

Family Worship Guide

Week 24

Read

Exodus 20:1-17

- **Questions**

1. The Ten Commandments can be separated into two sections. The first four commandments make up the first section. Can we work together to remember the first four commandments?

1) You shall have no other gods before me. 2) You shall not make any idols. 3) You shall not take the Lord's name in vain. 4) Keep the Sabbath holy.

2. The first four commandments are all about our relationship with God. If we want to love God, these are four things He calls us to do. What does it mean to have "no other gods" before Him?

The world continually tempts us to replace God with other things. We are tempted to want to make other people happy, more than make God happy. We are tempted to think that we will be completely happy if we have more toys, more money, more friends, are better at sports, or get better grades.

3. The last six commandments are all about our relationships with other people. Can we work together to remember the last six commandments?

5) Honor your father and your mother. 6) Do not murder. 7) Do not commit adultery. 8) Do not steal. 9) Do not lie. 10) Do not covet.

5. The fifth commandment is the first commandment for human relationships. "Honor your father and your mother." This is the first moral test we face when we come into the world. Is there a difference between honoring your parents and obeying them?

Yes, you can obey your parents without honoring them. In other words you can do what you are told to do, but with a lousy attitude. On the other hand, you cannot honor your parents, without obeying them. This is why God clearly worded the command this way. He does not want us simply to obey our parents, but to truly honor them in our hearts.

This is a great opportunity for parents to talk about the ways they have tried to honor their own parents. Share a story about a time you did not honor them, and another story about a time you did your best to honor them.

6. Which of these Ten Commandments do you think God would most like to see our family grow in during this year ahead? What could we do to help each other be more obedient in that area?

Listen to each person's response. Work together as a family to identify one commandment that can serve as a growth area for the entire family in the coming weeks. Come up with at least one specific thing you can do to help each other grow in that area.

Praise

Praise God for giving us:

Himself

Grace and Mercy

Salvation

Our family

Our church family

What has God done in our family this week that we can give him praise?

Pray

Use the ACTS model (Example below.)

- ADORATION – "He keeps His promises."
- CONFESSION – "Confess times when we have not obeyed"
- THANKSGIVING – "How has God been faithful to your family?"
- SUPPLICATION – "God encourages us to bring all of our needs and burdens to Him."
- Pray that we will live obediently to God's Word.
- Pray for your neighbors by name! Pray that God will bless them!

Memorize

"You shall have no other gods before me."

Exodus 20:3

Digging Deeper

(Optional activities)

Kids Fun

Supplies needed: Ten 3x5 cards and a pen or marker for each person.

Last week during our family worship time, we read about how God prepared the people of Israel to enter into a covenant with Him. In a few minutes, we are going to read one of the most important chapters in the entire Bible. In this chapter, Exodus 20, God explains to us how He wants us to live. He tells us things we should do, and things we should not do in order to please Him and honor Him.

He tells us how He wants us to love Him, and how He wants us to love each other. Does anyone know what this list of instructions is called? The Ten Commandments.

Because these commandments are so important we are going to see if we can learn what they all are as we start our family worship time. I have 10 cards here. The first thing we need to do is to write a big number on each card. So let's work together to write the numbers 1 through 10 on each card. Give little ones a chance to help.

Now here comes the challenging part. On the back side of each card, we need to write the commandment that goes with that number. Don't worry! We can use the Bible if we need help.

Before using your Bible, see if you can work together to remember the commandments in the right order. You can write a shortened form of the commandment on the back of the card - (No other gods before me, no idols, do not take the Lord's name in vain, keep the Sabbath, honor your father and mother, no murder, no adultery, no stealing, no lying, no coveting).

Good job! We have our ten cards ready to go. Now let's make things more challenging! Please mix up the cards and put them in a pile. Put the cards "commandment side" up and "number side" down. I would like to ask a volunteer to take the mixed up cards, and try and put them in their right order, as fast as possible, without looking at the numbers on the back.

Give those who want to try a couple of chances. Use the numbers on the back to check and see if they got it right! Another way to play the game is to lay all the cards out on a table, number side up. Give each person a number, and see if they can correctly identify the commandment on the other side of the card.

For Teens

Talk about these questions with your teen:

1. Many Christians today rarely think about the Ten Commandments. In your opinion, why do you think that is?

2. Each person struggles with some sins more than others. Which of the Ten Commandments has God given you the grace to be most obedient to?

3. In Matthew 22, Jesus said that the first and second commandments were to "love God" and "love your neighbor." How do these two commandments relate to the Ten Commandments?

Jesus said that "the law and the prophets" can be summarized in the two commands to "love God" and "love your neighbor." But HOW do we begin to love God? By obeying the first four commandments. HOW do we begin to love our neighbor? By obeying the last six commandments.

4. What would you say to someone who asked you, "Why should I pay attention to the Ten Commandments? Didn't Jesus come to get rid of all those old laws?"

Think of what you would say. Then read how Jesus Himself answered this question in Matthew 5:17-20. The Ten Commandments continue to be our guide for living the Christian life, and our continual failure to obey them reminds us every day that we are in desperate need of a Savior.