

Topic: The Ten Commandments – God’s Intention for Giving the Law

Note: The practical applications provided in the lesson are offered as suggestions to help the saints in their preparation. They are not meant to direct or limit the ways in which the focus of the lesson can be applied. The saints are encouraged to pray and contact the Lord to receive His burden and guidance in teaching and applying the lesson. Fellowship with other saints, and inquiring of the children themselves, may also bring out many helpful applications.

Elementary:

Verse: “...for through the law is the clear knowledge of sin” (Romans 3:20b).

Focus: God gave man the law so that man would know what it is to be good. God wanted man to know His standard for righteousness (doing what is right).

Practical Application: Tell the story from Exodus chapters 19–20 when God gave the Ten Commandments.

Intermediate:

Verse: “But before faith came we were guarded under law, being shut up unto the faith which was to be revealed” (Galatians 3:23).

Focus: God gave man the law so that man would know what it is to be good and to keep man from doing what is sinful. God wanted man to not only know His standard for righteousness (doing what is right), but to also know what is unrighteous (doing what is wrong).

Practical Application: Tell the story from Exodus chapters 19–20 when God gave the 10 commandments. Point out that up to that time, the children of Israel had lived in Egypt and they did not know who their God was. The Ten Commandments helped them to know what God’s standard for righteous and unrighteous was; it was not what they had learned from the Egyptians.

Advanced:

Verse: “And he was there with Jehovah forty days and forty nights; [...] And He wrote upon the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments” (Exodus 34:28).

Focus: God gave man the law so that man would know what God is like. The law is like a portrait of God. From the law we can see that God is loving, holy righteous, truthful and pure.

Practical Application: Tell the story from Exodus 19–20 and 32–24 of God giving the Ten Commandments. Point out that Moses spent forty days and forty nights in God’s presence at the time the commandments were given. During those forty days Moses not only received the Ten Commandments but he also received a testimony of God. This shows that the main purpose for God to give the law was so that man would have a testimony of what God is. Concerning the matter of the law, there is an important principle: the kind of law a person makes expresses the kind of person that one is.