

Lesson 13: Moses –and the Ten Commandments – 10th

Objectives: Students will...

- 1) Study Exodus 20
- 2) Study this week on the last commandment God gave the Israelites and how it relates to the New Testament and Jesus
- 3) Continue to memorize the 10 commandments God gave to the Israelites and share their memory work with the class

Supplies:

Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)

- Bible(s)
- Markers/Pencil Crayons
- Pens/Pencils
- Attendance Chart (See Template)
- Stickers for Attendance
- Exodus 20 Ten Commandments Poster – one sheet printed on white cardstock paper per student use the one from previous lesson unless a new students arrives then hand them a new one.
- 10 Commandments Quiz – For older students – one per older child who can read and write
- 10 Commandments Quiz – For younger students – one per younger child who needs pictures

Optional:

- Song lyrics to Ten Commandment Song –one per student
- Ten Commandments Card Game Set 1 and 2 – Print one set per student on white Cardstock paper if you did not already do so from last time

Snack:

- 10 Grapes (to represent 10th Command) 10 per child
- Napkins for snack one per child
- Juice or water and cup one per child

Lesson:

1) Introduction to Lesson

2-5 minutes

As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). Once children are seated say:

Does anyone remember what we studied last week? We studied the ninth commandment.

Can anyone recite the ninth commandment from Exodus 20:16? You shall not give false testimony (you shall not lie).

Today we are going to look at Exodus 20:17 - the 10th and final commandment and how it relates to us today – You shall not covet. We will also continue trying to memorize all 10 commandments by the end of today and finish with an individual quiz to see how much you can remember!

2) The Tenth Commandment

10 minutes

Ask children to get their Bibles and turn to Exodus 20. Ask for a volunteer to read from **Exodus 20:1-4, 7-8** or read yourself. After you have finished the reading, say:

Remember the first four commandments are focused on who? God and how the Israelites were to worship and serve Him.

What is the first commandment? You shall have no other gods before me

What is the second commandment? You shall not make for yourself an idol.

What is the third commandment? You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

What is the fourth commandment? Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

***Remember this is the one commandment we don't continue to follow today as we are instructed now to worship on Sunday – the first day of the week to remember Jesus Christ.**

We will now look at how God wants us to treat others. Read Exodus 20:12-17

Who did God focus on in verse 12? Our caregivers or parents.

What is the fifth commandment? Honor your father and your mother.

What was the sixth commandment? You shall not murder

What is the seventh commandment in verse 14? You shall not commit adultery.

What was the eighth commandment in verse 15? You shall not steal.

What is the ninth commandment in verse 16? You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What is the tenth and final commandment in verse 17? You shall not covet.

What is covet? To want something that you do not have very much. To want something that does not belong to you. To desire wrongfully or without due regard for the rights of others.

What are some examples of wanting something that does not belong to you in a wrong way?

Being willing to hurt or steal or wish harm on someone in order to have what they have. Not liking someone or being mad at them because they have what you want. Worrying about not having something you think you need.

Let's look to see what the New Testament says about wanting what you don't have (Coveting) and how it relates to us today.

Matthew 6:25-34

²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

²⁸ "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

What is Jesus saying here about worrying about what you have? First, seek God and then everything you need will come – don't worry about what you need – God can and will take care of it, just seek Him truly and then ask Him. If you need it you will get it.

Let's read **James 4:2**

James 4:1-3

4 What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? ²You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. ³When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

What is James saying here? People covet and fight because they don't ask God for what they need. And, they don't get what they need because they just want things for pleasure not because they truly need it or because they will use it to be better Christians.

Hebrews 13:5

⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."

What is this verse saying we need to do? Be content with what we have and keep our lives free from the love of money – using money is ok, but you should not love money in a sinful sense.

So is coveting (wanting something you don't have) a sin in the New Testament? Yes!

Let's read **Exodus 20:17** again together out loud. **You shall not covet.**

Ask the students if they have any questions before moving on to the next activity.

3) Exodus 20 Ten Commandments Poster Activity

5-15 minutes

Hand out one page to each child along with markers or pencil crayons. Since most children have already started their posters, hand them back to them to continue working on for this week.

Explain to them that, "**Today we are going to fill in the last commandment. You shall not covet.**

What does that mean? You should not want what is not yours or what you don't have, but be content with what God blesses you with and seek Him first.

Now either write the words and/or draw a picture to show God's 10th commandment in a way that is appropriate. Any questions?

Help students come up with ideas on how to represent this commandment. Go around the room helping students if needed. This is the last poster box for this quarter so students can take the posters home with them. If they have time, they can finish any other commands they might have missed during this quarter.

4) Optional: Ten Commandments Song

2-5 minutes

Exodus 20 "Ten Commandments" (To the tune of Jingle Bells)

No other gods, no idols

Don't misuse God's name.

Keep the Sabbath holy, that's God's special day, HEY!

Honor your Mother and Father

Don't murder, lust or steal

No false tales, no envy this is God's great deal, HEY!

5) 10 Commandments Quiz Sheet

10-15 minutes

Note: There are two options – an older student sheet for those who can read and write well and a younger student sheet for those who can read some words but need mostly pictures.

Hand out the appropriate sheet to each child along with pencil and/or crayons. Read the instructions aloud for the older kids – reminding them **the point of this is to see what you know honestly. So try and do each activity without looking. We are not competing with each other, only trying to see what you can remember on your own. But, once you have done all you can without looking, you can then go to the Bible and finish the rest if needed.**

For younger kids, read each commandment aloud and then help them find the picture it should match and have them draw a line to the picture. When done, they can color the page while they wait for their older classmates to finish. Go through all the answers as a class and praise them for trying their best over this quarter to memorize the 10 commandments! For those that want, they can still continue to practice on their own if needed to memorize at home.

See if anyone can recite or remember the two commandments Jesus gave in **Matthew 22:36-40.**

1. **Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind.**
2. **Love your neighbor as yourself.**

6) Optional: 10 Commandments Card Game

10-15 minutes

Choose what game they play from the list below:

Matching: 2 player game - two complete sets of cards

Take two sets of cards, mix them up and place them spread out each face down. Have each student take turns picking two cards – if the card is the same (same picture or same command) they get to keep the set. If they don't pick a set, the other person gets a turn. Continue until all cards have been matched and count how many pairs to see who won. As they match – have them look at Exodus 20 to see what the command actually says to help memorize the verse.



Mixing four complete sets of cards for a big card game with 4 players:

Mix the cards. Distribute five cards to each player. The rest of the cards will be placed face down on the middle of the table. The players should each arrange their cards in numerical order. The object of this game is to get four commandments in numerical sequence with no gaps (ex: 1,2,3,4 or 4,5,6,7 etc.) All four cards must be either written or picture cards, but cannot be a mixture of both. The first participant draws a card from the middle and decides whether or not to keep it. That student must discard one of the six cards that he or she now holds. The discard pile should be next to the pile in the middle, but these cards should be placed face up. The next student has the option to either draw from the pile in the middle or from the discard pile. Students should have only five cards at any one time. The victorious player is the first person to get four cards in numerical sequence. The true winners are those students who are learning and memorizing the Ten Commandments ☺

Go “Fish”

Mix the cards. Have one to two complete sets for two players. Distribute 5 cards to each player. Put the remaining cards face down in the middle of the table as a pile from which to draw. Each player looks at his or her cards and lays down any exact pairs that he or she might have. Written activity cards can only be paired with written if using two complete sets, otherwise match written to picture. The student who did not distribute the cards gets to go first and ask the other student for a card to

match one he or she already has in their possession. If that person has the card, it must be handed over. That student then lays down the matching pair and may continue to ask for a matching card as long as he or she continues making matches. If the student does not receive a card that makes a match, he or she draws a card from the pile and may try to match it to a card in his or her possession. If it does match, the student may draw again. If no match is made, that student's turn is over. When a player runs out of cards, two more should be drawn from the pile and the game continues until all cards are paired. The victor is the one with the most pairs.

7) Optional - Snack: 10 Grapes

5 minutes

Hand out 10 grapes to each child along with a glass of water or juice to each child. State that **each week as we have gone through the Ten Commandments we had a snack that matches the number we were studying. So this week we will have the last number - 10; to represent the tenth commandment: Exodus 20:17 - You shall not covet.**

Provide a napkin for children to clean their hands. Discuss any questions while snacking.

8) Close in prayer

*If desired, ask the children if they have any prayer requests and write them down to help you remember. Then ask all children to bow their heads and fold their hands to pray.

We pray that we will remember to not want things that we don't have but be content with what we do have. That we will pray to You God for the things we truly need that will make us better servants of Yours. Thank you God for helping us understand why doing Your will is such a blessing in our lives. And, thank you for showing us how following You makes our lives better. In Jesus precious and holy name, Amen.