

Wednesday 24th February 2021

LO: 10 commandments

Jews believe that God dictated the Torah to Moses on Mount Sinai 50 days after their exodus from Egyptian slavery. They believe that the Torah shows how God wants Jews to live. It contains 613 commandments and Jews refer to the ten best known of these as the ten 10 statements. God told Moses that if these rules were not followed, God would punish people who disobeyed them. If they obeyed then they would be his Chosen People. Today these laws are known as the Ten Commandments.

The Ten Commandments are found in the book of Exodus.

Do not have any other gods.

Do not make or worship idols.

Do not disrespect or misuse God's name.

Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy.

Honour your mother and father.

Do not commit murder.

Do not commit adultery.

Do not steal.

Do not tell lies

Do not be envious of others.

Exodus 20:1–15

Watch this: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=seJR_dfsUvM

To think about:

How do rules make you feel?

Why do rules exist?

Are rules always necessary?

Were the 10 commandments reasonable?

Why do you think God set such rules?

The 10 Commandments do not exist so that salvation can be earned. Rather, the 10 Commandments show us how impossible it is to be perfect, and therefore emphasize our need for Jesus as our Saviour. People strive to obey the 10 Commandments as they strive to become more like Christ.

Rules are in place so we can be more kind, make more informed choices and to try to be the best people we can be.

To do: Write your own commandments. Find this sheet on the website.

Write Your Own Ten Commandments

When Moses led the Hebrews out of Egypt to the Promised Land, God gave him the Ten Commandments. These were the commandments that God wanted the Hebrews to live their lives by every day.

You are going to create your own set of Ten Commandments.

You might want to think about the following:


- Think about how you should treat others?
- How should you behave towards other people?
- What should you be grateful for in life?
- What should you always try to do every day?
- What rules should people follow so that the world is a better place?

Here is some vocabulary and phrases which might help you:

grateful	happy	generous	kindness	not jealous	appreciate others
respect	tolerance	obey rules	listen	understanding	not prejudiced

You might want to start each commandment one of these ways:

- Always/Never...
- You should/should not...
- Every day...



The illustration shows two stone tablets with the Ten Commandments written on them. The left tablet contains: 'You shall have no gods before me', 'You shall not make any idols to worship', 'You shall not take the Lord's name in vain', 'Remember and keep the Sabbath holy', and 'Honour your father and mother'. The right tablet contains: 'You shall not kill', 'You shall not commit adultery', 'You shall not steal', 'You shall not bear false witness', and 'You shall not covet your neighbour's wife nor goods'.