

True and Lively Lessons

Precious Gems - Ages 2-5

The Law is Our Schoolmaster Leading Us to Christ

Level 1, Lesson 1 Doctrine - The Word of God

God Writes in Stone and in Our Hearts

Target:

1. Moses had a special meeting with God and received His word on tables of stone.
2. When we get the Holy Ghost, God is always with us and helps us do what his word tells us.

Text:

Exodus 20:1-17 - Ten Commandments

Exodus 24:12-18 - Mt. Sinai 40 days/nights

Exodus 32:15-19 - The first tables of stone broken/golden calf party

Exodus 34:1-4, 27-28 - Moses makes new tables of stone

Exodus 34:29-35 - Face shone brightly

For the sake of scaling down the text for preschoolers, only the making of the second set of tables of stone will be captured in this lesson. The first tables that were broken in response to the golden calf sin-fest can be included, if you choose.

Key Text – Exodus 24:12 **And the Lord said unto Moses, come up to me into the mount, and be there; and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them.**

Preface: (for the teacher)

The 10 Commandments are just a few of the laws that God gave Moses to guide His people. Without the word of God, the children of Israel and His church today would be without a moral compass in this sinful world. The Law of Moses was given to condition the heart of the people toward the things of God. "*Thou shalt not lie*" indicated that one's heart should be turned toward truth. "*Thou shalt have no other gods before me*" indicated that one's heart should be totally devoted to praying, serving, and worshipping the one true God.

Hebrews 8:10 says, "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith The Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people." (See also **Jeremiah 31:33**). **Hebrews 10:15-17** says, "Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, This covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith The Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more."

The day would come when God would write His laws in our hearts and minds through the infilling of the Holy Ghost and a person would want to do the things that please God without having laws and ordinances telling them what to do or not do. The Jews thought that obeying the law of Moses was sufficient, but the Apostle Paul wrote that Jesus Christ redeemed us and provided a way for us to do, by nature, the things contained in the law (**Romans 2:11-16**). When one receives the Holy Ghost, he/she also receives a new nature (**2 Peter 11:4**) that cultivates a desire to do the things that please God.

Activities and Materials:

Story	Special Delivery	Theme Song	Snack	Craft	Memory Verse
Moses: Robe Headpiece 2 tiles, one with words, one without White sheet Foil mask, or glow face paint, or flashlight Thin scarf or piece of toile for veil Birthday invitation	Letter and envelope for each student	Listen and learn theme song to share with students.	Crackers squirt cheese	Salt dough or play dough Plastic forks Stamps, or combs	Both live and dead sample of flower, plant, or tree branch

Schoolmaster and Janitor Joe	Transition Ring tone	Take Home	Attendance Reward	Do His Word
Schoolmaster: Cap Gown Pointer Bible	Cell phone, ring tone ready, or other sound signal for children to face the Bible story wall	Personalized letter Glowsticks Testaments for each student (purchase if possible)	Teacher choice Sticker Small treat or prize	Paper plates (one for each student) Happy face on one side, sad face on back Tongue depressor handle, Glue
Janitor Joe: Cap Cleaning rag Squirt bottle Cleansers		Mini books of 10 Commandments in Simple Pictures (Copy at the end of this lesson)		

Before class, tack white sheet to ceiling, place tiles with words behind sheet and prepare helper with flashlight.

Welcome:

Teacher welcomes each student to the classroom and points out the classroom side where they each have a backpack (paper with pockets), a sticker book where they can pick a sticker (or other attendance reward) for coming to Sunday School and show them where they will have the Bible story, the table where they will make projects and eat snacks from their school lunch bag, and their cubbies where they keep important things to take home.

Theme Song: Tune: The Farmer in the Dell

Begin singing the theme song and give students instruments to play as they learn the song. **This is our theme song, so we get to sing it every week.**

(form Bible with hands) Verse 1: **The Bible is the way
The Bible is the way
The way to go to Jesus
Oh, the Bible is the way**

(walk in place) Verse 2: **I want to go the way
I want to go the way
The way to go to Jesus
Oh, I want to go the way**

(teacher leads one student skipping in circle) Verse 3: **Show me the way
Show me the way
The way to go to Jesus
Oh, show me the way**

(skip in pairs) Verse 4: **Let's go the way
Let's go the way
The way to go to Jesus,
Oh, let's go the way**

Teacher script is written in bold type.

Special Delivery:

While the teacher is giving the tour of the classroom and introducing the theme song, a helper (hopefully without students noticing), is writing the names of each student present on an envelope. Helper leaves room briefly and hands addressed envelopes to Schoolmaster. Schoolmaster steps in with addressed envelopes.

Schoolmaster: *(In costume, with Bible)* **Good Morning, Bro./Sis. _____ and students.**

Teacher: *(to students)* **It's our Schoolmaster, students. He/She is very smart and will give us special directions to help us learn about God. (To Schoolmaster) Good morning, Schoolmaster. Do you have a word for us today?**

Schoolmaster: **Yes, indeed, Bro./Sis.** _____. **I have special deliveries for** (*says each child's name as he hands them their letter*) _____. (*Schoolmaster exits after each letter is delivered*)

Teacher: (*excitedly*) **Oh, I love to get a letter in the mail, don't you? Someone wrote you a letter. Let's see what your letter says.** (*Teacher and helper help students open their letters*)

"Dear _____,

I want you to know that I love you and you are my special child. I have a lot to say to you that will help you, no matter how old you are, and no matter how old you get. I want to talk to you and I wrote notes to you in a book called the Bible. It is my words to you. Do what the Bible says and you will know the way to heaven, where you will be happy forever.

With All My Love

Jesus

PS: I will help you DO what the Bible says when you get the Holy Ghost which is my "Spirit".

Teacher: **This is wonderful, children. God is telling you that He loves you and His word is for YOU. So, the Bible** (*teacher holds Bible and looks at it*) **is like the letter** (*holds letter*) **from God. AND the Holy Ghost will help me DO what the Bible says. This letter is important and we should put it in our cubbies to take home and show our families.** (*Let children put their letters in their cubbies for safe keeping until dismissal.*)

Song:

Gather the children together as you sing:

The B - I - B - L - E	(<i>palms up and together to form the Bible</i>)
Yes, that's the book for me	(<i>cross arms over chest</i>)
I stand upon the word of God	(<i>arms to sides</i>)
The B - I - B - L - E	(<i>palms up and together to form the Bible</i>)

Prayer:

Our Bible story today is about when Moses brought the word of God to the people. Do you know who gave Moses the word of God? (*Students call out their guesses and teacher confirms correct answer.*) It was God alright. God met with Moses because he needed God's help. Just like us. We always need God's help. Let's pray and ask God to meet with us here today and give us help, like He did Moses. Talk to God with me. (*Pray with children for God to meet with you and them. Call each child's name out in expectation that God will meet with you and each of them today.*)

Snack:

Crackers and squirt cheese. (*Cracker is the table of stone and the squirt cheese is the finger of God.*)

Transition:

Play ring tone that signals children to turn to the story wall and explain whenever they hear this sound that they need to come to the carpet for the true story from the Bible.

Story:

A sheet should be tacked from the ceiling to represent the cloud Moses disappears behind when he speaks with God. Prepare the foil (thick, heavy duty foil works best) mask by forming it to student Moses' face and cutting two ovals for eyes. Add rolls of tape to the back surface. When Moses goes behind the cloud (sheet) a helper presses mask gently to Moses' face, or uses glow in the dark face paint, or a flashlight for Moses' face to shine.)

We have here Moses who lived during Old Testament times. Now Moses was chosen by God for many special purposes. The Bible says God spoke to Moses face-to-face as a man speaks to his friend!

God SPOKE to Moses several times and gave him instructions on how to lead His children. God gave them rules to follow. The rules were to let the people know how to live in a way that pleases God. Moses would tell the people what God required of them, and they would answer, saying that they would do all that the Lord commanded.

(Whisper/teach with a sense of awe.) And then a very special day came. Moses received an invitation! An invitation from GOD!! God invited Moses to come to Mt. Sinai for a very important visit. On this particular visit, God said he was going to do more than talk to him. He said that he would give him His words and instructions for the people, written on tables of stone! *(Gasp)*

Have you ever received an invitation to a birthday party? That is pretty exciting, isn't it? *(Bring an invitation and refer to it).* First of all, you have to set everything aside so you can attend. Then you need to prepare. You have to take a bath and put on nice clothes. You have to comb your hair and brush your teeth. You have to buy a gift (that you really hope he/she will like) and wrap it or put it in a gift bag, and you need to know where the party will be held. The invitation will give the address. You make sure you know where it is, and you leave in plenty of time, because you don't want to be late! Can you imagine if you showed up to a party late, with no gift and wearing your pajamas?? That would not be right! You would be embarrassed. The host/hostess of the party would think you didn't care; that the party wasn't special to you.

So you can imagine that Moses prepared for his trip to see God! What an exciting day that was to be!! God told Moses to prepare some tables of stone so the laws/instructions could be WRITTEN on them! So Moses did as God asked. *(Moses picks up the tiles.)* He prepared the tables of stone, arose early in the morning and headed to Mt. Sinai. C'mon, children, let's stand up and walk in place, like Moses. *(Walk in place a bit.)* OK, now let's sit back down and listen. Moses is getting very close to where he will meet with God. Moses climbed Mt. Sinai alone and disappeared into a cloud. *(Child disappears behind sheet; helper puts foil mask on Moses)*

Moses was gone a long time. Forty (40) days and forty (40) nights. Can you imagine staying overnight with your friend 40 nights in a row? *(Count to 40 on your fingers so the children can see.)* God was telling Moses what to write. He gave him really good instructions for His children to follow. So now Moses would have the Word of God written down on the tables!

Something very exciting and amazing happened while Moses was talking to God. God is so awesome and His word so powerful that when Moses came down from Mt. Sinai with the written tables of stone, his face shone so bright that people could not look at him! *(Enter Moses with foil mask. Gasp!)*

Don't look, don't look, you'll hurt your eyes! Moses, put a veil over your face so we can look at you. *(Cover his face with veil.)*

So Moses spoke to the people with his shining face covered and gave all the instructions from the Lord. Now, he could READ the Word of God from the tables of stone. Did you know that WE have the Word of God written down? What is the Word of God called? That's right – the BIBLE! Those tables of stone were kind of like the first Bible. Do you know why WE have the Bible? The same reason as the Children of God had the tables of stone way back in Old Testament time. We need to know how to live to please God.

Do His Word:

When God gave His Word to the people, it was for them to obey. How do you think your Mom and Dad feel when you obey? *(Pass out the paper plates with sad/happy faces and handle.)* I'm going to ask you some questions and you can answer with your happy and sad faces.

How would your Mom feel if she wants you to pick up your toys, but you did not do it? (sad)

What if you obeyed and picked up your toys? Then how would your Mom feel? (happy)

Now, this is very important.

How do you feel when you disobey? (sad) (because we usually get into trouble)

How do you feel when you obey? (happy)

When you obey, your parents feel happy and so do YOU! It's the same with God and His Word. When we obey; it makes Him happy and makes us feel happy too!

(Other obedience questions: putting your shoes in your room, picking up trash, sharing your toys, putting your papers and crayons away, not fighting with your brother or sister, coming when you are called, picking your clothes up, helping your family (Dad, Mom, Brother, or Sister)

10 Commandment Mini Book:

Teacher explains each commandment from a mini book in which 10 commandments are depicted in pictures.

Memory Verse/Craft:

(Enter Janitor Joe with grasses or other plants, some alive and some dead.)

Janitor Joe: Is this what you were needing Sis./Bro. _____?

Teacher: Oh, yes, thank you, Janitor Joe. That's just perfect. Children, this is Janitor Joe and he is here to help us. Whenever we need his help, he'll be there. *(Teacher places items on the table)*

Janitor Joe: If you don't mind, Bro./Sis. _____, could you explain what the grass is for?

Teacher: In Isaiah 40:8 the Bible says grass and flowers die, but God's word lives forever.

Grass grows green and is soft for us to play on, but this green grass has a time to die. But God's word will never fade, or become brittle and blow away. It will always be exactly what we need. *(Repeat paraphrased verse with students and let them glue grass onto their memory verse papers.)*

Janitor Joe: So, the Bible is good for me, good for _____, good for you, and good for everyone . . . forever?

Teacher: That's right, Janitor Joe.

(Janitor Joe exits saying how awesome the Word of God is.)

(Give each child a piece of paper for a placemat to work dough on, and a ball of dough. Make a model to show how to form two "tables" with the dough. Once the tables are formed, press the tines of a plastic fork into the dough as though the marks are the words God wrote on the tables of stone. Children's tables can be placed in a plastic bag to take with them.)

Prayer/Worship:

I'm sure when Moses was meeting with God that Moses did not want to leave the meeting. He was with God and God was fixing the trouble Moses had. He gave Moses answers with His word. God does that. I'm sure Moses wanted God to go with him so God could fix all the trouble that happened every day. Children, do you know that Moses met with God for a little while, but when we get the Holy Ghost, God is always with us, to help us every day? I want us to close our eyes and thank God right now that He cares about us and that he gave us His word, and that we can get the Holy Ghost. *(Pray a worshipful prayer with children.)*

Dismissal:

(Distribute glow sticks, their Tables of Stone craft, Testaments, 10 Commandment Mini Book, and their attendance reward. Remind students of respectful behavior and accompany them to the appropriate destination.)

Lesson Materials Appendix:

Homemade Playdough Recipes:

Choose the recipe that best suits your needs and the ingredients you have on hand. Store play dough in a covered container or baggie. If it sweats a little, just add more flour.

Colored Playdough:

Materials

1 cup water
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1/2 cup salt
1 tablespoon cream of tartar
Food coloring
1 cup flour

Combine water, oil, salt, cream of tartar, and food coloring in a saucepan and heat until warm.

Remove from heat and add flour.

Stir, then knead until smooth. The cream of tartar makes this dough last 6 months or longer, so resist the temptation to omit this ingredient if you don't have it on hand.

Store this dough in an airtight container or a Ziploc freezer bag.

Kool-Aid Playdough:

Materials:

1/2 cup salt
2 cups water
Food coloring, tempera powder, or Kool-Aid powder for color
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
2 cups sifted flour
2 tablespoons alum

Combine salt and water in saucepan and boil until salt dissolves.

Remove from heat and tint with food coloring, tempera powder, or Kool-Aid.

Add oil, flour, and alum.

Knead until smooth.

This dough will last 2 months or longer

Salt Playdough:

Materials:

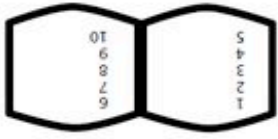
1 cup salt
1 cup water
1/2 cup flour plus additional flour

Mix salt, water, and flour in saucepan and cook over medium heat.

Remove from heat when mixture is thick and rubbery.

As the mixture cools, knead in enough flour to make the dough workable.

The 10
Commandments
By:



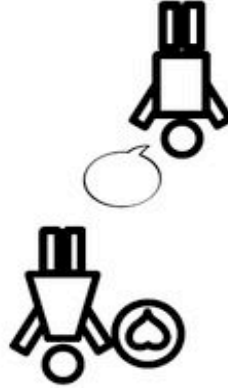
One God - Have no idols



Do not want what
someone else has.



Do not steal - Do
not lie.



Do not hurt
anyone - Stay
pure by making
good decisions.

