinthians 6:12-20—Sexual Immorality
- Genesis 2:24—"... they will become one flesh."
- 1 Corinthians 10:13—"No temptation has seized you except what is common to man..."
- Hebrews 10:15—"... we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are yet was without sin."
- Ephesians 5:3—"But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality..."
- I Timothy 4:12—"... Set an example for the believers in life, in love, in faith and in purity."



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DIRECTED TO SKATE—Clip Analysis

Running Time—+/-4.5 min.

Genre—Real Life Story

Jud Heald is a professional skateboarder with Manna skateboards, a Christian skateboard company. Jud has competed against the best pro skating has to offer. Even in his first professional contest, Jud came in 6th with Tony Hawk coming in 1st. But Jud skates for more than just the accolades. With the name of Jesus written across the top of his board, his purpose runs as deep as his faith itself.

During a snowboarding accident in Maine, Jud's neck was broken. Following his injury, Jud visited a chiropractor who unknowingly pressed down on his head hard enough to do fatal or paralyzing damage. This event changed his life and Jud began asking God for direction. Through a series of events God led Jud to Manna Skateboards, a Christian skateboard company, and eventually Jud was able to turn pro. In this clip, Jud talks about his journey and encourages students to seek God's direction in their own lives.

Discussion Questions

- What event changed Jud's life forever? Why do you think this event had such an impact on him?
- Have you ever had something happen to you that made you stop and really think about life?
- What was did Jud begin to do after he realized he could have died in the accident?
- In what areas of life do you think God's will applies? Are there any areas that you think it doesn't necessarily apply?
- What should somebody do to seek God's will and direction for their own life?
- How do you know the difference between God's will and just coincidence?

NOTE: If your students would like more information about Jud or the ministry of Manna Skateboards they may visit www.mannaskateboards.com.

Topical Index

- God's will
- Direction
- Listening to God
- Humility
- Calling
- Setting an example
- Witnessing/evangelism

Scriptural Index

- Romans 12:1-2—"Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is . . ."
- James 4:13-17—"If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."
- Romans 8:28—"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him."
- Matthew 6:33—"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness..."
- Jeremiah 29:11—"For I know the plans I have for you..."



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SPIRITUAL MILK—Clip Analysis

Running Time—+/-1.5 min.

Genre—Dramatic Vignette

From birth, we enjoy the benefits of Milk. Milk is in our cereal, or ice cream and in our glasses. However, one thing about milk . . . Past the due date, you don't want to be drinking it! This clip is based on I Peter 2:24, "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk so that by it you may grow up healthy in your salvation."

Just like newborn babies, Christians need the purest of spiritual foods to help us grow. We need God's word, church and prayer and we need to filter out the impurities the world throws at us. However, more often, we surround ourselves with images and sounds that are anything but "pure spiritual milk." The question is this: if we wouldn't drink milk that was past its due date out of concern for our physical bodies, why are we so eager to take in things that are just as damaging to our spiritual bodies?

Discussion Questions

- How long after the due date will you drink from a carton of milk?
- Have you ever gotten sick from drinking spoiled milk? Have you ever left a carton of milk in your refrigerator for a long time? Did you smell it?
- Read I Peter 2:24. What do you think this verse is talking about?
- Why is it especially important for babies to have pure milk?
- What do you think the term "spiritual milk" refers to?
- Do you think people are many times more concerned with their physical bodies than their spiritual bodies?
- Are there any activities you participate in that seem to make it difficult to concentrate on God? Would you be willing to name some?
- Do you think that music, movies and television can have a negative impact on your spiritual life? Why or why not?
- What are some things a Christian can do to help themselves grow spiritually?

Topical Index

- Media
- Spiritual purity
- Bible reading
- Prayer
- Self-Control
- The World

Scriptural Index

- I Peter 2:24—"Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk..."
- Philippians 4:8—"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure..."
- Luke 11:34—"Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eyes are good, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are bad, your body also is full of darkness."
- I Thessalonians 4:7—"For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life."



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PRAYER—Clip Analysis

Running Time—+/-4 min.

Genre—On-the-street interview

We hit the streets armed with questions relating to divine communication. What we found was that while a few people said they don't pray at all, many reveal that they do pray. The question is, do we believe them and what is their idea of prayer in the first place? For instance, several people said that they prayed all the time about everything. Now, don't get us wrong, praying without ceasing is our goal, but it is one not easily reached. Use this clip to challenge your kids to be honest about the success or failure of their own prayer lives.

The last part of the clip find us asking people if they think prayer makes a difference in their lives. Most people agreed that it did, but their answers were all along the "self-help" lines. "It helps me refocus," or "it makes me feel better" as opposed to citing any tangible answers to prayer. Students should understand the dynamics of prayer. Prayer is much more than a self-help tool. It has the power to change lives forever.

Discussion Questions

- How often do you pray?
- What are some of the reasons you don't pray more than you do now?
- Read Ephesians 6:18. It says that we are to pray in the Spirit on all occasions. Do you think it is possible to pray all the time? Some of the people in the video said that they pray all the time. Do you think they were telling the truth? Did they mean they were praying even during the interview?
- James 1:5 says that when we approach God, we need to believe and not doubt. Do you think there are any other pre-requisites we need to think about when we go before God?
- Towards the end of the clip, people were asked how prayer made a difference in their lives. What kinds of answers did they give? Do you think prayer is more than just something that will make us feel good or "more focused?"

Topical Index

- Prayer
- Honesty/Sincerity
- Power of God
- Belief/Faith
- Obedience

Scriptural Index

- Philippians 4:6—" . . . present your requests to God."
- Matthew 7:7—"Ask and it will be given to you . . ."
- Matthew 6:5—"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites . . ."
- Ephesians 6:18—"Pray in the Spirit on all occasions . . ."
- Matthew 6:5-15—The Lord's Prayer
- James 1:5-8—" . . . But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt . . ."



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PASSION—Clip Analysis

Running Time—+/-4 min.

Genre—On-the-Street Interview

Passion—a boundless enthusiasm, ardent love, or powerful emotion. We asked people what they were passionate about and how they can tell the difference between simply "liking" something and really being passionate about it. Obviously a Christian's passion should be for Christ, but what does that really mean?

We found people to be most passionate about sports, their friends, music and family. Only one person said their passion was Jesus Christ. His comment will be the last portion of the clip reminding your students that after all is said and done, Christ should be the number one passion of our lives.

Use this clip to talk to your students about what they are passionate about and why our passion for other things many times usurps our passion for God.

Discussion Questions

- What does it mean to have a passion for something?
- What are some things you consider yourself to be passionate about?
- In Philippians 1:21, Paul says that to him, to live is Christ. What do you think this says about what Paul's passion was? What does it mean to live for something?
- What do you think the difference is between being passionate about something and just really liking something.
- Should a Christian automatically have a passion for God? If not, how would one go about becoming passionate for Him?

Topical Index

- Passion
- Enthusiasm
- Materialism
- Idolatry
- Devotion
- Love
- Setting and example
- Relationship with Christ

Scriptural Index

- Matthew 22:37—"Love the Lord your God with all your heart . . ."
- Luke 18:22—" . . . Sell everything you have . . . And come follow me."
- 1 Corinthians 10:31—"So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."
- Philippians 1:21—"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."