



UNIT 5 | SESSION 2

# GOD GAVE THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

EXODUS 19-20

**CHRIST CONNECTION:**

God's rules are good, but people cannot obey them perfectly. Only Jesus obeyed God perfectly. We can trust Him to forgive our sin.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:**

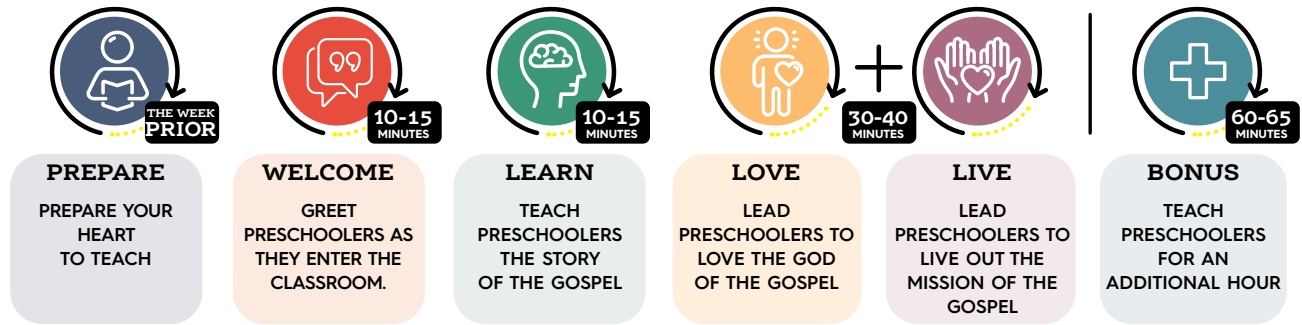
What is worship? Worship is singing, praying, and listening to God.

**KEY PASSAGE PHRASE:**

Let's worship God. Psalm 95:6



## YOUR HEART TO TEACH



## LEADER Bible Study

As the rescued people of Israel traveled toward the promised land, God met with Moses at Mount Sinai and made a covenant with the Israelites. We refer to this covenant as the Mosaic covenant. God promised five things in this covenant: 1) Israel will be God's own possession; 2) Israel will be God's kingdom of priests; 3) Israel will be a holy nation; 4) God will defend Israel from her enemies; and 5) God will be gracious, merciful, and forgiving to Israel.

Unlike His covenant with Abraham, God's covenant with Israel was conditional: "Carefully follow every command I am giving you" (Deut. 8:1). "Be careful that you don't forget the LORD your God by failing to keep his commands" (Deut. 8:11). "If you ever forget the LORD your God ... you will certainly perish." (Deut. 8:19). Isn't it interesting how remembering God and obeying Him are so closely linked? You spend the most time thinking about that which you most care about. What occupies the most space in your mind? If we aren't thinking about God, we aren't loving Him. And if we aren't loving Him, we aren't obeying Him.

We can group the Ten Commandments into two categories: The first four deal with a person's relationship with God (love God), and the last six deal with a person's relationship with others (love others).

These laws encompassed every part of the Israelites' lives and showed what righteous living looks like.

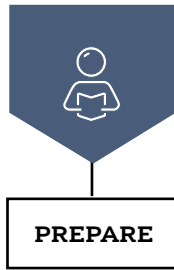
Some people think of the Ten Commandments as a burden, but God's rules are good and are meant to help us. The Bible is clear that we are all sinful and fall short of God's standard for holiness. Why should we seek to obey God? Consider Jesus' words: "If you love me, you will keep my commands" (John 14:15).

Read the Ten Commandments with Jesus in mind. When we are in Christ, our obedience cannot earn us God's favor, and our disobedience does not separate us from Him. God is pleased with us because He looks at Jesus, who never sinned.

Because of Christ, we have a right relationship with God. He gives us power through the Holy Spirit to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind" and to "love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:37,39).

### TERMS TO KNOW

**Mosaic Covenant:** the conditional covenant God made with the Israelites at Mount Sinai. God's promises in Exodus 19:3-8 were dependent on Israel's obedience. Israel failed to keep the covenant.



## YOUR HEART TO TEACH

### GATHER Supplies

Keep a supply of the following items available during all teaching sessions: Allergy Alert, Bibles, washable markers, crayons, scissors (adult use), blunt-tipped scissors, construction paper, copy paper, glue sticks, glue, tape, baby dolls, blocks, play dough, and a beanbag.



#### WELCOME

##### Make designs in play dough

- Big Picture Question Poster
- play dough tools
- craft sticks (optional)



#### LEARN

##### Review the Bible story connection

- Bible Story Picture

##### Learn and practice the key passage phrase

- Key Passage Phrase Marker



#### LOVE

##### Count groups of five and ten

- plastic bin
- items for counting such as crayons, markers, and blocks

##### Cook a campsite meal

- cardboard tubes
- red, yellow, and orange tissue paper or construction paper
- play pots and pans
- play food



#### LIVE

##### Make letter rubbings

- sandpaper
- cookie sheets

##### Exercise and learn about missionaries

- "Learn about the Williams Family" printable
- "Williams Missions Posters" printable

##### Snack and transition

- snacks
- Activity Page, 1 per child



#### BONUS

##### Make a book of ten

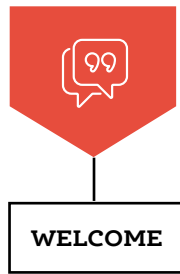
- assorted stickers

##### Set up a reading area

- plastic bin or container
- large beach towel or pillow
- Bibles and simple picture books

##### Work and rest

- cloths to be used for cleaning



Provide as many learning activities as possible from the *Love* and *Live* sections to give preschoolers choices to learn. Incorporate the Bible story, the Christ connection, and key passage phrase in your conversation as the preschoolers engage in learning activities throughout the session.

## WELCOME

Use the following activity to greet children as they enter the classroom. Talk about the big picture question and answer. After each child completes the welcome activity, encourage him to participate in the activities provided from the *Love* and *Live* sections of the leader guide.

### MAKE DESIGNS IN PLAY DOUGH

Place play dough, play dough tools, and craft sticks on a table near the classroom entrance. Greet children as they arrive, show them the big picture question poster, and direct them to the table. Encourage preschoolers to select play dough to use. Show them how to roll the play dough flat on the tabletop. Then, show them how to make designs in the play dough with their fingers or craft sticks. As children create, talk about the Ten Commandments.

**SAY** “ We used our fingers and craft sticks to make designs in the play dough. In our Bible story, God gave Moses Ten Commandments or rules for the people. The first four commandments told people how to love God. The last six commandments told the people how to love other people. God told His people to listen to Him and to obey Him. Listening to God is a way to worship Him. We can also worship God when we sing, pray, and in many other ways. ”

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

# LEARN the Bible Story

### 1 COUNT TO TEN

Invite preschoolers to join you in group time. Tell them you will count to the number ten aloud. Challenge children to be in the circle ready to hear the Bible story when you say the number ten. Count either slowly or quickly as necessary to ensure children have necessary time to get to the group time area.

**SAY** “ I counted to ten. Today we are going to hear a Bible story about Ten Commandments. Let’s listen to hear the commandments God gave. ”

### 2 TELL THE BIBLE STORY

Open your Bible to Exodus 19-20 and tell the following Bible story.

#### GOD GAVE THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

**SAY** “ Moses and the Israelites camped at a mountain. God wanted to make a covenant, or special agreement, with them. God told Moses, “Tell the people that if they listen to Me and obey Me, they will be My people.” Moses told God’s message to the people, and they agreed to do everything God said.

God gave Moses the Ten Commandments, or rules. The first four commandments told the people how to love God: “Do not worship anyone but Me. Do not make statues to worship. Do not treat My name like it is not special. Remember the day of rest.”

The last six commandments told the people how to love other people: “Obey your mother and father. Do not kill. Keep your marriage promises. Do not steal. Do not lie. Do not want things that belong to other people.”

When God was finished speaking to Moses, He gave Moses two stone tablets. God had written on the tablets with His own finger. ”

Christ Connection: God’s rules are good, but people cannot obey them perfectly. Only Jesus obeyed God perfectly. We can trust Him to forgive our sin.



## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### 3 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY CONNECTION

Place the Bible story picture on the floor in the middle of the circle of preschoolers. Suggest preschoolers take turns tossing a beanbag on the picture and say a commandment they remember from the story. Different children may recall the same commandment. Repeat until each child has a turn.

**SAY** “ God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. The first four told people how to love God. The last six told people how to love other people. God’s rules are good, but people cannot obey them perfectly. Only Jesus obeyed God perfectly. We can trust Him to forgive our sin. ”

### 4 SING A SONG

Sing the song to the familiar tune of “Frere Jacques.”

“Let us worship, let us worship,  
Worship God, worship God.  
Let us worship God, let us worship God,  
\*With our hands, with our hands.” (Clap on each beat of the last line.)

\*Repeat with alternate lines such as with our feet (stomp on each beat of the last line) or with a pat (pat lap or knees on each beat of last line).

### 5 LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the key passage phrase marker in the Bible at Psalm 95:6. Invite a child to open the Bible. Read the key passage phrase aloud. Create motions for each word in the phrase. Teach the motions to preschoolers and lead them in saying the phrase with the motions.

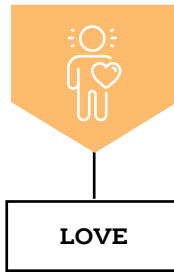
**SAY** “ Our key passage phrase reminds us to worship God. In our story today, we learned the first four commandments, or rules, tell us how to love and to worship God. We are to worship only God, not make statues to worship, treat God’s name special, and remember the day of rest. ”

### 6 PRAY

Pray, thanking God for giving us rules that show us how to love Him and how to love others. Ask God to help us to follow His rules.

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





## THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

# LOVE God because of what we learned

### 1 PLAY A GUESSING GAME



Invite preschoolers to sit in a circle and play a game. Pantomime a way a person can show love to God or love to others for children to guess. If needed, give verbal clues. Once the action has been guessed, talk about the action and how a person shows love in that way. Repeat the game, allowing each preschooler a turn to pantomime an action of showing love to God and others if he desires. Examples include singing, praying, reading the Bible, and helping others.

**SAY** “ We talked about different ways we can show love to God and to others. God gave Moses the Ten Commandments, or rules. These rules told the people how to love God and how to love other people. God’s rules are good, but people cannot obey them perfectly. Only Jesus obeyed God perfectly. We can trust Him to forgive our sin. ”

### 2 COUNT GROUPS OF FIVE AND TEN

Place crayons, markers, small wooden blocks, or other small items in a plastic bin. Demonstrate how to make a group of five items by counting aloud as you group the items. Encourage preschoolers to count items and form two groups of five. Help as needed. Then, guide them to put the two groups of five items together, making one group of ten. Lead children to count aloud to ten as you point to each item.

**SAY** “ Today we counted items and put them in groups. We counted ten items. God gave Moses Ten Commandments, or rules, to follow. These rules showed God’s people how to love and obey Him. God’s rules are good, but people cannot obey them perfectly. Only Jesus obeyed God perfectly. We can trust Him to forgive our sin. ”

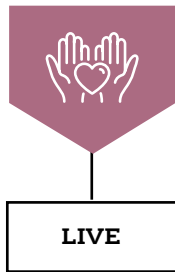
### 3 COOK A CAMPSITE MEAL

Encourage preschoolers to help create a pretend campfire by using blocks, cardboard tubes, and red, yellow, and orange construction or tissue paper. Suggest children pretend to cook food over the pretend fire. Explain why people would need to use a fire to cook food while camping, and mention possible foods people may eat while camping. Share any camping stories you may have and ask children if they have ever camped. If they have, ask them what foods they have eaten while camping.

**SAY** “ We are pretending we are cooking while camping. Moses and the Israelites camped at a mountainside. They lived in tents in the wilderness. What do you think it would be like to live in a tent? While the people camped, Moses went up the mountain where God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. The first four commandments told the people how to love God. The last six commandments told the people how to love each other. God’s rules are good, but people cannot obey them perfectly. Only Jesus obeyed God perfectly. We can trust Him to forgive our sin. ”

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





## THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

### **LIVE** for God out of love

#### 1 MAKE LETTER RUBBINGS

Cut out the letters G, O, and D from sandpaper or construction paper. Make several sets. Arrange and attach the letters on cookie sheets with tape to spell GOD. Peel the paper wrapping off several crayons. Lay a sheet of paper over the arranged letters. Show preschoolers how to use the side of unwrapped crayons to color over the paper to see the design of the letters. Talk about how we are only to worship God. Mention ways preschoolers can worship God.

**SAY** “ When you colored over the paper, you saw the letters underneath the paper that spell God. Our key passage phrase, ‘Let’s worship God’ reminds us to worship God. We learned that God gave Moses rules for His people to follow. These rules were written on stone tablets. Obeying God is a way to worship God. ”

#### 2 EXERCISE AND LEARN ABOUT MISSIONARIES



Print the “Williams Missions Posters” and “Learn about the Williams Family” printables. Show children the “Williams Missions Posters.” Talk about the pictures, using the provided captions. Lead preschoolers in different exercises, such as reaching up high, bending to touch their toes, and jumping up and down. Then, suggest preschoolers take turns leading the group in exercises. Between exercises, use the “Learn About the Williams Family” printable to tell preschoolers more about Bobby and LaKeisha Williams and their ministry.

**SAY** “ Some missionaries are called church planters. Church planters are people who go to a place that needs a church and start one. It can be very hard to start a church. Bobby and LaKeisha Williams are church planters. Next Level Church, their church, has a camp with boys and girls who do exercises like we did today. ”

#### 3 SNACK AND TRANSITION

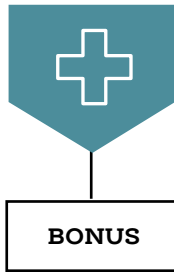


Post an allergy alert. Serve the snack. As children eat, review and talk about the Bible story. When children finish snack, lead them to complete the activity page. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ connection.

**SAY** “ God’s rules are good, but people cannot obey them perfectly. Only Jesus obeyed God perfectly. We can trust Him to forgive our sin. ”

Remember to communicate helpful information to the bonus teaching hour leaders. If parents are picking up children at this time, tell them something their child did well during the session. Distribute the big picture cards for families. Encourage parents to engage with the family discussion starters and family activities during the week.





## TEACHING HOUR

# **BONUS** Teaching Hour Group Time

### **1 BUILD A MOUNTAIN**

Lay ten blocks on the floor. Welcome children to group time. Invite preschoolers to build a mountain, suggesting they stack the blocks to form a mountain. Tell them God talked to Moses on a mountain and gave them special rules for people.

### **2 TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY**

Open the Bible to Exodus 19-20. Use the summarized points to talk about the Bible story.

#### **GOD GAVE THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**

- God talked to Moses on a mountain. God gave Moses the Ten Commandments.
- These ten rules were “Do not worship anyone but Me. Do not make statues to worship. Do not treat My name like it is not special. Remember the day of rest.”
- These rules showed God’s people how to love and obey Him.
- Then God told people how to love one another: “Obey your mother and father. Do not kill. Keep your marriage promises. Do not steal. Do not lie. Do not want things that belong to other people.”
- When God was finished speaking to Moses, He gave Moses two stone tablets. God had written on the tablets with His own finger.

### **3 SING A SONG**

Sing the song to the familiar tune of “Frere Jacques.”

“Let us worship, let us worship,  
Worship God, worship God.  
Let us worship God, let us worship God,  
\*With our hands, with our hands.” (Clap on each beat of the last line.)

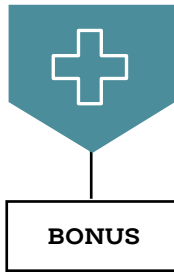
\*Repeat with alternate lines such as with our feet (stomp on each beat of the last line) or with a pat (pat lap or knees on each beat of last line).

### **4 SAY THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE**

Open the Bible to Psalm 95:6 and read aloud the key passage phrase. Invite children to say it back to you. Lead them to say the phrase slowly. Repeat the phrase and say it faster.

### **5 PRAY**

Pray, thanking God for guiding us by giving us rules that show us how to follow Him.



## TEACHING HOUR

# BONUS Teaching Hour Activities

### 6 MAKE A BOOK OF TEN



Fold pieces of paper in half creating a “book” for each child. Print 10 in large block figures on the front covers . Distribute a book to each child and instruct children to open them to the center page. Give ten stickers to each child and guide children to stick all ten stickers on the inside of their books. Point to the children’s stickers and help them count to ten. Encourage preschoolers to use markers or crayons to decorate the covers and inside of their books.

**SAY** “ We counted to ten, and we each have ten stickers in our books. God gave His people ten special rules called the Ten Commandments. God told Moses, ‘Tell the people that if they listen to Me and obey Me, they will be My people.’ The first four commandments told the people how to love God. The last six commandments told the people how to love other people. God’s rules are good, but people cannot obey them perfectly. Only Jesus obeyed God perfectly. ”

### 7 SET UP A READING AREA

Place Bibles and books in a plastic bin or container. Invite preschoolers to select an area in the room to set up a reading nook. Help them spread out pillows or a towel and place the container of Bibles and books nearby. Invite children to look in the Bibles and books. Help preschoolers locate Exodus 19-20 and Psalm 95:6. Talk about each of the Ten Commandments.

**SAY** “ We can learn more about God when we read the Bible. Today, we heard how God gave Moses and His people rules called the Ten Commandments. All through the Bible, we can read stories about people who worshiped God. They prayed, talked to God, listened to Him, obeyed His commands, and sang songs to Him. Those are all ways to worship God. Our key passage phrase, ‘Let’s worship God’ reminds us we can worship God. ”

### 8 WORK AND REST

Set up different work areas around the room such as cleaning the play kitchen area with cleaning cloths and pretending to be construction workers with building blocks. After the children have played a few minutes, tell them it is time to rest. Suggest the preschoolers show how they rest at home. After a short break, tell them they can go back to work in the play areas.

**SAY** “ You worked for a while and then took some time to rest. God gave Moses ten special rules called Commandments. We can read the Ten Commandments in the Bible. One of the commandments told Israel they were to rest on the Sabbath day. They were to remember that day was to be different than the other days. They were to rest and not work on that day. God’s rules help us know how to love God and love others. God expects us to obey His rules. But people cannot obey them perfectly. Only Jesus obeyed God perfectly. ”

Release preschoolers to parents according to your church’s security procedure. Tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.