



# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



**Exodus 19:1–20:17; 31:1**

## THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

**Three months after they left Egypt, the Israelites came to Mount Sinai. Moses went up the mountain, and God spoke to him there. He said, “You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I have cared for you. If you carefully listen to Me and keep the covenant I will give you, then you will be My own special people.”**

**Moses went back to the people and shared what God said. The people said, “We will do whatever the Lord asks us to do.”** So, Moses went back up the mountain to talk to God.

**The Lord said to Moses, “Bring the people with you to the bottom of the mountain in three days. I will come to you in a dense cloud, and the people will hear when I speak with you and they will believe you. Tell the people to prepare to meet with Me by washing their clothes. Make sure that no one touches the base of the mountain.”** Moses returned to the people, and they prepared to meet with God.

**Moses and the people returned to Mount Sinai on the third day. There was thunder and lightning, and a thick cloud was on the mountain. They heard a very loud trumpet sound, and the people were afraid. The Lord summoned Moses and Aaron to the top of the mountain. Then God spoke these words:**

**“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of slavery in Egypt.**

**“Do not have other gods besides Me.**

**“Do not make an idol for yourself. Do not bow in worship to idols or serve them.**

**“Do not misuse the name of the Lord.**

**“Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.** Do not do any work on the seventh day.

**“Honor your father and mother** so you may have a long life in the land God is giving you.

**“Do not murder.**

**“Do not take another person’s husband or wife as your own.**

**“Do not steal.**

**“Do not lie about your neighbor.**

**“Do not be jealous for anything that belongs to your neighbor.”**

When **God** finished speaking with Moses, He **gave Moses the two stone tablets with these commandments on them. The commandments had been written by the finger of God.**



**Christ Connection:** God gave His people commandments so they would know how to honor Him and live rightly. Because of sin, no one is able to keep these commandments perfectly. God sent His Son, Jesus, to live a perfect, sinless life. Jesus died and rose again so that sinners can be forgiven.