

# The 10 Commandments

**Scripture Reference:** Exodus 19:1-20:20


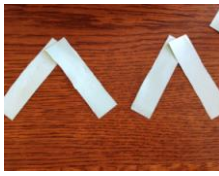

**Story Overview:** The Lord knew that His people would need rules so that they could get along and so that they would know how to love and obey Him. When the Israelites came to Mount Sinai, Moses went up on the mountain where the Lord gave him the Ten Commandments. From the mountain the people heard thunder and trumpet sounds and saw lightning and smoke. They were afraid as they saw the awesome power of God. The Lord later wrote these commands on stone tablets that the people carried with them as they travelled.

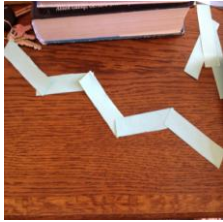






**Suggested Emphasis:** God gives us rules to live by because He knows that they will help us be happy.



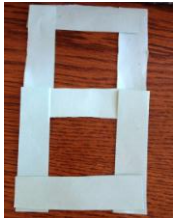


## Instructions for telling the Story:

1. Cut 6 strips of paper into strips of equal size. (In the example below 2 sheets of memo cube paper were used).
2. As you tell the story use the paper strips to form these simple shapes that depict what is happening.
3. When you have finished, help the children cut their own strips of paper and re-tell the story themselves. It is a great way to review.

*(Thanks to Ben Clay for providing the pictures!)*

<p>1. God's people had been travelling on their journey from Egypt for over two months. They arrived at the foot of <b>Mount Sinai</b>.</p>	
<p>2. The Israelites spread their <b>camp</b> in the desert in front of the mountain. Moses went up onto the mountain to speak with the Lord.</p>	
<p>3. The Lord gave special instructions to Moses for the people. They were to wash themselves and their <b>clothing</b> and be ready by the third day. On that day the Lord was going to come down on Mount Sinai. The people were not to touch the mountain. Anyone who touched the mountain was to be put to death.</p>	

<p>4. A thick cloud was on the mountain. <b>Lightning</b> flashed and thunder rolled down its slopes. Then fire burst out of the mountain and there was a loud trumpet blast. The people trembled with fright when they saw this awesome display of God's power. The trumpet sound kept getting louder and louder.</p>	
<p>5. Then God spoke to Moses. He gave Moses Ten Commandments (written on <b>two stone tablets</b>) that He wanted His people to obey.</p>	
<p>6. Commandment Number <b>One:</b> You shall have no other gods before me. I am number one.</p>	
<p>7. Commandment Number <b>Two</b> You shall not make for yourself an idol.</p>	
<p>8. Commandment Number <b>Three:</b> You shall not misuse the name of the Lord</p>	
<p>9. Commandment Number <b>Four:</b> Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy</p>	
<p>10. Commandment Number <b>Five:</b> Honour your father and your mother</p>	

<p>11. Commandment Number <b>Six:</b> You shall not murder</p>	
<p>12. Commandment Number <b>Seven:</b> You shall not commit adultery</p>	
<p>13. Commandment Number <b>Eight:</b> You shall not steal</p>	
<p>14. Commandment Number <b>Nine:</b> You shall not give false testimony</p>	
<p>15. Commandment Number <b>Ten:</b> You shall not covet</p>	
<p>16. God gave these Commandments to His people because He knew they needed a plan for living. He was preparing the Israelites to become a great nation.</p> <p>God knew that a nation could not be great unless there were good laws. The laws would guide them in the way they were to worship God and in the way they were to treat other people.</p> <p>If the people would obey the laws then they would be happy and they would show the other nations that the nation of Israel followed God.</p> <p>Do you think you will be happy if you obey God?</p>	