

The 10 Commandments

Resources: memory stick with song words, song CD, laptop (check cable), projector (check 2 cables), extension lead, 3 scripts, spare t-shirts, Moses costume, dice, snakes & ladders game board, 2 counters, blue tack, clipboard & pen, Big Bible with God script

Passage: Exodus 19.16-24.3

Theme: Christians believe that God's rules help us live the best life

Before you start: Put loop of blue tack behind counters to stick them to board.

Part 1: Intro, quiz, Moses

Part 2: Player A, God, prayer

Part 3: Player B, narrator, talk

Intro: Hello [name of School], we are so pleased to be back with you again! We're the Christ Church Schools' Team, I am _____, and this is _____ [Intro team]...

[Player A enters with Snakes and Ladders game. Player B enters.]

Player A: Do you want to play snakes and ladders?

Player B: Sure!

[Intro picks two tall people to hold up game board (get them to stand behind it)]

Player A: I'll go first.

[Player A and B keep this moving quickly, rolling dice in turn. Player B plays fairly, Player A makes up own rules as appropriate¹. Ignore their protests and win in the most outrageous manner possible. You have to judge this carefully – don't keep it going too long or some of the smaller children could get genuinely upset!]

Player A: I won!

Player B: [Shaking head sadly] But that's not fair...! I'm never going to play a game with you again.

[Players A & B exit]

Intro: Sometimes we might think that rules stop us having fun. In our story from the Bible, God's people were given some very important rules...

¹ It's difficult to give you clearer lines because it depends on your roll, but practise: 'If I roll a 2, I get an extra go.' 'When I roll a 5, I'm allowed to move up this ladder and move another 5,' 'I'm allowed to go up this snake,' 'When I get a 6, I can quadruple it'. Make a roll of 5 and 2 and get a move of 52 etc. The idea is to get you finished in 4 throws.

Drama

[Narrator explains sound effects before you start. I will bring my arms up to start noise and down to stop sound effect. So, rehearse - Banging on floor for thunder. 'Clap' for lightning. A trumpet noise for trumpet (aim for trumpets rather than screaming).]

Narrator: God had rescued his people from slavery in Egypt and brought them to Mount Sinai to meet with him. There was thunder [make thunder noise] and lightning [clap] and a thick cloud over the mountain and then there was a loud trumpet blast [trumpet noise].

Everyone in the camp trembled with fear!

[Narrator encourages children to tremble with fear. Moses enters]

Then Moses led the people out to meet with God, they stood at the foot of the mountain.

The mountain was covered in smoke and shook violently. The sound of the trumpet [trumpet noise] got louder and louder.

[Moses puts hand down to stop trumpets]

LORD: Go to the top of the mountain

[Moses climbs up with clipboard and pen. Narrator moves on PPT for 10 Commandments below]

LORD: I am the Lord your God who rescued you from the Egyptians...

[Moses writes on clipboard, repeating, shaking head, nodding etc.]

1. You may not love anyone, or anything more than you love God.
2. You may not worship, or make something, more important than God.
3. Use God's name with respect.
4. One day of your week should be used to rest and worship God.
5. Respect your parents. Love them, and the Lord will reward your life.
6. You may not hate other people, don't ever think of hurting someone else in any way.
7. Be true to your husband or your wife.
8. Do not take anything that isn't yours.
9. Don't tell lies.
10. If somebody has something you don't have, don't wish that it was yours.

[Based on the NIV Adventure Bible]

Narrator: When God's people saw the smoke and lightning [clap] and they heard the thunder [thunder noise] and trumpet [trumpet noise], they shook with fear.

[Narrator encourages children to tremble. Moses turns to children as if they were the Israelites]

Moses: Do not be afraid. God has come to remind you to love him and that you need to obey him.

[Freeze]

Talk

The game of snakes and ladders that we played at the start may have been 'fun for _____ because they won', but it wasn't a good game because it wasn't played by the rules. Rules that are good help us to live the best life.

In our story from the Bible today, God gave His people these 10 rules, called commandments. **Christians believe that God's rules help us to live the best life.** We are going to look at one of the rules that God gave to His people.

[PPT] 'If somebody has something you don't have, don't wish that it was yours.'

If we always want things that other people have, we will never be happy with what we have. Maybe we have a Lego police car. Then we see someone with a Lego Fire Engine, so we want a Fire Engine. Then we see someone with a Lego Fire Station, so we want a Fire Station. Then we see someone with a Lego Airport... Or maybe for some of you older ones, perhaps it's a better mobile phone.

Wanting what someone else has is like being in a race that just keeps going and never gets to the end. **Christians believe that God's rules help us live the best life,** because we can be happy right where we are. We're not always wanting something else.

If you struggle to remember 10 rules, Jesus was asked which was the most important commandment. [PPT]

He said, 'Love God' and [PPT] 'Love other people as you love yourself.'

Christians believe that God's rules help us live the best life.

Song Our God is a great big God.

Quiz

We've got a little quiz for you now, so put your hand up if you think you know the answer:

1. In our story from the Bible, what did God give His people? *[The 10 commandments/ rules]*

2. Name one of the 10 rules that God gave his people... *[You'll have to remember them! Take 3 or 4]*

3. What do Christians believe we can learn from this Bible story?

[Christians believe that God's rules help us live the best life]

Prayer

To finish our assembly, I am going to say a short prayer for us all. Before I do that, let's spend a moment thinking about what this assembly means for us. As we pause, why don't you think of one rule that you want to follow in your life. You may want to close your eyes, so you are not distracted or focus on the candle on the screen. If you want to agree with my prayer, you can say 'Amen' at the end with me....

[flickering candle on PowerPoint – wait for a minute]

Dear God, thank you so much for school. Thank you that we have learnt that Christians believe that Your rules help us to live the best life. I pray that you would bless every child and every member of staff in this school. Amen.

Close

Thank you for having us today. We will see you again soon.

