



OLD TESTAMENT: MOUNT SINAI

Lesson 17

BIG IDEA

The Israelites camp at the base of Mount Sinai. Moses meets with God up on the mountain, he receives the Lord’s covenant and the law. The impatient Israelites form a golden calf to worship and face the consequences for their sin.

MEMORY VERSE

Psalm 8 and/or Exodus 20:2

KEY VERSES

Exodus 19-32

• PREPARATION & MATERIALS •

BIBLE LESSON

- Bible
- Experience Mission will provide a baseball cap and bear ears.

GAME - MOTHER MAY I & SIMON SAYS

- no materials needed for the game

CRAFT - STONE TABLETS & HEBREW NUMBERS

- Paper grocery bags, one per child (small or large bags are fine depending on the size you wish to make)
- Black poster paint
- Q-tips to be used as disposable paint brushes
- Make one large example
- White board or chalk board to demonstrate how to make the Hebrew numbers

WORKSHEETS

- Photocopies of Coloring Sheet (1 per child)



EM PROVIDES

- scissors
- hole punches
- staplers

Psalm 8

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!



(extend hands to sides)

You have set your glory in the heavens.



(extend hands high)

Through the praise of children and infants you have



("stop" hand)

established a stronghold against your enemies,

To silence the foe and the avenger.



(index finger over lips)

(wiggle fingers both hands)

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,



The moon and the stars which you have set in place,



(point to moon and stars)

What is mankind that you are mindful of them,



(shrug shoulders)

Human beings that you care for them?

You have made them a little lower than the angels



(flat hand at waist)

And crowned them with glory and honor.



(make crown with hands)

You have made them rulers over the works of your

hands;



(open hands)

You put everything under their feet:



(stomp feet)

All flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,



(hands like claws)

The birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim

the paths of the seas.



(hands together wiggle like fish)

Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!



(arms up as if cheering)



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BIBLE LESSON • SKIT

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STAGING

TL wears baseball cap. Bear wears bear ears.

SCRIPT

TL Hey there Bear, what have you been up to today?

Bear Oh, TL, I've been reading the best book! I can hardly put it down. It's all about this bad guy who keeps stealing shoes, but just the left foot. And all these bears come home and find they only have shoes for their right foot. So everybody is trying to find this bad guy and they can't so they call in the police, but they can't find him; they call in the detectives, but they can't find him; and finally they call in the Super Bear, the flying hero!

TL Wow, Bear. That sounds like a very exciting book. But (scratch head) why would someone want a whole bunch of shoes for the left foot only?

Bear I have no idea! That's what makes it so exciting.

TL (Chuckle) Well, you'll have to tell me how the story ends and if the hero, Super Bear, is successful at bringing this bad guy to justice.

Bear To justice?

TL Yes, holding him accountable to the law.

Bear Oh, you mean like taking him to the judge who says, "It's bad to steal" and then putting him in jail?

TL Well, something like that. You know, the story I want to tell you today from the bible helps explain about the need for laws and justice.

Bear I'm all ears.

TL Remember, the Israelites had been living in the desert and they were totally dependent on the Lord. He would lead them from place to place by appearing as a pillar of cloud in the day time or a pillar of fire at night. God provided sweet flakes of manna every morning as well as quail for meat. After three months of traveling this way, the Israelites came to Mount Sinai. They set up camp and Moses climbed up the mountain to meet with God.



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BIBLE LESSON • SKIT (CONT. 2)

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The Lord gave Moses a message for the Israelites; “You saw what I, the Lord, did to the Egyptians and how I carried you like on the wings of eagles. Now obey me completely. Keep my covenant. If you do, then out of all of the nations you will be my special treasure.” So Moses went back down and told the people about God’s commands.

The people agreed and said, “We will do everything that the Lord has said.” Moses went back up the mountain and brought their answer to the Lord.

Then God said, “I will come to you in a thick cloud so the people will hear me speaking with you and will believe you from now on. Tell the people to spend two days cleaning themselves and their clothes to prepare for worship. I will come down on Mount Sinai, where all the people can see me. But mark a boundary around the mountain that the people must not cross, if they get too close they will die.

So Moses came down and told the Israelites to get ready to worship God. On the morning of the third day, there was thunder and lightning. A thick cloud of smoke covered the mountain, and a trumpet blast was heard. All the people trembled with fear. Moses led them to the foot of the mountain to meet God. All the people trembled violently as the trumpet sounds got louder and louder.

Bear Whoa, I wish I had been there! That sounds awesome.

TL I’m sure it was both awesome and terrifying. Remember, these people were well aware of God’s power after what he had done to Pharaoh and the Egyptians.

Bear Yah, I’ll bet they were very careful to always do what God said. And, it must have been pretty cool to know that God chose them to His special treasure, right?

TL Your right. They had every reason to be secure in God’s promise and to be careful to obey. Shall I tell you what happened?

Bear Yes. Go on with the story.

TL The Lord called Moses back up the mountain. He kept Moses on the mountain for forty days and forty nights and God wrote ten important commands on stone tablets as well as many other laws for his chosen people to follow. But the people were restless. “We don’t know what has happened to Moses!” So they went to Aaron and said, “Make us a god to lead us.”

Bear What! That can’t be right.

TL I know, it’s a terrible choice. And what’s worse, Aaron actually agreed with them. He had them bring all their gold earrings. So all the people brought their gold earrings to Aaron and he



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BIBLE LESSON • SKIT (CONT. 3)

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made them into a metal statue of a god. It looked like a calf. When he was finished he said, "Israel, here is your god who brought you up out of Egypt." The next day the people got up early and sacrificed burnt offerings and had a big party in front of their god, the golden calf.

The Lord saw all of this and said to Moses, "Hurry back to the camp. The people have sinned and rejected me. They have made an idol and are worshiping it." Moses went down the mountain with the two stone tablets containing the Ten Commandments. When he saw the golden calf and the people dancing, he threw down the tablets and broke them. Then he took the golden calf and melted it. He ground it into fine powder, mixed it with water and made the people of Israel drink it.

Bear Yuck! That's quite a punishment. But at least God didn't destroy them all.

TL Yes, Moses was very angry. He confronted Aaron and asked why he had agreed to do such a terrible thing. Aaron made up an excuse, "I threw the earrings into the fire and out came this calf!"

Bear But that's a lie! He made the gold into a calf on purpose!

TL Isn't it sad how people can promise to obey on day and then disobey the next day and then lie about it? But you know what, God was merciful. He took Moses back up the mountain and wrote his commands and laws on stone tablets again. He knew that people living in a sinful world would need lots of reminders about how to live and behave. He gave them many laws to follow and ten very special and important commands. Commands that have lasted over 6000 years and are just as important today.

The ten important commandments go like this:

- 1) Do not put any other gods in place of me.
- 2) Do not make statues of gods or worship them.
- 3) Do not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
- 4) Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.
- 5) Honor your father and mother.
- 6) Do not murder.
- 7) Do not commit adultery.
- 8) Do not steal.
- 9) Do not lie.
- 10) Do not long for something that belongs to someone else.

Bear Oh, I've heard of a lot of those laws! Like not to murder or steal or lie. So God wrote those laws down on stone tablets that long ago? That's amazing.



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BIBLE LESSON • SKIT (CONT. 4)

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- TL These laws are so important. They help people to know what is right and wrong. They teach us how to behave toward God and each other. Cities and countries have laws to keep people safe. Schools have rules to keep things peaceful. Even families have rules like not talking with your mouth full of food. The really important thing is to remember that we live in a sinful world and God knew we would need help determining what is right, what is wrong and what is fair. When people disobey the law they must face some consequences which are called justice.
- Bear Hey, that's like the bad guy in the book I'm reading. He's breaking the law about stealing! So that's why the hero, Super Bear, needs to catch him and bring him to justice!!
- TL (Laughing) Yes Bear, that's right. It makes for an exciting plot in a fictional story. But it also makes for a peaceful and God honoring life here in the real world.
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- How did God lead his people?
- Which mountain did he take them to?
- Who went up the mountain?
- What did God give Moses up on the mountain?
- What did the people do when they got impatient?
- Why are laws and rules important?
- What are some important laws in this country (or town)?
- Does your family have special rules?



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CRAFT & GAME

Lesson 17

• CRAFT •

OBJECTIVE: STONE TABLETS AND HEBREW NUMBERS

Kids will cut out stone shapes from paper bags and paint the Hebrew numbers 1-10.

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM - PAPER CRAFT

- Paper grocery bags, one per child (small or large bags are fine depending on the size you wish to make)
- Black poster paint
- Q-tips to be used as disposable paint brushes
- Make one large example
- White board or chalk board to demonstrate how to make the Hebrew numbers

MATERIALS PROVIDED BY EM

- Scissors, hole punches, staplers

DIRECTIONS

- Help the kids to cut out two stone tablet shapes from their bags
- Crumple up the bags then spread them out flat, this gives them a rougher stone look
- Demonstrate each Hebrew number 1-10 so the kids can copy onto their stones.
- Write the numbers 1-5 vertically on one stone and 6-10 vertically on the second stone. (See template at end of lesson)
- Optional: teach the pronunciation of each Hebrew number (See template at end of lesson)



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CRAFT & GAME

Lesson 17

• GAME •

OBJECTIVE: MOTHER MAY I?

Kids try to cross the space and touch Mother first by following Mother's instructions.

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- no materials needed for the game

INSTRUCTIONS

One person is chosen to be on or Mother.

The rest of you must stand in a line facing them a short distance away. The aim of the game is for you to cross the space and touch Mother.

But you can only move one at a time following the instructions given by Mother.

Mother will give an instruction to each person in turn such as "Grace, take one giant and three baby steps."

Grace must say "May I?"

And then take her steps as told.

If you forget to say "May I?" or don't do the steps correctly you have to go back to the start.

The first one to reach Mother becomes the next Mother.

There are lots of different steps you can ask people to do:

Baby – a small heel to toe step (also called fairy steps)

Bunny Rabbit – a hop with both feet together

Giant – as large a step as you can manage

Policeman's Walk – Walk slowly forward with your arms out and your eyes closed until told to Stop!

Wheelbarrow – one person holds your legs up and still and you reach as far forward as you can on your hands. Move to where you reach with your hands.

OBJECTIVE: SIMON SAYS

Kids try to be the last one standing by listening very carefully to Simon's instructions.

INSTRUCTIONS

Line up the group across from you, 10 to 20 feet away.

Tell the players that they should all obey you if you first say the words "Simon says."

Tell them that they are out of the game if they follow an order that doesn't begin with "Simon says," or if they fail to do what Simon says to do.

Begin by saying something like, "Simon says, put your hands on your head."

Look to make sure everybody has put their hands on their heads.

Give another order such as, "Simon says, stand on one foot." Check again.

Continue giving orders. Mix it up and say something like, "Raise your right hand," without the preface "Simon says."

Call out the players who raise their hands.

Play until one person is left. This is the winner.

Let that person give the commands for the next round.

Tricky Options:

Give the orders fast, in rapid succession.

Cut the orders short, saying, "Simon says, do this," and make the motion you want mimicked, such as putting your hands on your shoulders.

Quickly say "Do this," and make the motion - put your hands on your waist, for example. Many players will automatically follow your lead (and end up out of the game).

Relax and say something like "Straighten up the line," in a casual manner. Again, several players will comply (and they'll be out).

Single out specific players, especially older ones who are harder to fool. Say, "Chris, move back (or up) a step." She might fall for it.

Ask a question every now and then. Point and ask, "What's your name again?" If the person answers, he's out.



The Ten Commandments

1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

2. Thou shalt not worship any graven image.

3. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.

4. Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy.

5. Honor thy father and thy mother.

6. Thou shalt not kill.

7. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

8. Thou shalt not steal.

9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife.



Hebrew Number Values

א ב ג ד ה ו ז ח ט י כ

Aleph - 1

Beth - 2

Gimel - 3

Daleth - 4

Heh - 5

Vav - 6

Zain - 7

Cheth - 8

Teth - 9

Yod - 10

Kaph - 20

ל מ נ ס ע פ צ ק ר ש ת

Lamed - 30

Mem - 40

Nun - 50

Samekh - 60

Ayin - 70

Peh - 80

Tzaddi - 90

Qoph - 100

Resh - 200

Shin - 300

Tau - 400



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