Imagine yourself exploring a deep, dark secret cave! It is cool, damp, and slippery. You hear the dripping of water; the air is humid. As you shine your flashlight around, you see strange shadows from huge rock icicles, called stalactites, hanging from the ceiling … and beautiful stalagmites coming up to meet them from the floor. You also see beautiful crystal formations on the walls and giant rock pillars that look as if they were made of gold. Suddenly you notice something off to the side — an old wooden box. You open the lid and, to your amazement, it is filled with gold coins! You have just discovered an ancient hidden treasure. Wouldn’t that be an exciting adventure?

Did you know that the greatest lost treasure in the world is also hidden in a cave? Somewhere in the Holy Land, a golden box has been hidden for more than 2,500 years. But the real treasure is not the gold box itself, but what’s inside it. What is this amazing treasure — and why was it hidden in a cave?

In October 2004, a brave team of cavers climbed down one of the deepest caves in the world, the Krubera Cave, located near the Black Sea. It took them 14 days to descend to the lowest part of the cave, setting a new world record for the deepest descent in history at 6,824 feet. That’s over a mile under the ground!

Yet has this message of God's code been forever lost? Let’s find out now as we begin another amazing adventure in the Bible.
First, let’s say a prayer that God will teach us and help us to understand His Word. You might say, “Dear God, Please help me to learn the truth about You and Your special law. Help me to learn how to please you. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

How did the law or “Code of the King” come to us?

Answer: “When He had made an end of speaking with him on Mount Sinai, He gave Moses two tablets of the Testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God” (Exodus 31:18). “The writing was the writing of God engraved on the tablets” (Exodus 32:16). Wow!

God personally spoke to Moses and then gave him two stone tablets that were engraved by the “________ of ________.”

Have you ever been to the beach and written a message in the sand with your finger — suddenly, a wave comes and washes it away! Writing in the sand doesn’t last very long, does it? This is why God used stone when writing His Code.

The Ten Commandments are so important that God wrote them in solid stone with His very own finger. It teaches us that His law lasts forever. Even though these stone tablets are in the Ark that has been hidden in a cave, the holy words that God wrote on the tablets are available for everyone. We can read them today in the Bible!

But why did God give the Ten Commandments?

Answer: “The law was our tutor to bring us to Christ” (Galatians 3:24). “Happy is he who keeps the law” (Proverbs 29:18). “Keep my commands; For length of days and long life and peace they will add to you” (Proverbs 3:1, 2).

That’s a lot of things. Let’s list them:

- The law brings us to C________.
- Keeping it makes us H________.
- Obeying also gives us long
  L_______ and P__________.

God says you’ll get a “blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord” (Deuteronomy 11:26). WOW!

“If you will indeed obey My voice and keep my covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people … and a holy nation” (Exodus 19:5, 6).

God promises to not only bless us when we keep the Ten Commandments, He also says that we will be His special treasure. **How would you like to be God’s special treasure?**

Having a good friend is like having a wonderful treasure. You can do things with your friend, like share secrets and have a wonderful time. God wants you to be His special friend. He wants to have a very close relationship with you so that you can be happy and enjoy all of the good things He has promised for those who love Him.

God, according to the Christian faith, is the supreme being who created the universe and satisfies the needs of his followers. He is the creator, sustainer, and ruler of the universe, as well as the source of all things. God is characterized as an omnipotent, omniscient, and benevolent creator. In the Bible, God is portrayed as a caring Father who provides for His children and guides them through life. He is just, merciful, and loving, and He desires a personal relationship with all people.

In 1980, a man and his wife were prospecting behind their trailer home near Weddenburn, Australia and found the world’s largest and most precious gold nugget. This nugget, named “Hand of Faith Nugget,” is as large as a baby and weighs more than 61 pounds! Fast Fact
But why can’t we see God?

Answer: “But your iniquities [sins] have separated you from your God. And your sins have hidden His face from you” (Isaiah 59:2).

Remember back to our earlier lesson: Satan spoke through a snake to tempt Eve, and she and Adam disobeyed God and had to leave their beautiful garden home. Well, that’s why we can’t see God face to face right now … and why we aren’t living with Him. Sin made it so that we can’t bear to see His bright, glorious face. It also makes us scared to be in His holy presence.

A little boy had to walk on a rickety bridge that was stretched over a gorge. He became very afraid and thought he would fall. Then his friend volunteered to walk ahead of him. Now, instead of looking at the gorge, the boy looked at his friend’s back. This helped him safely cross the gorge.

Jesus is our example, and if we focus on Him, we can walk without falling into the “gorge.”

“Timiho as yble ko seep fou worm htumbling.”

God’s law shows us our sin. Some of these words mean “law” and others mean “sin.” Hint: Look up the Bible verses for a hint!

ACROSS
1. Psalms 19:7 (law)
3. Romans 7:12 (law)
5. Isaiah 59:2 (sin)
6. Ezekiel 44:24 (law)
7. 1 John 3:4 (sin)

DOWN
1. Psalms 19:7 (law)
2. Ezekiel 44:24 (law)
4. Isaiah 59:2 (sin)

One day a group of children were visiting the zoo and standing close to the lion’s cage. There was a high fence separating them from the lion, so the children didn’t pay attention to the sign that said “Do not touch the fence.” They crowded up against the fence, and some were even sticking their arms through the fence to wave at the sleeping lion. When the zookeeper saw what the children were doing, he came running over and told them to step back and not stand so close to the fence. The children said, “But the lion is sleeping, and he doesn’t look very hungry.”

But suddenly, like a flash, the lion jumped to his feet and with a loud roar charged toward the children. They cried out and fell backwards, just as the lion gave out another hungry roar and swiped at the fence bars with his sharp claws. How thankful the children were for the fence; it protected them from the dangerous lion.

“And the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes [commandments] … for our good always, that He might preserve us alive” (Deuteronomy 6:24).

“The wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23).

God’s commandments are to keep us safe. He gave them because He loves us. The law protects us from Satan, who is hunting everywhere like a hungry lion (1 Peter 5:8).
Why did God choose these special laws?

**Answer:** “I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart” (Psalms 40:8). The law of God shows us His will.

Did you know that the principles of the Ten Commandments are actually just like God? They tell God’s thoughts and what His character is like.

The Bible says, “God is love” (1 John 4:8). The Bible tells us that God is holy, just (fair), and good (Isaiah 5:16; Deuteronomy 32:4; Luke 18:19). It also says “the commandments are holy, just, and good” (Romans 7:12). God made laws just like Himself—perfect, fair, and loving. When Jesus was here on earth, He kept the law perfectly so we can see how beautiful it makes a person act. He showed us an example of how to be like God. We always copy people we look up to, don’t we? Jesus wants to help us copy Him.

Some people say that because Jesus died on the cross for our sins, we don’t need to keep the Ten Commandments any longer. But this isn’t true! One of God’s laws says “you shall not steal.” What would you think if someone stole your bicycle and said they could keep it because the commandments don’t have to be kept?

The law protects us and secures the happiness of every one, including you! Jesus said that He didn’t come to destroy the law but to give us an example of obeying it (Matthew 5:18).

People have written poems, songs, and ballads about their bravery, strength, and loyalty. It was a great honor to be a knight back then. They wore shining suits of armor and rode on fast horses. And not just anyone could be a knight—they had to follow a strict code of honor. Part of their code included:

We wrote a simple version of the Ten Commandments below. Oh! But the second word is left out! Choose the list (a, b, or c) that has the words in the right order to fill in the blanks. Then write in the words and read the commandments to see if it sounds right. God is very particular!

1. Don’t __________ other gods.
2. Don’t __________ idols.
3. Don’t __________ God’s name in vain.
4. Do __________ the Sabbath holy.
5. Do __________ your parents.
6. Don’t __________.
7. Don’t __________ adultery.
8. Don’t __________.
9. Don’t __________.
10. Don’t __________.

**Does God ever change? Do His commandments ever change?**

**Answer:** “I am the Lord; I do not change” (Malachi 3:6). “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever” (Isaiah 40:8). “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away” (Luke 21:33).

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We often think of medieval knights in awe. Christians also have a code of honor: It is called love, and it is found in the Ten Commandments.

Only those who chose to live by this code of honor could be knights of the king. The standard was high, and the work was dangerous.

Defending those who cannot defend themselves,
Caring for orphans and widows,
Showing respect for God,
Obeying those in authority,
Always telling the truth,
Being fair and honest with everyone, and never turning from the enemy.

But even though being a knight was not easy, they considered it a great honor to serve their king.

Is the Christian’s code of conduct important? Oh yes! It is a far greater honor to be a Christian and live for Jesus than to be a knight serving an earthly king.
Jesus summarizes the last six commandments by saying, “Love … your neighbor as yourself” (Luke 10:27).

In the Ten Commandments, God lists specific ways that we can love others as ourselves. In the fifth commandment, God tells us to honor our father and mother (Exodus 20:12). This means we should love, respect, and obey them.

In the sixth, seventh, and eighth commandments, God tells us not to murder, commit adultery, or steal (Exodus 20:13–15). This means we respect our neighbors’ lives, relationships, and property.

In the ninth and tenth commandments, God tells us to always be honest and never tell lies, or covet (want something that belongs to someone else) (Exodus 20:16, 17).

The Code of our King is all about loving and respecting God and other people.

If we love someone, will we hurt him or his things? Of course not! We will want to please and make him happy. And if we love Jesus, we will want to make Him happy. Jesus says, “If you love me keep my commandments” (John 14:15), and “Love one another as I have loved you” (John 13:34).

How much is that? “I lay down my life for the sheep” (John 10:15). That’s how much He loves us! And now we know what makes Him happy — for us to love Him and others, as He tells us in the commandments.

What are the Ten Commandments all about?

**Answer:** You can read the Ten Commandments in the Bible in Exodus 20. They were first written on tables of stone by the finger of God. They were then copied by Moses in the Bible. But did you know that people knew about the Ten Commandments long before they were written down?

It’s true! They have existed from the very beginning of time. They reveal the Holy Code of Love of our King Jesus. Here is how Jesus summarized the first four Commandments:

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind” (Luke 10:27).

In the first commandment, God says that we are not to have any other gods before Him (Exodus 20:3). In other words, God needs to be number one — more important to us than anything else.

In the second commandment, God tells us not to make idols or to bow down to them (Exodus 20:4, 5). We must respect His appearance.

In the third commandment, God tells us not to take His name in vain (Exodus 20:7). This means we should respect His name and never say it carelessly or use it as a swear word.

In the fourth commandment, God reminds us to keep the Sabbath day holy (Exodus 20:8). If we love God, we will remember to respect the seventh day as a special time with Him.
How can we keep the Ten Commandments?

**Answer:** “With God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26).

The Ten Commandments show us our true spiritual condition. Like a mirror, it shows us our sins and mistakes. It also helps us understand our need of salvation through Jesus. We cannot keep them on our own. But with Jesus living inside us … we can!

“The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

Even though all of us have broken God’s law and deserve death, Jesus willingly died in our place so that we can be forgiven. That’s good news, isn’t it? The Bible says, “If we confess our sins, He [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

Then to help us keep the Code of the King, Jesus offers us something that medieval knights never had! He says, “I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts” (Hebrews 8:10).

Jesus offers us His help! He knows that Satan, the dragon, is out there ready to mess us up and get us off track. And He wants us to be able to keep His Code of Love and Honor!

Jesus can even change our hearts to be able to love Him and to love and care for others like He loves us!

That means that if we keep looking at Jesus and His glorious life, we will be changed to be like Him. Isn’t that awesome!?

“Do you want to be like Jesus?”

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That means that if we keep looking at Jesus and His glorious life, we will be changed to be like Him. Isn’t that awesome!?
What can I do when Satan tempts me, either through circumstances or through one of my friends, to break God’s law?

Answer: Remember God’s words in the Bible:

“God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make a way of escape, that you may be able to bear it” (1 Corinthians 10:13).

“I have loved you with an everlasting love” (Jeremiah 31:3).

“If you love Me, keep My commandments” (John 14:15).

“Happy is he who keeps the law” (Proverbs 29:18).

Did you enjoy this lesson? We hope so! Now do the questions on the SUMMARY SHEET.

Notes

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SUMMARY SHEET

Please read the Bible Guide before answering the questions. Fill in the circles of ALL that are correct. Hint: The number of correct answers for each question is in red.

1. God gave us His commandments: (5)
   - a) to make us happy
   - b) so we’d have to go to prison
   - c) to keep us safe from sin
   - d) to bring us to Christ
   - e) to make us miserable
   - f) to give us a peaceful life
   - g) to show His love for us

2. The Ten Commandments came from: (2)
   - a) a cave in northern Idaho
   - b) God’s finger writing them in stone
   - c) Moses, who found them when he was hiking
   - d) God, who gave them to Moses on the mountain

3. What are God’s laws like? (5)
   - a) cruel
   - b) holy
   - c) like Hitler’s
   - d) good
   - e) like God is
   - f) just (fair)
   - g) unreasonable
   - h) loving

4. What did God say about changing His Ten Commandment law? (2)
   - a) that it was changed at Jesus’ birth
   - b) that it would stand forever
   - c) that it was meant only for people long ago
   - d) that it would not be changed as long as earth stood

5. The Ten Commandments are all about: (2)
   - a) loving ourselves most
   - b) loving God most
   - c) how to get rich quick
   - d) loving others like God does

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“Happy is he who keeps the law” (Proverbs 29:18).
6. What new things have you discovered in this lesson?

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

7. Do you see God’s love in giving us the Ten Commandments? And do you want to show Jesus your love by keeping the Code of the King?

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1. God gave us His commandments:
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   b) to keep us safe from sin
   c) to bring us to Christ
   d) to give others the love God does
   e) to keep the Commandments all along
   f) to show His love on the mountain
   g) to show His love to us
   h) to keep us safe from sin

2. The Ten Commandments came from:
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4. What did God say about changing His Commandments law?
   a) that it would never be changed as long as the earth stood
   b) that it would stand forever

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ANSWER:

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