

**Elementary Class Day #2**

**God Inspired Rules to Live By**

## GOD INSPIRED RULES TO LIVE BY

Tuesday

Moses receiving the Ten Commandments

Scriptures: 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Exodus 19 & 20, Exodus 32, Mark 12:31, Matthew 4:10, Psalms 119:11

Memory verse: All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. So that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

Key people: The Lord, Moses, Aaron, Joshua and the Israelite people.

Background Information: After Moses had led the Israelites out of Egypt and they had come to the Desert of Sinai, Moses and the Israelites camped in front of Mount Sinai.

1. In Exodus 24, verse 12, God asks Moses to come up on the mountain and stay there and God would give Moses the tablets of stone with the law and commands that God had written for the Israelites instruction.
2. Moses set out with Joshua leaving Aaron and Hur to take care of any disputes.
3. When Moses went up on the mountain, a cloud covered it, and settled on Mount Sinai.
4. For six days the cloud covered the mountain and on the seventh day the Lord called for Moses. Moses entered the cloud as he went up on the mountain. Moses stayed on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

The story: While Moses was up on Mount Sinai, the Israelites became very restless. In Exodus 32, the Bible tells us that the people started to wonder what happened to Moses since he was gone so long. The Israelites asked Aaron to make gods for the Israelites. The Israelites questioned who would go before them and lead them. The Bible does not tell us why Aaron agreed to make them a god. The Israelites gave Aaron their gold earrings and Aaron melted the gold and fashioned it into a gold calf. In Exodus 32:4, the Israelites said, "These are your gods. O Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt." Aaron saw that this was wrong

and built an altar before the calf and announced that "Tomorrow there will be a festival to the Lord."

God saw what had happened and told Moses to go down off the mountain. God was very angry and wanted to destroy the Israelites. God said the people were corrupt and had quickly turned away from what God had commanded of them.

So Moses returned from the mountain carrying the two stones engraved by God. When Moses saw the calf and the dancing he was so angered that he threw the tablets to the ground, breaking them.

God gives us rules to live by. God had taken care of the Israelites. Guiding the Israelites in a cloud, making sure they were safe, had food and water and yet the Israelites were sinful people and did not always follow his commands. About three thousand people were killed that day who had refused to obey and worship the Lord. Moses did return to the mountain and God completed a second set of stone tablets, which Moses read to the people. The people who had not sinned continued with Moses on toward the Promised Land.

How we live matters to God. He can't just turn his head and ignore when people do evil things. That's why Jesus came and when Jesus died, he took our punishment for the things we do wrong. That is the big difference between the Old and the New Testament.

The Bible instructs us on what God expects from us and how we are supposed to live and treat each other.

Four of the Ten Commandments taught the people how to show love for God.

1. Do not have any other gods before me.
2. Do not make any idols for yourself.
3. Keep God's name Holy.
4. Remember to keep the Sabbath day.

Six of the Ten Commandments taught the people how to show love for each other.

1. Honor your father and mother.
2. Do not murder.
3. Be faithful in marriage.

4. Do not steal.
5. Do not lie.
6. Do not covet what other people have.

During the Old Testament times the Ten Commandments were written on stone, but now God writes on our hearts. Psalms 119:11 tells us "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."

In Mark 12:28, one of the teachers of the law asked Jesus "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" Mark 29-31 says, "The most important one, answered Jesus, is this", verse 30, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." Verse 31, "The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

God commands us to serve only him. God has given us commandments and rules to tell us what he wants and expects from us. Matthew 4:10 says "Away from me, Satan. For it is written: Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only." How often do we make going to the movies, sports or hanging out with our friends seem more important than making sure we attend church? Just as the Israelites found creating an idol and worshipping the golden calf to satisfy their needs instead of waiting for Moses to return, we also turn to worldly things and worldly people to satisfy our wants. Worldly things are also idols. Anything we put first before God in our lives is an idol. We worship it more than God. This disappoints God.

The Bible tells us what is expected, shows us what we should be doing and is our guide book on walking a Christian life.

Go over the memory verse with your students. 2 Timothy 3:16

### Activities

\*Ten Rules to Live By – Divide class into two teams. You will need 2 sets of copies of the Ten Commandments written and numbered individually on 10 sheets of paper, additional sheets of blank paper and 2 large trash bags. For older students number the pages using Roman Numerals or no numbers at all. Crumple each paper with a Commandment on it into a ball. Put one copy of each Commandment into each trash bag. Crumple more blank sheets of paper and

place them in each trash bag. When you say "I command you to go!" each team should open their trash bag and search through it until they have found all Ten Commandments. They should then place them in order. The first team to do this correctly wins.

\*Matthew 4:10 coloring sheet. Discuss what idols the students might have.

\*Ten Commandments fill in the blanks worksheet. This might be something they can take with them and bring back filled out the next day.

\*God-Breathed Word puzzle. Will help with learning the memory verse.

\* Make the Ten Commandment stones. Give each student 2 foam meat trays (Package of 30 at Dollar Tree). Have them write 5 commandments on each. Using a foam brush and washable black paint have the student paint over their writing. Take a paper towel and wipe off the excess paint.

Worship

LORD

your

the

God,



and

SERVE

only.

HIM

Matthew 4:10

# HIDDEN IN YOUR HEART

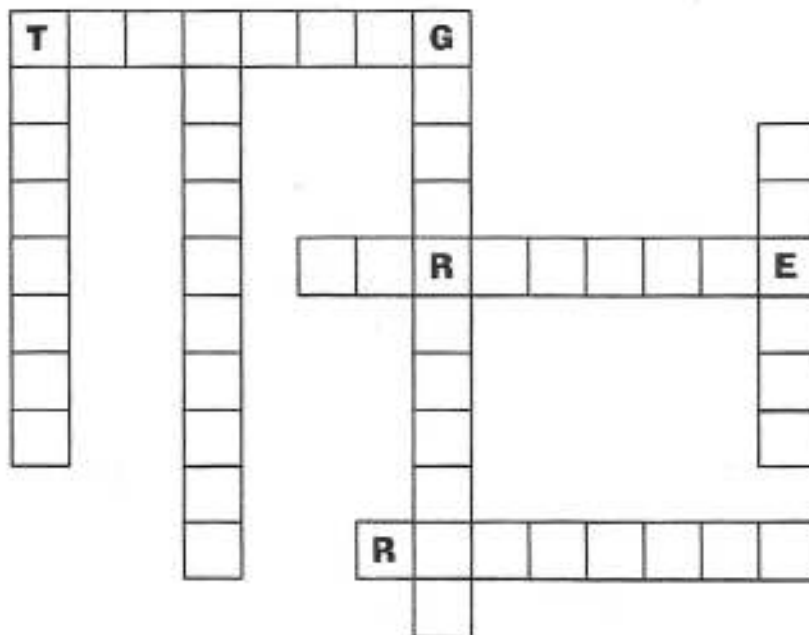
"How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands."

Psalm 119:9, 10

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Psalm 119:9, 10

## GOD-BREATHED WORD



Fill in the missing words to 2 Timothy 3:16 below. Then fill in those words in the puzzle.

"All \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ and is \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_,  
 \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in righteousness." 2 Timothy 3:16

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Ten Commandments

Read about Moses on Mount Sinai in **Exodus 20:1–21** and fill in the lines below. Use the coded numbers to solve the riddle.

1. We should have no other \_\_\_\_\_ before God. (Exod. 20:3)
2. We should not make \_\_\_\_\_<sub>3</sub> for ourselves. (Exod. 20:4)
3. God does not want us to misuse His \_\_\_\_\_. (Exod. 20:7)
4. The \_\_\_\_\_<sub>1</sub> day should be \_\_\_\_\_<sub>4</sub> holy. (Exod. 20:8)
5. We should \_\_\_\_\_ our fathers and mothers. (Exod. 20:12)
6. We should not \_\_\_\_\_. (Exod. 20:13)
7. We should not commit \_\_\_\_\_<sub>2</sub>. (Exod. 20:14)
8. God does not want us to \_\_\_\_\_. (Exod. 20:15)
9. We should not give \_\_\_\_\_<sub>5</sub> testimony against our neighbors. (Exod. 20:16)
10. We should not \_\_\_\_\_ any of our neighbors' things. (Exod. 20:17)

## Who sinned the most in the Bible?



Moses—he

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

1 2 3 4 5

all Ten

Commandments

at once! (Exod. 32:19)