

Moses | Part 5 | Pastor Steve Wells | 02.09.2020
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Memory Verse: Exodus 20:19-20 (NLT)

“19 And they said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen. But don’t let God speak directly to us, or we will die!” 20 “Don’t be afraid,” Moses answered them, “for God has come in this way to test you, and so that your fear of him will keep you from sinning!”

Now that the people of Israel--God’s People--had been freed of their life in slavery, they were ready to start their new lives with God. God knew His people needed guidance and laws for this new life, so He gave Moses the 10 Commandments. These were rules given to the people of Israel, Exodus 19:5-6 says: “5 Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me. 6 And you will be my kingdom of priests, my holy nation.” This is the message you must give to the people of Israel.” The 10 Commandments are just as relevant and important as they were when God sent them down to Moses. God gave them the 10 Commandments--if applied these would lead them to a life filled with worshiping God, respecting others, and safety while living among one another. Unfortunately, the Israelites did not always follow these commandments. All of these commandments are broken daily in today’s world. We need to remember to follow these commandments. With God’s help, we can apply them to our behaviors and our hearts to live the life He intends for us.

Read Exodus 20 (NLT)

Ten Commandments

1.) You must not have any other god but me: Exodus 20:1-3 (NLT)

- What does it mean to have no other Gods?
- What does it look like to put God first?
- Who do you know who puts God first? Do you put God first?
- What can you change to be sure you are putting God before everything?

2.) You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an image of anything: Exodus 20:4-6 (NLT)

- Some idols MAY look differently than they did when Moses received the 10 Commandments...What were some Idols the people may have had then?
- What are some idols we could or do have now?
- Is there anything in your life you currently idolize? What can you do to change that?

3.) You must not misuse the name of the Lord your God: Exodus 20:7 (NLT)

- What does it mean to misuse or take the Lord’s name in vain? (ESV)
- Do you know people (friends, family, coworkers) who do it?
 - Do you say anything when you hear someone do it? Do the people around you know how you feel when you hear someone misuse the Lord’s name? Are they comfortable saying it around you? Should they be?
- If you use a different word instead...why do you? Is that different or the same?

4.) Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy: Exodus 20:8-11 (NLT)

- What does it mean to keep the Sabbath day holy?
- Why do you think God wanted EVERYONE to stop and rest one day each week?
- God wants us to enjoy spending time in His word and with His creation. He wants us to see the beauty of what He does for us and to spend time worshiping Him. How do you and your family keep the Sabbath day holy?
 - If you do not, give some examples of what you can start doing to honor and worship God throughout the day?

5.) Honor your Father and Mother: Exodus 20:12 (NLT)

- What does it mean to “Honor your father and mother”?
- How do you do this?

The relationships we form with our parents are the first relationships we have; they also mold the relationships we will make and patterns we will follow throughout our lives.

- Why do you think God wants everyone to honor/respect their father and mother?

6.) You must not murder: Exodus 20:13 (NLT)

- What does it mean to not murder?
- Why do you think people break this commandment?
 - What leads people to make the choice to commit murder?

7.) You must not commit adultery: Exodus 20:14 (NLT)

- What does it mean to “commit adultery”?
- Why do you think God does not want us to commit adultery?
- How common is adultery?
- Why do you think it is becoming more and more common and accepted?

8.) You must not steal: Exodus 20:15 (NLT)

- What does it mean to steal?
- Do you think this is a hard commandment/rule to follow?
- What are some unconventional or seemingly minor ways to steal? (Taking pens or supplies from work or a business, finding an item you forgot to buy- in the cart, taking an extra item you know you should not take, seeing a mistake on your receipt and not fixing it)
- How do we justify these types of stealing?

9.) You must not testify falsely against your neighbor: Exodus 20:16 (NLT)

- What does it mean to lie?
- Is it hard not to lie? (Big lie, "small" lie, "white" lie)
- What happens when you tell a "small" lie? Does it stop there? Does it lead to more/"bigger" lies?
- What message do you send when you lie to someone?

10.) You must not covet: Exodus 20:17 (NLT)

- What does it mean to covet?
- How do you feel about what God has given you?
- What does it say about your contentment with God's blessings when you covet what someone else has? (Unhappy, Ungrateful)
- Why do you think God includes coveting as a sin?

God wants us to be grateful for what He has given us. If we are not, and we covet this may act as a stepping stone toward breaking more commandments.

- Give an example how coveting can lead to more problems and sins, other than ungratefulness.

It can be hard to stay focused and remember to follow the commandments God has given us when the world we live in doesn't hold them as value. With God's help, we can apply them to our behaviors and our hearts to live the life He intends for us.

- How can you ask God to help you to obey the commandments that you struggle with?
- What can you do to remember to obey His laws?
- How will you put these commandments deep within your heart--and exhibit them with your actions?