I remember as a child watching the Cecil B. DeMille movie, *The Ten Commandments* starring Charlton Heston as Moses. I can vividly recall watching Moses cling to the rocks on the mountain, shielding his eyes as God's finger of fire etched His laws onto stone tablets. One of Hollywood's best productions, *The Ten Commandments* still relied on special effects using blue screens, props, and trickery. God's "screen" was no façade! In His might, power, and glory, God displayed His love and majesty to His people. What they experienced was a real, up-close-and-personal encounter with God. No props were used then!

Please read the first part of our story in Exodus 19:1-6. Three months had passed since the Israelites had miraculously left Egypt. They arrived at Mt. Sinai in an area named Horeb, and they set up camp in front of the mountain. God called Moses to meet with Him on the mountain. The Lord wanted to bless His people and elevate them among the nations. He wanted to dwell among them so they would stand out as a unique people. God's blessing was linked to the Israelites' choice to love, trust, and follow Him with all their hearts. God knew His people would need help in this journey. He would not leave them without resources to fulfill their part of the covenant. On that holy mountain, God etched in stone Ten Commandments for His people to live by. These laws became the primary moral code for Israel. No nation could have found a better foundation.

Now read these commands in Exodus 20:1-17. The first four laws dealt with the Israelites' relationship to God, and the last six dealt with their relationships with one another. God desired obedience but knew man's tendency to stray—so He set up the sacrificial system to teach His people about sin's cost. Nor was God slack in providing a strong arm of protection for His people. He gave them every opportunity to succeed.

In summary, the Ten Commandments have divine love written all over them. God wanted to bless His children. God knew that outward obedience to these commands could readily dovetail with revering Him and enjoying a relationship with Him. However, these laws were not given as a means to an end. God wanted the people to grow in their relationship with Him. The Ten Commandments were a way to help the people understand and obey God's will. They were a guide for living life according to God's standards. The Ten Commandments were not a list of rules to follow but a way to show the people how to live in harmony with God. By following these laws, the people could experience a closer relationship with God and enjoy a fulfilling life. In summary, the Ten Commandments have divine love written all over them. God wanted to bless His children.

Lesson Plan

1. God created everything.
2. People disobeyed God.
3. God chose a special people.
4. God sent Jesus to help us.
5. Jesus began the Church.
6. God is preparing heaven for us.

Game Time/Dismissal

Snack Time - 10 minutes
Craft Time - 10 minutes
Bible Story Time - 15 minutes
Clean-up Time - 5 minutes
Arrival - 25 minutes

Suggested Schedule

Hour A

5. Jesus began the Church.
4. God sent Jesus to help us.
3. God chose a special people.
2. People disobeyed God.
1. God created everything.

Bible Story: "Keep My Commandments" (Exodus 19:5).
Bible Phrase: "Keep My Commandments." (Exodus 19:5)

God’s Unfolding Story

1. God’s Unfolding Story: God gave Moses His Laws

Old Testament Unit 6: Moses Lesson 5: God gave Moses His Laws

- **Bible Truth:** God gave Moses His Laws
- **Bible Verse:** "Keep My Commandments." (Exodus 19:5)
- **Bible Story:** "Keep My Commandments." (Exodus 19:5)
Home Living Center:

**Role Play**

**Supplies:**
- Small rocking chair, sink and stove unit and small table and chairs, plastic dishes, child pots and pans, pretend food items, doll, doll bed, and doll accessories

**What to Do:**
Home living items naturally encourage children to act out roles and activities they observe at home. Link to the Bible Story: As preschoolers play, talk about rules children may have at home, such as no running inside, use inside voices, take turns on the swing set, wash hands before eating. Express that today's Bible story will help the Israelites show their love to Him and get along well with others.

Art Center:

**String Art Painting**

**Supplies:**
- White construction paper
- Yarn, clothespins
- Several colors of washable tempera paint, paper plates

**What to Do:**
Print today's Bible Phrase, “Keep My commandments” (Exodus 19:5) on the bottom of each paper. Attach a 12” piece of yarn to a clothespin. Pour paint onto a paper plate. Hold the clothespin and dip the string into the paint; then move the string around on the paper. Make designs with the different colors of paint. Another way to string paint is to fold the paper in half. Place the paint-dipped string inside the paper. Place a hand gently over the folded paper and pull the string. Repeat with a different color of paint.

**Link to the Bible Story:**
As preschoolers paint, read the Bible Phrase. Express that in today’s Bible story, God gave Moses laws or rules for the Israelites to follow. The rules would help the people show their love for God and for others.

Bible Learning Center:

**Matching Activity**

**Supplies:**
- Copies of Activity Page: Counting, “How Many?” (Reproducible)
- Washable markers or crayons

**What to Do:**
Children look at the numeral on the left and match it to the correct number of objects on the right. Link to the Bible Story: Comment to children that the pictures on the page are part of today’s Bible story. For instance, the picture of the man is Moses; God gave Moses 10 laws or rules for the Israelites to follow. Another picture depicts two stone tablets. God wrote the laws on the two stone tablets.

Block Center:

**Build with Blocks**

**Supplies:**
- Wooden blocks

**What to Do:**
Provide a small carpet if possible. Blocks are best located in a corner of the room away from the traffic flow. Link to the Bible Story: As children play in the Block Center, listen for opportunities to share part of the Bible story, say the Bible Phrase, or refer to the Bible truth of today’s lesson.

Puzzle Center:

**Work Puzzles**

**Supplies:**
- Offer a variety of non-fantasy wooden or cardboard puzzles for children to work

**What to Do:**
Invite preschoolers to work puzzles. Encourage each child to finish a puzzle before leaving the center. Give guidance rather than working the puzzle for the child. Look for opportunities in conversation to say the Bible phrase or to briefly tell the Bible story.
**Introduction**

Express to the boys and girls that even though we find many stories in the Bible, the Bible really tells one big story, and all the little stories are a part of the big story. We can call the big story God’s Unfolding Story. Tell children that each picture represents a part of God’s Unfolding Story. Turn the cube and talk about each picture. Express the following in your own words. “Do you know what a law is? A law is a rule to keep us safe or to help us know how to live. We have rules in our classroom like these. What would you do if…?”

**Bible Story**

- **Moses and the Law** (Exodus 19:1-6; 20:1-17; 31:18)
  - Moses and the people had been walking for many days. God told Moses it was time for the people to rest. Everyone was probably ready for a chance to rest. God told Moses to set up tents and camp in front of a mountain. God asked Moses and his people to come up the mountain and live with God for a month. God wrote His laws on stone tablets and gave them to Moses. In turn, Moses passed them along to the people. Moses and God’s people followed these rules, or laws, because they love God and love others.
  - Some of those laws were:
    - I am God, love Me.
    - Only worship God and not anyone or anything else.
    - Always obey God, your father and mother.
    - Do not take something that does not belong to you.
    - Always tell the truth.
  - God loved His people and wanted them to help them show their love for God and for others. Listen to hear about the rules God gave His people.

**Talk Time**

1. **Show the teaching picture for today’s Bible story.** Review the story by using these or similar questions: “What did God give Moses? What was one of the rules God gave Moses? Do you think we need rules to help us live? Why?”

2. **Read the Bible phrase on the teaching picture. Say the phrase together. “Keep My commandments” (Exodus 19:5). Express the importance of obeying God’s commandments. “God loves each one of us. He wants each one to love Him. Following His commandments is one way we can show God we love Him.”

3. **Close the Bible Story Time by inviting children to join you in prayer. Thank God for His laws and ask God to help us obey His rules.”

4. **Direct children to Craft Time.”**

**Clean-up Time**

- **Supplies:** Bible, Teaching Picture “God Gave Moses His Laws” (Reproducible), God’s Unfolding Story Cube (Reproducible/Cardstock)
- **Assign specific tasks for preschoolers to do such as gathering all the glue sticks, placing all the crayons in the basket, throwing away the trash, etc. Guide children to the Bible Story Time area.”

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Snack Time

Be sure to wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Say a thank-you prayer to God for the snack. When snack time has ended, encourage preschoolers to help with cleaning up.

Game Time / Dismissal

Simon Says
What to Do:
Play a simple version of Simon Says. Offer commands such as:

- Simon says, sit down.
- Simon says, stand up.
- Simon says, touch your ears.
- Simon says, put your hands behind your back.
- Simon says, jump up and down.
- Simon says, wave hello to a friend.
- Simon says, touch our knees.
- Simon says, say the Bible Phrase, “Keep My commandments” (Exodus 19:5).

Remind children that in today’s Bible story God gave rules or commands to the Israelites. When the Israelites followed His rules they were showing their love for God and their love for other people.

Exodus 19:5.

“Keep My commandments.”

Remind children that in today’s Bible story God gave rules or commands to the Israelites. When the Israelites followed His rules they were showing their love for God and their love for other people.

Dismiss children as parents arrive. Be sure to follow the security procedures of your church.

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OT06 Lesson 5 Hour A Page 4

Craft Time:

Ten Commandments Ruler

Supplies:

- Copies of “Ten Commandments Ruler” (Reproducible, 1 copy for every 3 children, cardstock recommended)
- Small circle stickers such as: happy faces, stars, colorful dots, natural world stickers
- Crayons

What to Do:
Cut out each Ten Commandments Ruler. Instruct each child to color his or her ruler and attach stickers over the circles on it. Talk about what a ruler is used for and measure different objects on the table.

Link to the Bible Story:
Remind children that God gave Moses the Ten Commandments. Express that for each inch of their ruler there is written one of the Ten Commandments. Read the commandments. Express that for each inch of their ruler there is written one commandment. Express that for each inch of their ruler there is written one of the Ten Commandments.

Ten Commandments

- Worshiping God only.
- Defending parents.
- Not taking things that don’t belong.
- Being sure that we show our love to God when we obey His laws.
- Not lying.
- Not stealing.
- Not coveting.
- Not eating in God’s house.
- Not making any gods.
- Not making false gods.

Covenants of Ten Commandments Ruler

Length of this ruler is only 10“ due to the page size
3 children, cardstock recommended if you recognize that a ruler is 12” in length
3 copies of “Ten Commandments Ruler” (Reproducible, 1 copy for every 3 children)
Old Testament Unit 6: Moses
Lesson 5: God Gave Moses His Laws

Resources and Supplies

Standard Equipment

CD player/Children’s Worship CDs
and Bible Learning Center

Tables and chairs for art & puzzles.
Storage shelf for blocks
Play room
Small center for block area
Small table and chairs
Small shelves and pans
Stove/sink unit
Baby doll (soft plush)
Doll bed
Small cars and trucks
Set of wooden blocks
Assorted wooden/cardboard puzzles
Small beanbag for Bible Story Time
Bible

Additional Art Materials

Small circle stickers such as: happy faces, stars, colored dots, natural world stickers

Additional Craft Materials

Paper plates for paint
Clothespins (6)
White construction paper

Additional Art Materials

Coloring Page: “God gave Moses His Laws”
Parent Page (1 copy per child)
God’s Unfolding Story Cube (cardstock—1 copy per class)
Teaching Picture: “God gave Moses His Laws” (1 copy per class)
Ten Commandments Rule (1 copy for every 3 children; cardstock recommended)
Activity Page: Counting “How Many?” (1 copy per child)

Reproducibles

CD player/Children’s Worship CDs
and Bible Learning Center

Tables and chairs for art & puzzles.
Storage shelf for blocks
Play room
Small center for block area
Small table and chairs
Small shelves and pans
Stove/sink unit
Baby doll (soft plush)
Doll bed
Small cars and trucks
Set of wooden blocks
Assorted wooden/cardboard puzzles
Small beanbag for Bible Story Time
Bible

Bible

Washable markers
Permanent markers
Tape/masking tape
Tempera paint, 4 colors
Glue/glue sticks
Easel (optional)
Drawing paper
Playdough and accessories
Child scissors
Crafts
Washable markers
(Supplies that are generally in the room)
How Many?

1

2

3

4

5

Activity Page: Counting, “How Many?”
Instructions: Copy one sheet per child. Use a crayon or marker to Match the numeral on the left to the correct number of objects on the right.
I am God.

Love Me.

Only worship God.

Always say God's name in a kind way.

Work six days and on the seventh day rest.

Obey your father and mother.

Do not kill.

Husbands and wives honor your marriage promise.

Do not take something that does not belong to you.

Always tell the truth.

Do not wish for things that belong to other people.

I am God.

Love Me.

Only worship God.
Instructions: Cut out on dotted lines, fold on solid lines. Glue or tape to form a cube.
Keep My commandments. Exodus 19:5