

The Kings' Law

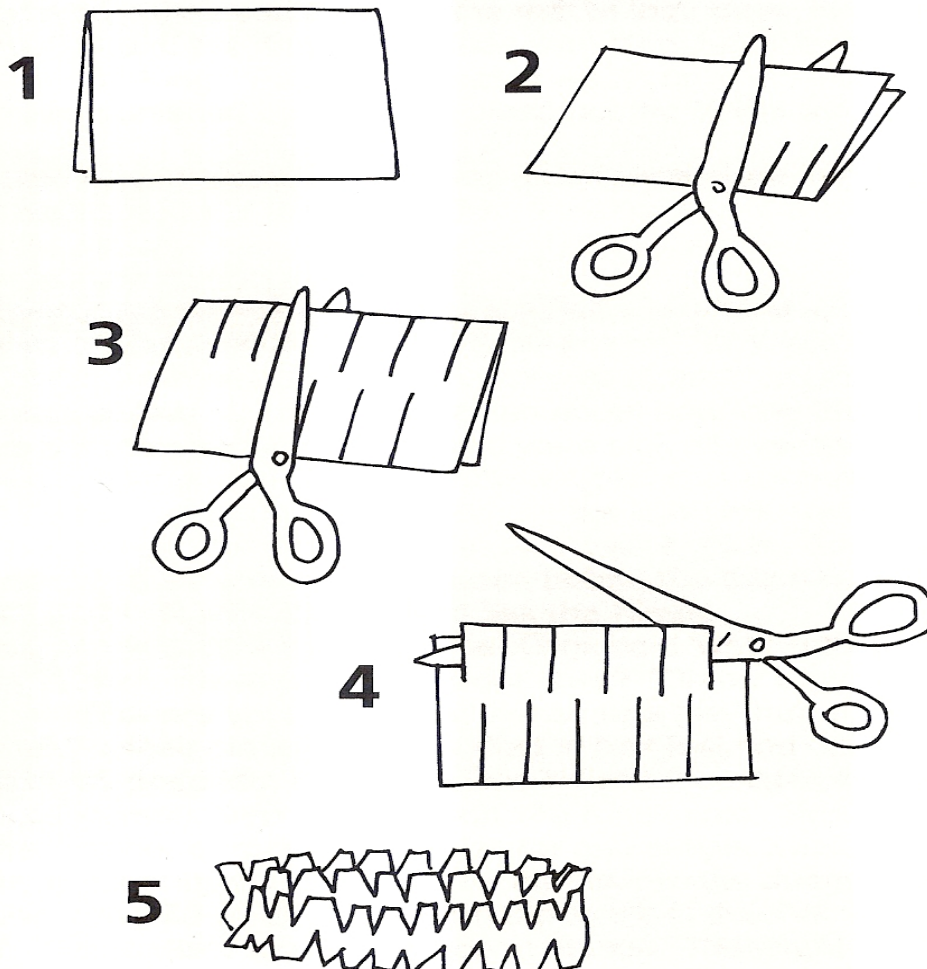
Brynmawr Family Church Sermon (All Age Service)
Stuart Wheatman, Sunday 7th Feb 2010

Story of the Kings' Law-

- 'Once upon a time there was an ancient Kingdom with 2 Kings who were reigning on the throne- Father and Son. They lived alone in a wonderful palace. One day they decided to give an invitation to the world outside. Each person was sent an A4 golden ticket with the Kings' Laws printed on it (*see last page below this*). If a person could keep all the laws at the end of the week when they appeared before the Kings the golden ticket would open up when they cut it with a pair of scissors to become a doorway into the Kings' Palace where they could live for the rest of their days. However, if they disobeyed even one of the Kings' laws they would not be able to cut a hole big enough to enter the Kings' Palace- the paper would rip and they would be sent into the dungeon and punished by having to clean out the toilets for the rest of their days.'
- 'The golden tickets went out and there was great excitement everywhere. People immediately started to read the laws. When they read the ticket they found that there was only one law- 'love each other as you love yourself'. 'This should be easy' they all said- 'we can do that for a week!'
- 'The week started well and one of the people had a brand new Xbox to play with. So they threw a party and invited all their friends around. Very soon however, things started to go wrong- some people refused to play against other people, whilst some hogged it to themselves. Some made up lies about how long they had spent on the game. Others ate too much party food and were sick all over the floor. A fight broke out- people were hitting each other and throwing food at each other, whilst others slipped on the sick and ended up covered. By the end of the week no one was friends with anyone and they all stayed in their own houses. Suddenly there was a trumpet sound and they were all summoned before the two Kings. Each hurriedly grabbed their golden tickets and went to see the Kings.'
- 'When they appeared before the Kings the Kings said 'what is that sicky smell?'. 'Nothing' they replied. 'Have you broken our laws?' 'Oh no' they lied. 'We shall see' the Kings said, 'Here are your scissors'. One by one they hurriedly cut the biggest circle they could in their pieces of paper (*each person folds in half first and cuts the biggest hole they can*). They then stepped into the holes. One by one the paper started to tear, even down to the last person. 'Into the dungeon' the Kings said, 'Seeing as you couldn't even love one another or respect our rules for one simple week''
- 'They all went to the dungeon weeping. As the door to the dungeon opened there was a dreaded smell 50 times worse than the smell of the sick. The door slammed behind them. 'Get to work!' said the dungeon master. That night they spent the night crying as they worked. In the middle of the night the Father could not sleep. He felt sorry for all the people in the dungeon and could hear their crying. He realised that the only person who could keep his law perfectly was his son. The son said to the father 'let me go and set them free from the dungeon by doing their work for them'. 'But I love you so much son.' said the father. 'It is the only way dad' the son insisted. Although it was hard for the father, he knew that this was the truth. 'Go' said the father, 'you have my blessing!'
- 'The son went to the dungeon in the dead of night. The dungeon master was surprised to see him and wouldn't open up the gate. 'Open up the gate that the king may come in' he said. The dungeon master was reluctant- 'but the people I have in

here may escape and I won them fair and square governor'. 'I will do their work for them' the King roared in a stern voice. The dungeon master nearly jumped out of his skin and quickly opened the gate. As the iron bars moved the people came out and the king went in. He worked, not only for the night, but also the rest of the week day and night without a break until he had completely done the work allocated to the others. At the end of the week he asked the dungeon master to open the gate to let him out. Exhausted, and after picking up an infection the son collapsed on the floor outside and died. The crowd that were freed gathered round and wept loudly. The King's father then came and reached into his bag of provisions and took out a reviving drink and put the drink to his son's lips. There was a long silence, and noone would utter a word. To everyone's amazement it worked! The son came back to life, and then the father handed him a golden ticket. 'Finish what you came to do my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased' the father said proudly. The son took the ticket and a pair of scissors. He started to cut the paper. Each cut made the crowd shudder as they remembered just how much the son had suffered.' *(Take scissors and cut a ticket as shown below)*

Walk Through a Piece of Paper



- 'Suddenly the father cried out in a loud triumphant voice 'The people have exchanged their disobedience for your obedience son- this golden ticket shall become their golden ticket to my throneroom'. Suddenly the golden ticket became a doorway and all the people cheered (*open up the cut golden ticket to make the large hole for people to step through*). One by one they stepped through the doorway and into the courts of the King, amid cheers and applause. They were each given a shower, aftershave and perfume and also given new clothing to wear- the clothing of royalty. There, having seen how loved they were by the two kings they learned to also love one another- and this time it really was easy. The end'

Jesus is our righteousness

- **Titus 3:4-5**
But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.
- **Rom 3:22**
This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe
- **2Cor 5:21**
God made him who had no sin to be sin [a sin offering] for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.
- **Romans 5:17**
For if, by the trespass of the one man [Adam], death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Love fulfills (is the goal of) the law

- **John 13:34**
"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another
- **Galatians 5:14**
For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."
- **Rom 13:10**
Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law
- **Rom 13:8**
Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.
- **James 2:8**
If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you are doing well

We should act and speak like those who have received mercy

- **James 2:12-13**
Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!

Summary

- Jesus is our righteousness. Love is the aim of the law. Live like you have mercy.

Golden Ticket

The Kings Law:

‘Love each other
as you love yourself’