



LESSON 4

GOD GIVES THE LAW

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Sets Apart His People

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 20

GOD'S BIG STORY: God brings the Israelites to Mount Sinai to covenant with them. He gives them His good commandments so the world will know they are His set-apart people.

WORD OF WONDER: So I want you to realize that the LORD your God is God. He is the faithful God. He keeps his covenant for all time to come. He keeps it with those who love him and obey his commandments. He shows them his love. —Deuteronomy 7:9

CURIOSITY

BELIEF

FAITH

- Welcome Question: When is a time you felt very special?
- Curiosity Questions
- SMALL GROUP
- Interactive Game: Share the Story
- Declaring God's Wonder
- Worship: Here with Me, House of the Lord
- Prayer of Invitation
- God's Big Story: Hear It, Watch It, Experience It!
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- Responding in Worship: Reckless Love
- Blessing Your Kids



INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

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WONDER TRUTH: God Sets Apart His People

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 20

WORD OF WONDER: Deuteronomy 7:9

I was homeschooled until I went to high school. So my first few months of public school were good but challenging. I was different from the other kids—I didn't know all the slang; I hadn't had their experiences. I gradually adjusted and fit in. But there was always something different about me because I was a Christian. There were things I did and didn't do because of my faith.

In today's lesson, we see that God creates a people who are to be in the world but not of it. In many ways, they will operate like everyone else, but because of God's law and what it says, there will always be something different about them. Israel struggles with this all throughout the Old Testament. Many of us—and probably many of the kids you lead—struggle with this still today.

God calls His people to be set apart. It's not always easy. But when we walk in the way of the Lord and we look at His instructions, we realize His commands are good because He is good. We realize He's worth following.

God sets us apart to live for Him and to show others what He is like. That makes us different. But it's OK because our God is faithful.

—Denise Morris Snyder

Spiritual Formation Pastor

Contributor to Wonder Ink

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

Moses is an important figure throughout Scripture. God called him to lead His chosen people out of Egyptian slavery. Moses received the law, and God made His covenant with him (Exodus 19–24). Moses wandered the wilderness because of Israel’s disobedience and died without entering the Promised Land.

WHAT?

God led Israel out of slavery in Egypt and delivered them from the pursuing Egyptian army. God called His people together at the base of Mount Sinai to make His covenant with them. God spoke to Moses, giving him the Law, and Moses brought it to the people.

WHERE?

Mount Sinai is the same “mountain of God” where God first called to Moses from the burning bush. God said Israel would return to worship Him here after being set free (Exodus 3). Today it’s called *Jabal Musa* in Arabic, meaning “Mountain of Moses.”

WHEN?

Israel came to Mount Sinai on the first day of the third month after leaving Egypt. According to the Hebrew calendar, this may have been in late May or early June, since Passover is celebrated in the first month around March or April.

CONNECTING TO GOD’S BIG STORY

God led His people to Mount Sinai to receive the Law of God. It showed how they were to live as God’s chosen people. In Matthew 5–7, Jesus gave a sermon on a different mountain or hill. There Jesus said He had come to fulfill the Law, bringing all things to completion.

Large Group

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

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WONDER TRUTH: God Sets Apart His People

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As kids arrive...

Around 20 minutes before service begins, display series theme loop.
Play high-energy music in the background.

LG Leader walks around the room on mic and greets kids by name as they enter the room. Be sure to move to their level and introduce yourself to any new friends. Welcome kids by name and greet them with enthusiasm. Be extra intentional about hearing and responding to what they say.

SLIDE: SERIES THEME LOOP

Welcome Question

Consider using a **30 or 2:00 Countdown** to let leaders and kids know it's almost time to begin!

At Your Start Time...

SLIDE: WELCOME QUESTION

At service start time, draw kids' attention to the Welcome Question board:

Welcome Question: **When is a time you felt very special?**



"Hopefully we've all had lots of different times when we've felt special. Today we're going to learn how God chose a special people and gave them His commandments to set them apart as His own.

SLIDE: WONDER TRUTH

Today's Wonder Truth is **GOD SETS APART HIS PEOPLE.**"



Small Group

Introduce small group time. While kids are in small group, consider sitting in the groups for a few minutes each. Engage and interact as is appropriate.

Countdown

After about 15 minutes of small group, give a 5 minute warning and begin the countdown.

VIDEO: COUNTDOWN

"Hey everyone! Welcome to our Large Group Worship time! My name is _____ and I'm excited to take this time to worship God, review what we just read, and talk about ways we can respond to what we are learning about God! I have a little game for us first today!"

Declaring God's Wonder

SLIDE: DECLARATION

Read each line boldly and invite kids to repeat after you.

Thank You, God, that You are good! (Kids repeat.)

You made me on purpose, for a purpose. (Kids repeat.)

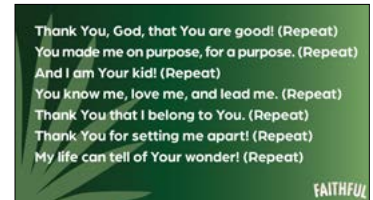
And I am Your kid! (Kids repeat.)

You know me, love me, and lead me. (Kids repeat.)

Thank You that I belong to You. (Kids repeat.)

Thank You for setting me apart! (Kids repeat.)

My life can tell of Your wonder! (Kids repeat.)



Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use your own words, using this prayer as a guide if needed **Father God, thank You for bringing us together to learn more about You and Your story today. Help us to listen well, to know Your Holy Spirit is with us, and to keep Your truth close to our hearts. Thank You for calling us Your own people and setting us apart. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Worship

Consider sharing some about the songs you are going to sing. What they mean, why we sing them, why they are meaningful and important to you!

"We're going to stand and sing together! One way that we show love to God is to worship through song! So stand up, sing loud, and join in the motions with us. God loves to hear us sing praises to Him! Let's stand together and sing!"

WORSHIP VIDEOS: HERE WITH ME, HOUSE OF THE LORD

God's Big Story

SLIDE: TITLE

Explain that Exodus is near the front of the Bible—the second book!

"Let's start by watching part of God's big story directly from the Bible. Afterward, we will experience more of the story!"

VIDEO: GOD'S BIG STORY



LESSON 4 GOD GIVES THE LAW EXPERIENCE IT! SCRIPT

SUPPLIES: table; chair; hairbrushes, pens, or pencils (2)

Ahead of time, place a table at the front of the room with a chair behind it. This will serve as your news anchor desk. Recruit two kids to serve as reporters who'll help with the newscast. Give each kid a hairbrush, pen, or pencil to serve as a microphone to hold when speaking. Tell them they are to do the actions you describe in the story. The reporters will stand to one side of the table.

SLIDE: NEED TO KNOW

Sit at the news anchor desk. **"Welcome to Need-to-Know News. I'm your news anchor** (say your name), **and today we have a special report about God's people, the Hebrews. With me are two reporters** (say names of kid reporters), **who'll help bring this important story to you.**



God's people lived in Egypt for 400 years, and during that time they became strong and numerous. Egypt's king, the Pharaoh, feared the people's strength and made them work as slaves. During this time, God helped a Hebrew baby named Moses, who was saved by the Pharaoh's daughter and raised in the king's palace. Years later, God heard His people's cries for help and called Moses to lead them to freedom. Moses led the people out of Egypt and through the Red Sea as God held back the waters. When Pharaoh's army chased after them, God let the water fall back onto the Egyptians.

God's people—the people of Israel—have now escaped. They're finally free. But God isn't done with them yet. He's just getting started.

God has led the people to the base of a mountain called Mount Sinai, and we understand that there are big things happening there. Our reporters are on the scene and ready to fill us in

Unfortunately, while we can see our reporters, we've lost all sound. They can hear me, but we can't hear them. As you can see, this is a desolate location, rocky, dry, and hot. See how our reporters are wiping sweat from their heads? Pause as reporters respond. See how they're panting because they're thirsty? Pause as reporters respond. I understand Moses has climbed up the mountain. Reporters, follow him—let's see you climb. Pause as reporters respond. Keep going ... keep going. And you're there!

On the mountain, God is telling Moses that He's making an unbreakable promise with His people. If they obey Him, God will set Israel apart as His treasured people and give them a special place in His plan for the world. That's big news! Moses is now climbing back down the mountain to tell the people what God has said. Reporters, hurry down the mountain. Climb! Climb faster! Pause as reporters respond. OK—you're down the mountain. Good job!

It looks as if the people are agreeing—they'll obey God and do everything God says. Now Moses is climbing back up the mountain to tell God the people have agreed to be His special nation. Follow him, reporters! Pause as reporters respond.

God instructed Moses to take two days to get the people ready to meet Him, and that's what

Moses is doing. The people are washing their clothes and preparing themselves to meet the Lord. Do the same, reporters. Pretend to wash your clothes ... wash your hair ... brush your teeth ... hang your socks up to dry ... get yourselves ready! Pause as reporters respond to each instruction.

It's the morning of the third day, and thunder and lightning are filling the sky. God has come down in fire, and smoke is covering the mountain. "Then Moses spoke. And the voice of God answered him" (Exodus 19:19). God has called Moses to the top of the mountain, and He's giving Moses 10 Commandments—or laws—for the people to obey to set them apart from the other nations. Our reporters are on the scene.

Reporters, I think I can make out what's written on the tablets Moses is holding.

The people are to have no other gods, just God Himself. "Don't make statues of fake gods," God said. God wants them to only love Him, and He promises to love forever those who love and obey Him.

The people aren't to misuse God's name, but use it with respect and honor. This will show they love God and care about His reputation.

Next, the people are to honor God by setting apart a day each week to rest. They can work for six days, but on the seventh, they're to rest. Because our sound feed still is not working, reporters, can you please show us what resting on the seventh day might look like? Pause as reporters respond. **This command is to be obeyed by their children, everyone in their houses, their animals, and even by those who've just moved to their towns. God Himself worked to create the entire world in six days, but on the seventh, He rested and enjoyed His creation. God wants His people to be like Him.**

Another command is for God's people to honor and respect their parents. As a result, the people will experience good, fulfilling lives in the land God is giving them.

There are a few other commands. Do not murder. Do not break the promises they make when they get married. Do not steal. Do not lie to harm others. Do not be jealous of what their neighbor has.

The laws God is giving His people will become known as the 10 Commandments. God hasn't given them to limit His people, but to show His people how life is best lived—by loving God and loving each other. When the people of Israel keep these laws, everyone will know they belong to God. God sets apart His people.

And . . . wait . . . our sound is back! We can now hear our reporters, so let me ask them: What was it like to witness such an amazing event? Give the reporters a few seconds to share their thoughts, then cut them off as they are speaking. **I'm sorry, but we need to go to a commercial break. After the break we'll speak with our fashion reporter about today's hottest new fashion trend: wearing socks on your ears. Until then, this is Need-to-Know News.**

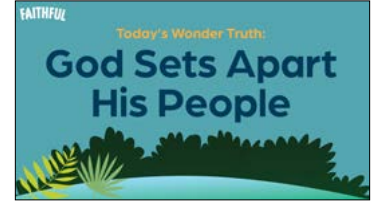
Leader Tip: The goal of this lesson is that kids walk away with a deeper understanding of who they are as God's set-apart children! The law God gave Moses helps His people know the best way to live as reflections of Him to the world! If kids can recite the 10 Commandments, great! If they can understand more deeply what it means to walk as God's kids, even better!

Connecting the Wonder Truth

SLIDE: WONDER TRUTH

Pose the following question to kids to help them connect the Wonder Truth to God's big story:

"Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD SETS APART HIS PEOPLE**. Where did you see our Wonder Truth in the story? Allow kids to answer freely. God led His people to Mount Sinai to receive the Law of God. It showed how they were to live as God's chosen people. In Matthew 5–7, Jesus gave a sermon on a different mountain or hill. We call it the Sermon on the Mount. There Jesus said He had come to fulfill the Law. By dying on the cross and rising again, Jesus brought completion to all things. Through Jesus, our sins can be forgiven and our relationship with God made right! We are His set-apart people!"



Responding in Worship

SLIDE: RESPONDING IN WORSHIP

Talk about ways we can respond to what we are learning with next steps such as tithing, prayer, asking questions, and worship. Encourage kids to ask their SG leaders any questions they were wondering during the lesson.

***Introduce this next song and invite kids to respond and participate in worship. See the "Worship Posture Tutorial" on the RBKids Resource Page.



WORSHIP VIDEO: RECKLESS LOVE

Blessing Your Kids

Speak a blessing over your kids. Use your own words, with this blessing as an example if needed,

Blessing: May God bless you this week as you love and obey Him and live as His set-apart child. He loves you so much and has chosen you as His very own!

