

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

EXODUS 20:1-17 (MARK 12:30-31)



UNDERSTANDING THE STORY:

After God brought the Israelites out of the land of Egypt, He gave them special commands.

- What does "commandment" mean? (Rule)
- When God gives us commandments is it because He loves people? Does God want to protect people?
- What happens if a person does whatever they want, without following any rules?

God wants people to be ruled by God's Word.

- When people do what God says to do, will their life be blessed? Does God want what's best for us?

God gave 10 special commandments for us to follow.

1. "You shall have no other gods before Me."
God is the only one we should love and worship as God.
2. "You shall not make for yourself a carved image to bow down to and to worship."
Some people love and worship things that people have made. But we should only love and worship God.
3. "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain..."
The name of God is precious and holy. We should only ever say or use God's name in a loving way.
4. "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy..."
God told the people to take a break from work and to have a day of rest.
5. "Honor your father and your mother..."
God tells us to honor our parents. Can you think of a way for you to show honor to your mom and dad?
6. "You shall not murder."
God tells us not to murder. God never wants us to be so angry with a person that we kill them. People are special and we should always treat others with love.
7. "You shall not commit adultery."
God wants a dad and mom to always love each other.
8. "You shall not steal."
What does it mean to steal? Should we ever take something that is not ours?
9. "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."
God tells us not to lie. We should tell the truth.
10. "You shall not covet your neighbor's house..."
What does it mean to "covet"? God doesn't want us to covet. God wants us to be happy with what we have.

SIMPLE TRUTHS:

The commandments show us that we need help, God's help.

- Could we ever obey these 10 rules perfectly? Who's help do we need to do what is right?

The 10 Commandments are important rules to follow. Jesus made it easy to remember when He gave us just two commandments to obey.

- Jesus tells us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength (with everything we have) and to love people the way Jesus loves us.
- Let's pray and ask Jesus to help us keep the commandments by loving God and loving people.

AND REMEMBER...

To love God and
to love people.

MEMORY VERSE:

"And you shall love the LORD your God
with all your heart, with all your soul, with
all your mind, and with all your strength."
Mark 12:30