



The Ten Commandments

The Story — Lesson 5

Scripture: Exodus 19-31

Key Verse: [God's people] answered with one voice. They said, "We will do everything the Lord has told us to do." —Exodus 24:3, NIV

Bible Truth: God demands perfect obedience.

Age 2—2nd grade: Read *The Story for Little Ones*, Chapter 5: "The Ten Commandments"

3rd—6th grades: Read *The Story for Kids*, Chapter 5: "New Rules"

STEP 1: Come Together

Gather the family and tell them you're going to spend a few minutes studying God's word together. Pray and thank God for giving you time together and for giving us rules to help us know what is pleasing to him and how much we need a Savior.

Ask your children **"Why do we have rules?"** Talk about some of your family rules and why they're important. **"God gave us rules, too. His rules teach us what is pleasing to God, and how much we need a Savior."**

Ask your older children to think about some of the rules your family has. Ask, **"What makes a good rule? What are some examples of good rules in our house? If you could make a good rule for all of us to follow, what would it be?"** Talk through their answers and their implications. Say, **"Good rules have a purpose. They keep people safe and help us learn good habits. Our Bible story today is about the rules God gave his people. His rules help us to know him better, and show us how much we need a Savior."**

STEP 2: Hear the Story

Read today's story from your copy of *The Story*, or read Exodus 19:16—20:21 together.

STEP 3: Explore More

Review these catechism questions and answers to follow up on today's story. Read the questions and answers, then repeat each one, having your child repeat back the answer.

Question 29: What is sin? (Sin is any lack of conformity to or transgression of the law of God.)

Question 30: What is meant by "lack of conformity?" (Not being or doing what God requires.)

Question 31: What is meant by "transgression?" (Doing what God forbids.)

Question 32: What does every sin deserve? (The wrath and curse of God.)

STEP 4: Dig Deeper

Read (or have your older children read) Galatians 3:23-26 in your Bible. God gave Moses the law so that people would know what was evil in the sight of the Lord. Through the law, the people would learn they could never satisfy God's demands for holiness. No one can keep God's law. We are all sinners. We all need a Savior. Jesus became our Savior by obeying God's law for us and dying on the cross to take away our sin. The law points us to Christ because he is the only one who can keep all God's commandments and take away the punishment for the commandments we have disobeyed. Pray and thank God for sending Jesus to keep the law perfectly so that we could be rescued from our sin!

MONDAY

Read Exodus 19:3-5

Ask What does God say he has done for his people in verse 4?

Read the words of Jesus in John 6:44

Pray and thank God for drawing us to himself when our sinful hearts want to go our own way.

TUESDAY

Read Exodus 20:1-3

Ask How does God describe himself? What does he tell the people not to do?

Read Acts 17:24

Pray and ask God to reveal the “gods” or idols we have today. Do you value money, sports, toys, or free time more than God? Anything that is more important to us than God is an idol. Confess these things to him, and ask him to help you worship God only!

WEDNESDAY

Read Exodus 20:13

Ask What is murder? (*Murder is intentionally and unjustly taking the life of an image-bearer of God.*)

Read Mathew 5:21-22

Pray and ask God to forgive you for the times you’ve gotten angry with someone. (If that person is nearby, tell them you’re sorry and ask their forgiveness as well.)

THURSDAY

Read Exodus 25:1-8

Ask Why did God want Israel to build him a house (v. 8)?

Read John 1:14

Pray and thank God that he no longer dwells in a house, but that he sent Jesus to dwell among us. Thank him for sending the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts so that we can love and serve him!

FRIDAY

Read Exodus 34:6-7

Ask How does God describe himself to Moses?

Read 1 John 1:9

Pray and thank God for being merciful, gracious, slow to anger, and faithful to forgive our sins. Thank him for sending his Son Jesus to “cleanse us from all unrighteousness” so that we can be part of his forever family!