

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.

MEMORY VERSE: Know that the Lord your God is God. He is the faithful God. —from [Deuteronomy 7:9](#)

CURIOSITY

Four options for interactive hands-on activities to help kids begin thinking about the wonder of God.

- Free Play
- Declaring God's Wonder
- Curiosity Activity: Who Is Set Apart?



BELIEF

A deep and interactive dive into Scripture that guides kids into knowing God more deeply, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

- Prayer of Invitation and Worship
- God's Big Story
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- Memory Verse: [Deuteronomy 7:9](#)

FAITH

An intentional interactive discussion that helps kids discover the wonder of God's story and how it connects to their own.

- Circle Time: Discussion
- Prayer and Blessing

IDENTITY

An interactive activity to keep kids engaged during pick-up and reinforce the lesson.

- Game: Follow the Commands

INVITATION

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

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?**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.

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS**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.



Curiosity

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

As kids arrive...

Greet kids warmly as they arrive and 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.

Worship Playlist

During free play...

Play one of the spotify playlists for background music while kids play.

Countdown Video

At the end of free play...

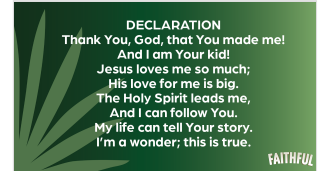
Play the Clean Up video to signify time to clean up toys and activities.

Gather kids on sit spots, chairs, or benches to begin the lesson.

Declaring God's Wonder

SUPPLIES: Early Childhood Declaration [Slide](#)

Display the Declaration [Slide](#) and encourage the kids to say the statements and do the motions with you.



Hello, friends! I am so glad to be here at church today with all of you. Let's get started by saying our declaration. These are the words we always start with and they remind us what God says is TRUE about me and you. Repeat after me!

Thank You, God, that You made me! (*Kids repeat.*)

Make prayer hands, then point up to God and to yourself.

And I am Your kid! (*Kids repeat.*)

Put your hands on your hips.

Jesus loves me so much; (*Kids repeat.*)

Spread your arms out wide to your side one at a time, then pull them in for a hug around your chest.

His love for me is big. (*Kids repeat.*)

Hold your arms up high and wide above your head.

The Holy Spirit leads me, (*Kids repeat.*)

Bring your arms down from the sky, making a path in front of you.

And I can follow You. (*Kids repeat.*)

March like you're following the leader.

My life can tell Your story, (*Kids repeat.*)

Hold your hands in front of you like an open book.

I'm a wonder; this is true. (*Kids repeat.*)

Put your hands up, shaking your fingers, celebrating ("praise hands").

Curiosity Activity: Who Is Set Apart?

Gather kids together in the middle of the room.

In God's big story today, we're going to learn how God's special people were set apart. Let's play a game where some people will be set apart.

Have kids sit down. Read each of the statements below and have the kids who fit the description stand after you read each line. Invite all of the kids to sit down again after each round.

- **If you have brown hair, stand up.**
- **If you have a brother, stand up.**
- **If you have a sister, stand up.**
- **If you have a dog at home, stand up.**
- **If you like to eat cookies, stand up.**
- **If you like to eat pizza, stand up.**
- **If you are three years old, stand up.**
- **If you are four years old, stand up.**

- **If you are five years old, stand up.**
- **If you love God, stand up.**

Leader Tip: Make sure that each kid gets a chance to stand up a few times! It's OK to come up with things that you know would apply to certain kids, so everyone has a chance to play

Each of you stood up according to something special about you! God chose to give His instructions (or rules) to a group of people to show that they were His special people. We'll learn today about how God sets apart His people.



Belief

LESSON 4 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Guide kids into knowing God, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Sets Apart His People

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 20

MEMORY VERSE: From Deuteronomy 7:9

Worship

SUPPLIES: Worship Music videos

Today, we'll learn about how God is faithful to His special people. Let's sing about our faithful God together!

Play songs and encourage the kids to sing and dance as they praise God.

Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: **God, thank You for being here with us today. Help us listen to what You have to say to us today. Reveal Your love for Your special people to each and every one of us today. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

God's Big Story

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.

God's Big STORY SCRIPT: GOD GIVES THE LAW

SUPPLIES: Bible, bag with commandments sheets, [God's Big Story Video](#), [Commandments Sheets](#)

Before kids arrive, print the [Commandments Sheets](#) and cut apart each of the 10 tablets. Place the Ten Commandments in a pillowcase or special bag. You might also hang the tablets to create a storyline to add the commandments as you tell the story.



It's time for God's big story! Our story today is about how God spoke to a man named Moses and gave an important message. Everyone use your listening ears and listen for me to say, "Moses." When you hear me say, "Moses," raise your hand. When I say, "Moses," I am going to pick someone to come and pull something out of the bag here. Are you ready?

Leader Tip: You can have the kids hold on to the commandments they take from the bag. However, if you feel that will be a distraction, invite the kids to place the commandments on a storytelling line.

God helped a man named Moses (pause and pick one kid to come choose a tablet from your bag) **lead His people to the base of a mountain called Mount Sinai. Moses** (pick one kid to come choose a tablet from your bag) **climbed up the mountain. There God told Moses** (pick one kid to choose a tablet) **that if His people would obey Him, God would give them a special place in His plan for the world. Moses** (pick one kid to choose a tablet) **told the people what God had said. The people told Moses** (pick one kid to choose a tablet) **they would obey God. Then Moses** (pick one kid to choose a tablet) **climbed back up the mountain.**

Next, God told Moses (pick one kid to choose a tablet) **to tell the people to get ready. God came down in fire, and smoke covered the mountain. God called Moses** (pick one kid to choose a tablet) **to the top of the mountain, where He gave Moses** (pick one kid to choose a tablet) **Ten Commandments—or laws—for the people to obey to set them apart from the other nations. These were very important rules from God. Moses** (pick one kid to choose a tablet) **shared the rules with God's people.**

The papers we have been picking out each list one of the Ten Commandments. Let's read what they say.

Take the papers from the kids and ask the kids to help put them in order according to the numbers on the tablets. Read aloud the commandments on the tablets:

- **Have no other gods besides God. There is only one God!**
- **Don't worship idols. Idols are fake gods.**
- **Keep God's name holy. That means to only say God's name when talking to or about God.**
- **Set apart one day to rest. The Bible calls it the Sabbath when people set apart one day each week for God.**
- **Honor your parents with what you say and do.**
- **Don't kill.**
- **Keep your promises to your husband or wife.**
- **Don't steal.**
- **Don't lie.**

- Don't be jealous of what other people have.

These are the Ten Commandments. God didn't give them to be harsh with His people but to show them the best way to live—by loving God and loving each other. When the people of Israel kept these laws, everyone would know that God's people were special and belonged to Him. God sets apart His people.

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 Ten Commandments, great! If they can understand more deeply what it means to walk as God's kids, even better!

Watch God's Big Story

Watch the [God Gives the Law God's Big Story!](#)



Connecting the Wonder Truth

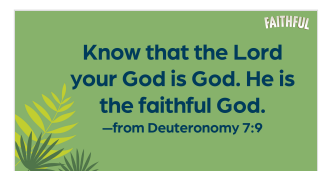
Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD SETS APART HIS PEOPLE.**

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. 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 completed all things. Through Jesus, our sins can be forgiven and our relationship with God made right! We are His set-apart people!

Memory Verse

SUPPLIES: Memory Verse Slide

Display the Memory Verse Slide.



Our Memory Verse this month 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 practice our verse together now:

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.

Help kids see the wonder of God's story and how it connects to their own story.

Divide kids into smaller groups for discussion and prayer.

Circle Time: Discussion and Prayer

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.**

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?**

We make choices all the time! 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.

Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their discussion, pray with them, thanking God for making them special and setting apart His people.

God, thank You for making each of us special. Thank You for loving us. Thank You for choosing us. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May you never forget that you are part of God's chosen people who have been set apart. Never forget how special you are and how much God loves you.

Use the following activity to keep kids engaged during pick-up time and to reinforce the lesson.

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.

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! God made each of you special. Now you can serve Him and praise Him and show others what He is like.