

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 make a covenant—or unbreakable promise—with them. He gives them His good commandments so the world will know they are His set-apart people.

WORD OF WONDER: Know that the Lord your God is God. He is the faithful God. —from Deuteronomy 7:9

CURIOSITY

BELIEF

FAITH

- Play Stations:
 - Painting on Rocks
 - Color Sorting
 - God Gives the Law Coloring Sheet
- Word of Wonder: Deuteronomy 7:9
- God's Big Story Snack
- Circle Time: Make a Choice
- LARGE GROUP
- Responding in Worship: Drawing Response
- Game: Follow the Commands



Faithful Preschool Spotify playlist



INVITATION

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

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Sets Apart His People

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 20

WORD OF WONDER: From 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 than 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.

LESSON 4 **EARLY CHILDHOOD**

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

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Sets Apart His People

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 20

WORD OF WONDER: From Deuteronomy 7:9

Play Stations

SUPPLIES: large rocks, paintbrushes, cups, water, towel, tray, pom-poms (2 colors), small bowl or muffin tin, coloring utensils, markers (optional)

RESOURCES: [God Gives the Law Coloring Sheet \(1 per kid\)](#)

Greet kids warmly as they arrive and briefly explain the play stations. Invite them to play at any of the play stations.

"Welcome to church! While we're getting ready to start, you can play at any of these stations to help get ready for our lesson today. Do you have any ideas of what we'll be learning about today?"

Play Station: Painting on Rocks

Set-up: Set out several large rocks or stones. Flat landscaping pavers work well. Put some cups of water and paintbrushes nearby. You can set out a towel for any spills. You can also set out markers instead of water and paintbrushes.

Play: Kids can use paintbrushes and water to "paint" on the rocks. Instead of water, you can also set out markers and allow the kids to draw or write on the rocks. Tell them they're going to hear a story about a time when God wrote something very special on rocks.

Play Station: Color Sorting

Set-up: Set out a tray with a variety of colors and sizes of pom-poms on it. Set an empty bowl or muffin tin nearby.

Play: Allow the kids to take turns sorting pom-poms by color and size. The kids can sort the pom-poms into a bowl or muffin cups in a muffin tin. Tell them that in today's story they're going to hear about what it means to be set apart, or separate.

Play Station: God Gives the Law Coloring Sheet

Set-up: Print one copy per kid of the Coloring Sheet. Set out the Coloring Sheets and coloring utensils.

Play: Let the kids color. The kids can also turn the sheet over and draw a picture of a mountain.

Word of Wonder

SUPPLIES: Bible, chairs (1 per kid, minus 2)

RESOURCES: [Faithful Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

WORD OF WONDER

Know that the Lord your God is God. He is the faithful God.

—from Deuteronomy 7:9

Invite the kids to play a fun game that's similar to musical chairs to help them learn the Word of Wonder.

"Our Word of Wonder for this series instructs us to love God and know that He is faithful. Loving and worshiping God was one of the Ten Commandments! God showed His faithfulness to the Israelites by giving them the Ten Commandments and being with them. He is faithful to us too, and we can love Him! Let's play a game to help us remember our Word of Wonder."

Make It Inclusive! Kids with mobility issues can participate by pressing "play" and "pause" on the music.

Create a circle of chairs, but make sure there are two fewer chairs than kids. Invite the kids to stand inside the circle of chairs. When you play music from the Faithful Early Childhood Spotify playlist, the kids should move around the chairs slowly, and when you stop the music, they should all try to sit down in a chair. The two kids who don't get chairs this round can stand in the middle of the circle and say the Word of Wonder together. After they say it, invite everyone to stand up and say it together.

Play a few rounds, inviting kids to recite the verse each time.

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **KNOW THAT**—Point to your head.
- **THE LORD YOUR GOD IS GOD.**—Point up and then bring that hand to your heart.
- **HE IS THE FAITHFUL GOD.**—Give two thumbs-up.
- **FROM DEUTERONOMY 7:9**—Hold your hands together in front, palms together, as if opening a book.

Leader Tip: God being faithful means He will always do what He says He will do. He is trustworthy.

Gather kids to discuss these questions:

- **How has God been faithful to your family?**
- **How is God faithful to His special people?**

God's Big Story / Snack

SUPPLIES: Bible

Hold up a Bible and show the kids. Tell them today's story comes from the book of Exodus in the Bible. Open a Bible and show them where the story is found.

Bible Time Rhyme

Say the Bible time rhyme (with motions) each week before the Bible story to remind kids that what they're about to hear is part of God's big story.

I open my Bible and what do I see? (*Hands together then opening palms up, like opening a book.*)

God's big story, waiting for me! (*Point to yourself.*)

"Let's hear part of God's big story, which comes from the book of Exodus in the Bible."

Read pages 78–83 in the [Laugh and Grow Bible](#).

Circle Time: Make a Choice

SUPPLIES: scissors (prep only)

RESOURCES: [Commandment Cards \(1 per SG\)](#)

Before kids arrive, print the Commandment Cards double-sided. Cut out the squares to resemble flash cards.

Gather kids in a circle around you and show them the Commandment Cards. **We are going to make some choices to get to our review questions today! First, someone can pick one of these cards.**

Let one kid pick a card.

Flip the card over to reveal the question.

Ask the question on the back of the card. Allow kids to answer

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **Who talked to God on Mount Sinai?** (*Moses*)
- **What did God tell Moses about the people?** (*They were His special chosen people.*)
- **How many commandments (or laws) did God give Moses?** (*10*)
- **What was one of the commandments that God gave Moses?**
- **Which of the commandments do you think is the hardest to follow?**
- **Which of the commandments do you think is the easiest to follow?**
- **What does the commandment that talks about our parents say we should do?**
(*Do what our parents say.*)
- **God says to pick one day each week to do what?** (*rest*)
- **What does this story show us about God and how He feels about His people?**

You made choices to discover the questions. God chose to give His special chosen people rules to follow, and we can make choices in life that honor God and the way He wants us to live. When we trust in Jesus, we are set apart and are God's special chosen people. Let's talk to God now in prayer!"

Invite kids to share prayer requests and praises and to pray for each other. Some kids may not be comfortable praying out loud. That's OK! Encourage them to pray silently and to thank God for making them special.

Head to Large Group!

Responding in Worship: Drawing Response

SUPPLIES: coloring utensils, tape, washable marker

RESOURCES: [Set Apart Sheet \(1 per kid -on back of Coloring Page\)](#), [Faithful Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

"In God's big story, He chose His people—the Israelites—and set them apart to live the way He wanted. And the same is true of us! God has chosen us and set us apart as His very own!"

Let's listen to a verse about this. Read Ephesians 2:10 (NirV): **"We are God's creation. He created us to belong to Christ Jesus. Now we can do good works. Long ago God prepared these works for us to do."**

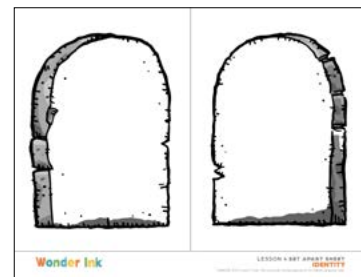
God made each of you special. Now you can serve Him and praise Him and show others what He is like. Let's count how many fingers we have on our hands. Count from one to 10 with the kids **Ten fingers on our hands! Does anyone remember how many commandments or rules God gave His special people?** Allow the kids to respond **He gave them 10! Just like we have 10 fingers. We're going to make a craft that will help us remember that God gave Ten Commandments.**

This sheet has some stone tablets. Hold up the Set Apart Sheet.

First, one of our leaders is going to help you trace your hands on the tablets. Enlist volunteers to help trace kids hands, one of each tablet. Older preschoolers can do this on their own.

Great job! Now on the first tablet, you can draw one thing that makes you special. Maybe it's your kindness, your heart, or your passion for playing sports, drawing, or singing. On the other sheet, you can draw a way you praise God or help others because of how special you are. Maybe you help your teammate when you play basketball, or you sing a song to worship God."

Give each kid a Set Apart Sheet and coloring utensils and let the kids draw pictures of what makes them set apart or special for God. You could play music from the [Faithful Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) in the background as they draw. After most of the kids have finished, hang these pictures in your room or add them to the storyline from God's Big Story.



Leader Tip: If some of the kids have trouble thinking of what makes them special, share with them what you see that makes them special!

Game: Follow the Commands

One of the commandments God gave was to set aside a special day each week to rest. Why do you think God would give that as one of the commandments? What is so important about resting in a way that allows us to worship? Allow the kids to respond. God knew that we need time to worship and rest without being too busy. God even rested after creating everything! We're going to play a game where you'll pretend to rest however you want when I say, "Rest." Let's practice. Say, "Rest" and allow kids to show you how they rest. Then have the kids stand again. Before we rest, we'll do all kinds of other actions, like a crazy dance or hopping on one leg. You'll need to listen for me to tell you each action. Ready? Let's start.

Play several rounds with different action commands. You can make up your own or use the list below (adding in "rest" at varying times).

- Hop on one foot.
- Run in place.
- Jump up and down.
- Do a crazy dance.
- Spin in a circle.
- Reach up as high as you can.
- Wave your arms above your head.
- March in place.