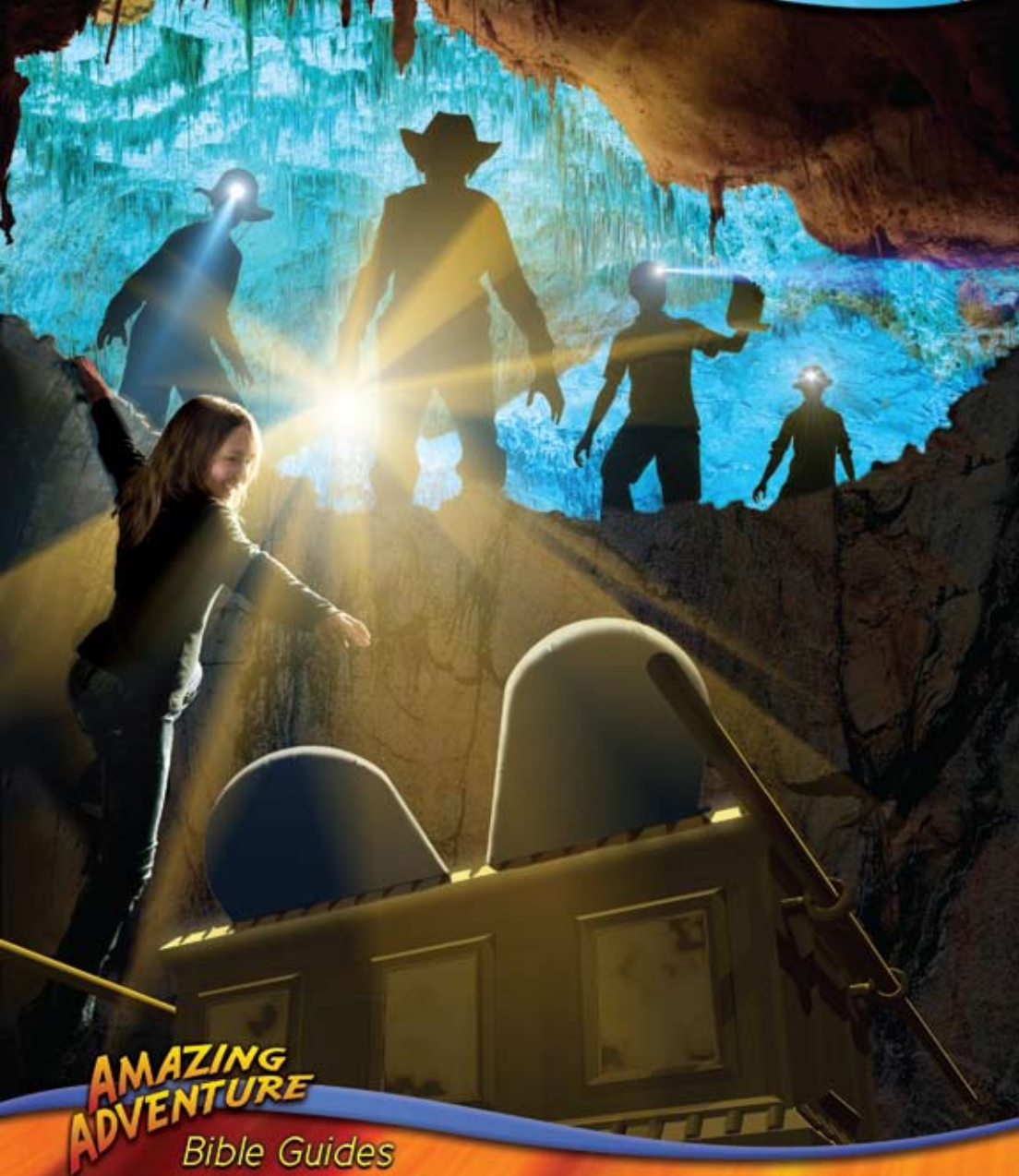


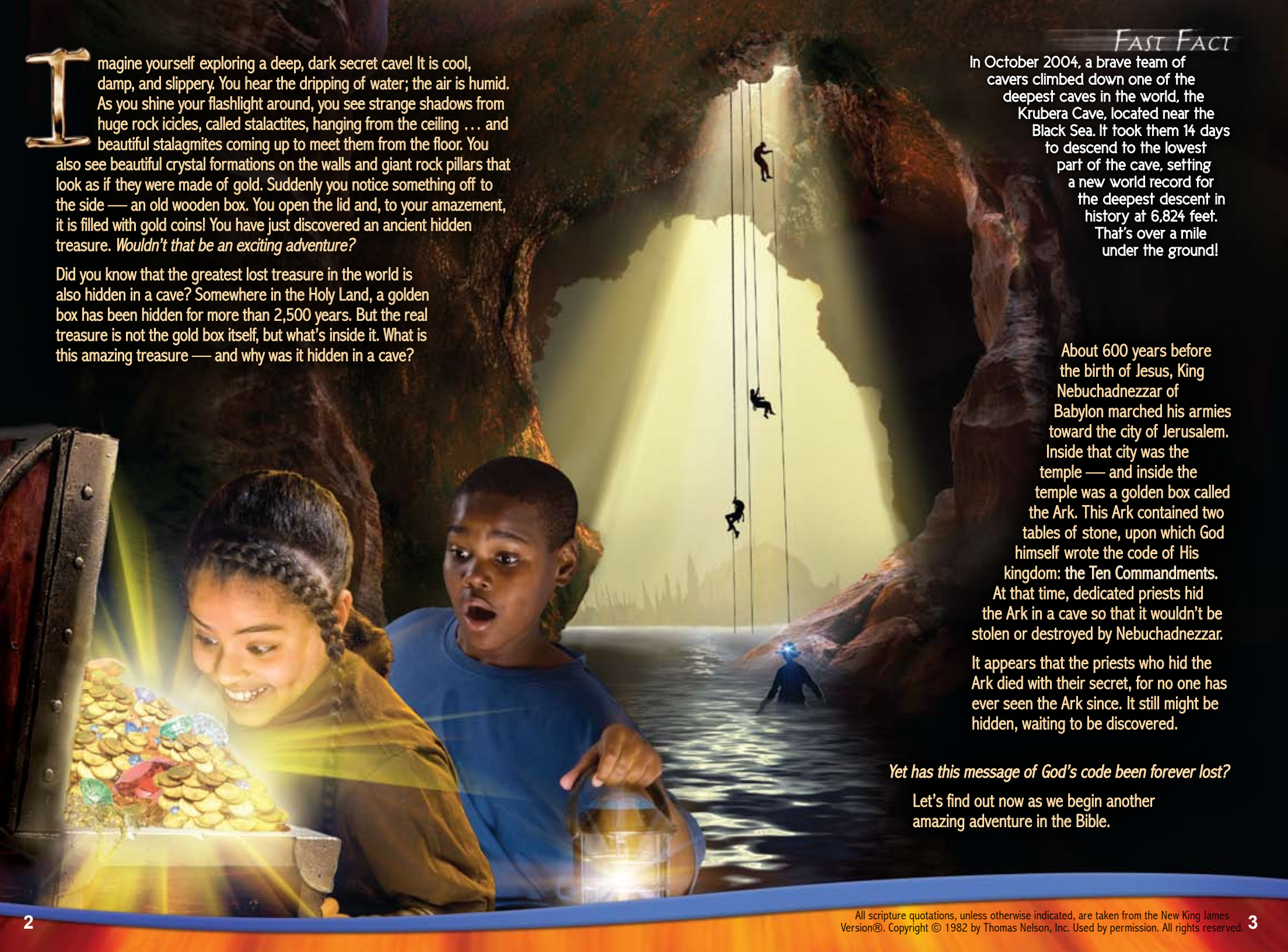


# THE CODE OF THE KING



**AMAZING  
ADVENTURE**

Bible Guides



**I** magine yourself exploring a deep, dark secret cave! It is cool, damp, and slippery. You hear the dripping of water; the air is humid. As you shine your flashlight around, you see strange shadows from huge rock icicles, called stalactites, hanging from the ceiling . . . and beautiful stalagmites coming up to meet them from the floor. You also see beautiful crystal formations on the walls and giant rock pillars that look as if they were made of gold. Suddenly you notice something off to the side — an old wooden box. You open the lid and, to your amazement, it is filled with gold coins! You have just discovered an ancient hidden treasure. *Wouldn't that be an exciting adventure?*

Did you know that the greatest lost treasure in the world is also hidden in a cave? Somewhere in the Holy Land, a golden box has been hidden for more than 2,500 years. But the real treasure is not the gold box itself, but what's inside it. What is this amazing treasure — and why was it hidden in a cave?

## FAST FACT

In October 2004, a brave team of cavers climbed down one of the deepest caves in the world, the Krubera Cave, located near the Black Sea. It took them 14 days to descend to the lowest part of the cave, setting a new world record for the deepest descent in history at 6,824 feet. That's over a mile under the ground!

About 600 years before the birth of Jesus, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon marched his armies toward the city of Jerusalem. Inside that city was the temple — and inside the temple was a golden box called the Ark. This Ark contained two tables of stone, upon which God himself wrote the code of His kingdom: the Ten Commandments. At that time, dedicated priests hid the Ark in a cave so that it wouldn't be stolen or destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar.

It appears that the priests who hid the Ark died with their secret, for no one has ever seen the Ark since. It still might be hidden, waiting to be discovered.

*Yet has this message of God's code been forever lost?*

Let's find out now as we begin another amazing adventure in the Bible.

First, let's say a prayer that God will teach us and help us to understand His Word. You might say,

*"Dear God, Please help me to learn the truth about You and Your special law. Help me to learn how to please you. In Jesus' name, amen."*

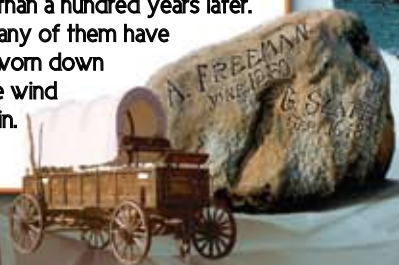


## How did the law or "Code of the King" come to us?

ANSWER: *"When He had made an end of speaking with him on Mount Sinai, He gave Moses two tablets of the Testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God" (Exodus 31:18). "The writing was the writing of God engraved on the tablets" (Exodus 32:16).*

### FAST FACT

After crossing the Great Plains during the gold rush days, many pioneers stopped at a place called Register Rock in Idaho to carve their names into the giant sandstone rock. Some of these names can still be read today more than a hundred years later. But many of them have been worn down by the wind and rain.






## But why did God give the Ten Commandments?

The Ten Commandments are so important that God wrote them in solid stone with His very own finger. It teaches us that His law lasts forever. Even though these stone tablets are in the Ark that has been hidden in a cave, the holy words that God wrote on the tablets are available for everyone. We can read them today in the Bible!

ANSWER: *"The law was our tutor to bring us to Christ" (Galatians 3:24). "Happy is he who keeps the law" (Proverbs 29:18). "Keep my commands; For length of days and long life and peace they will add to you" (Proverbs 3:1, 2).*

That's a lot of things. Let's list them:

-  The law brings us to C\_\_\_\_\_.
-  Keeping it makes us H\_\_\_\_\_.
-  Obeying also gives us long L\_\_\_\_\_ and P\_\_\_\_\_.

God says you'll get a *"blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord" (Deuteronomy 11:26). WOW!*

*"If you will indeed obey My voice and keep my covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people ... and a holy nation" (Exodus 19:5, 6).*

### WOW!

God personally spoke to Moses and then gave him two stone tablets that were engraved by the

*"\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_."*

Have you ever been to the beach and written a message in the sand with your finger — suddenly, a wave comes and washes it away! Writing in the sand doesn't last very long, does it? This is why God used stone when writing His Code.

God promises to not only bless us when we keep the Ten Commandments, He also says that **we** will be His special treasure. *How would you like to be God's special treasure?*

Having a good friend is like having a wonderful treasure. You can do things with your friend, like share secrets and have a wonderful time. God wants you to be His special friend. He wants to have a very close relationship with you so that you can be happy and enjoy all of the good things He has promised for those who love Him.

### FAST FACT

In 1980, a man and his wife were prospecting behind their trailer home near Weddenburn, Australia and found the world's largest and most precious gold nugget. This nugget, named "Hand of Faith Nugget," is as large as a baby and weighs more than 61 pounds!





# 4

## What is sin? And why do we need a law?

ANSWER: **“Sin is lawlessness” (1 John 3:4).**  
**“By the law is the knowledge of sin” (Romans 2:20).**

Sin is doing anything that breaks God’s law. We need God’s law to show us what sin is and help protect us from disobeying Him.

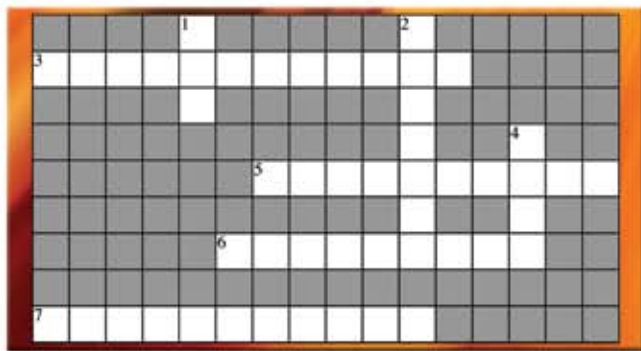
One day a group of children were visiting the zoo and standing close to the lion’s cage. There was a high fence separating them from the lion, so the children didn’t pay attention to the sign that said “Do not touch the fence.” They crowded up against the fence, and some were even sticking their arms through the fence to wave at the sleeping lion. When the zookeeper saw what the children were doing, he came running over and told them to step back and not stand so close to the fence. The children said, “But the lion is sleeping, and he doesn’t look very hungry.”



But suddenly, like a flash, the lion jumped to his feet and with a loud roar charged toward the children. They cried out and fell backwards, just as the lion gave out another hungry roar and swiped at the fence bars with his sharp claws. How thankful the children were for the fence; it protected them from the dangerous lion.

God’s law is like a strong fence to protect us from the devil. If we keep the commandments we will be safe from sin and will be able to avoid falling prey to Satan’s deceptions.

God’s law shows us our sin. Some of these words mean “law” and others mean “sin.” **Hint:** Look up the Bible verses for a hint!



- ACROSS**  
 3. Romans 7:12 (law)  
 5. Isaiah 59:2 (sin)  
 6. Ezekiel 44:24 (law)  
 7. 1 John 3:4 (sin)
- DOWN**  
 1. Psalms 19:7 (law)  
 2. Ezekiel 44:24 (law)  
 4. Isaiah 59:2 (sin)

**“And the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes [commandments] ... for our good always, that He might preserve us alive” (Deuteronomy 6:24).**  
**“The wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23).**

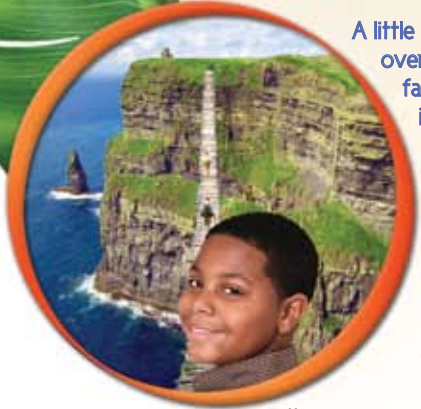
God’s commandments are to keep us safe. He gave them because He loves us. The law protects us from Satan, who is hunting everywhere like a hungry lion (1 Peter 5:8).

# 3

## But why can’t we see God?

ANSWER: **“But your iniquities [sins] have separated you from your God. And your sins have hidden His face from you” (Isaiah 59:2).**

Remember back to our earlier lesson: Satan spoke through a snake to tempt Eve, and she and Adam disobeyed God and had to leave their beautiful garden home. Well, that’s why we can’t see God face to face right now . . . and why we aren’t living with Him. Sin made it so that we can’t bear to see His bright, glorious face. It also makes us scared to be in His holy presence.



A little boy had to walk on a rickety bridge that was stretched over a gorge. He became very afraid and thought he would fall. Then his friend volunteered to walk ahead of him. Now, instead of looking at the gorge, the boy looked at his friend’s back. This helped him safely cross the gorge.

Jesus is our example, and if we focus on Him, we can walk without falling into the “gorge.” As you think of this, what might you call Jesus? Jude 1:24 is spelled out, but—whoops!—the first letters of each word has been switched with another word. Sort those out to make it read correctly.

**“Tim iho as yble ko seep fou wrom htumbling.”**

### FAST FACT

Did you know that the fastest bird in the world is the Peregrine falcon? It can reach a speed of more than 200 mph when diving! The fastest land animal is the cheetah at 70 mph.





## Why did God choose these special laws?

ANSWER: *"I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart" (Psalms 40:8).* The law of God shows us His will.

Did you know that the principles of the Ten Commandments are actually just like God? They tell God's thoughts and what His character is like.

The Bible says, **"God is love"** (1 John 4:8). And if we love others, we are keeping the law (Romans 13:10).

The Bible tells us that God is holy, just (fair), and good (Isaiah 5:16; Deuteronomy 32:4; Luke 18:19). It also says **"the commandments [are] holy, just, and good"** (Romans 7:12).

The Bible says that God is perfect (Matthew 5:48). It also says, **"The law of the Lord is perfect"** (Psalm 19:7).

God made laws just like Himself — perfect, fair, and loving. When Jesus was here on earth, He kept the law perfectly so we can see how beautiful it makes a person act. He showed us an example of how to be like God. We always copy people we look up to, don't we? Jesus wants to help us copy Him.



We wrote a simple version of the Ten Commandments below. Oh! But the second word is left out! Choose the list (a, b, or c) that has the words in the right order to fill in the blanks. Then write in the words and read the commandments to see if it sounds right. God is very particular!

- a.) steal, lie, kill, worship, covet, make, take, commit, keep, honor
- b.) worship, make, take, keep, commit, honor, kill, steal, lie, covet
- c.) worship, make, take, keep, honor, kill, commit, steal, lie, covet

- |                                    |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Don't _____ other gods.         | 6. Don't _____.          |
| 2. Don't _____ idols.              | 7. Don't _____ adultery. |
| 3. Don't _____ God's name in vain. | 8. Don't _____.          |
| 4. Do _____ the Sabbath holy.      | 9. Don't _____.          |
| 5. Do _____ your parents.          | 10. Don't _____.         |

ANSWER: (c.) worship, kill, commit, steal, lie, covet, keep, honor, take, make, worship, covet, kill, steal, lie, covet



## Does God ever change? Do His commandments ever change?

ANSWER: *"I am the Lord; I do not change" (Malachi 3:6).* *"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever" (Isaiah 40:8).* *"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away" (Luke 21:33).*

Some people say that because Jesus died on the cross for our sins, we don't need to keep the Ten Commandments any longer. But this isn't true! One of God's laws says "you shall not steal." What would you think if someone stole your bicycle and said they could keep it because the commandments don't have to be kept?

The law protects us and secures the happiness of every one, including you! Jesus said that He didn't come to destroy the law but to give us an example of obeying it (Matthew 5:18).

We often think of medieval knights in awe. People have written poems, songs, and ballads about their bravery, strength, and loyalty. It was a great honor to be a knight back then. They wore shining suits of armor and rode on fast horses. And not just anyone could be a knight — they had to follow a strict code of honor. Part of their code included:



Only those who chose to live by this code of honor could be knights of the king. The standard was high, and the work was dangerous.

### Honor Code

Defending those who cannot defend themselves,

Caring for orphans and widows,

Showing respect for God,

Obeying those in authority,

Always telling the truth,

Being fair and honest with everyone,

and never turning from the enemy.

But even though being a knight was not easy, they considered it a great honor to serve their king.

Christians also have a code of honor: It is called love, and it is found in the Ten Commandments. Our loyalty is not to an earthly king, but to King Jesus. **Is the Christian's code of conduct important?** Oh yes! It is a far greater honor to be a Christian and live for Jesus than to be a knight serving an earthly king.



## What are the Ten Commandments all about?

ANSWER: You can read the Ten Commandments in the Bible in Exodus 20. They were first written on tables of stone by the finger of God. They were then copied by Moses in the Bible. But did you know that people knew about the Ten Commandments long before they were written down?

It's true! They have existed from the very beginning of time. They reveal the Holy Code of Love of our King Jesus. Here is how Jesus summarized the first four Commandments:

**"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind" (Luke 10:27).**

In the **first** commandment, God says that we are not to have any other gods before Him (Exodus 20:3). In other words, God needs to be number one — more important to us than anything else.

In the **second** commandment, God tells us not to make idols or to bow down to them (Exodus 20:4, 5). We must respect His appearance.

In the **third** commandment, God tells us not to take His name in vain (Exodus 20:7). This means we should respect His name and never say it carelessly or use it as a swear word.

In the **fourth** commandment, God reminds us to keep the Sabbath day holy (Exodus 20:8). If we love God, we will remember to respect the seventh day as a special time with Him.

Fill in the blanks on these stone tablets to complete the Ten Commandments. Did you know that memorizing the Ten Commandments will help God to write them in your heart?

Sabbath day	steal	bow down
father	mother	no other gods
covet	murder	false witness
adultery	holy	name of the Lord

Jesus summarizes the last six commandments by saying, **"Love ... your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27).**

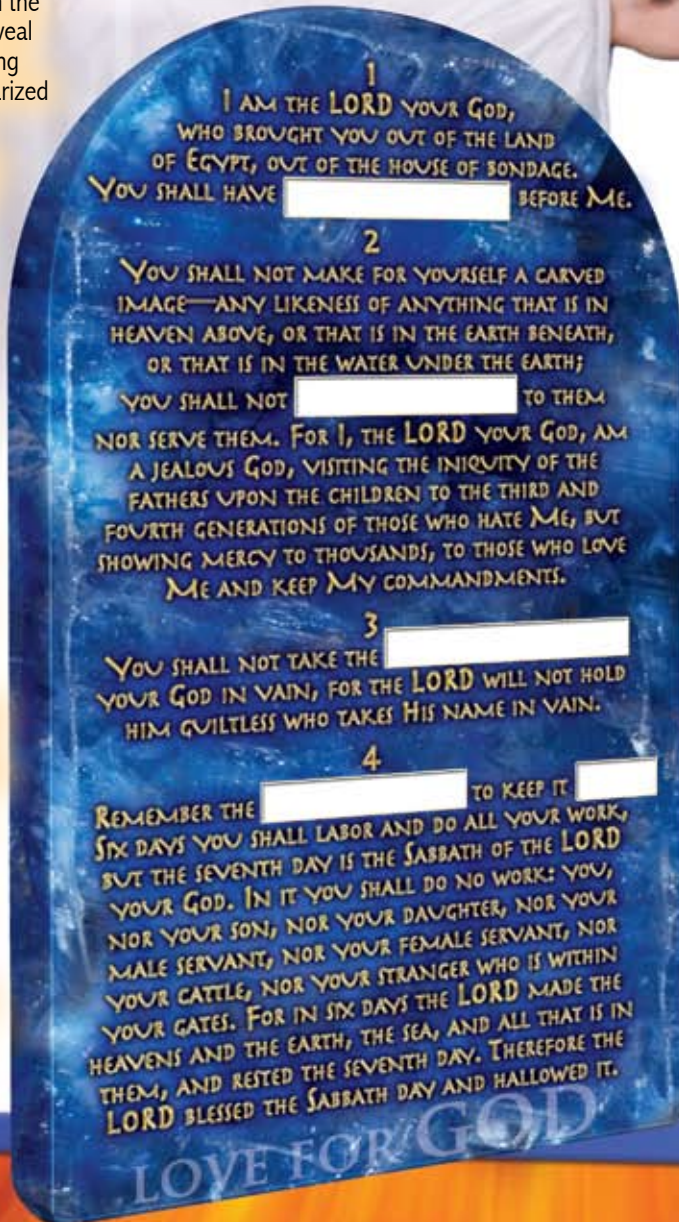
In the Ten Commandments, God lists specific ways that we can love others as ourselves. In the **fifth** commandment, God tells us to honor our father and mother (Exodus 20:12). This means we should love, respect, and obey them.

In the **sixth, seventh, and eighth** commandments, God tells us not to murder, commit adultery, or steal (Exodus 20:13–15). This means we respect our neighbors' lives, relationships, and property.

In the **ninth and tenth** commandments, God tells us to always be honest and never tell lies, or covet (want something that belongs to someone else) (Exodus 20:16, 17).

The Code of our King is all about loving and respecting God and other people.

If we love someone, will we hurt him or his things? Of course not! We will want to please and make him happy. And if we love Jesus, we will want to make Him happy. Jesus says, **"if you love me keep my commandments" (John 14:15)**, and **"Love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34)**. How much is that? **"I lay down my life for the sheep" (John 10:15)**. That's how much He loves us! And now we know what makes Him happy — for us to love Him and others, as He tells us in the commandments.



*"But we all ... [by] beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image" (2 Corinthians 3:18).*



## How can we keep the Ten Commandments?

ANSWER: *"With God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26).*

The Ten Commandments show us our true spiritual condition. Like a mirror, it shows us our sins and mistakes. It also helps us understand our need of salvation through Jesus. We cannot keep them on our own. But with Jesus living inside us ... we can!

*"The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).*

Even though all of us have broken God's law and deserve death, Jesus willingly died in our place so that we can be forgiven. That's good news, isn't it? The Bible says, *"If we confess our sins, He [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).*

Then to help us keep the Code of the King, Jesus offers us something that medieval knights never had! He says, *"I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts" (Hebrews 8:10).*

Jesus offers us His help! He knows that Satan, the dragon, is out there ready to mess us up and get us off track. And He wants us to be able to keep His Code of Love and Honor!

Jesus can even change our hearts to be able to love Him and to love and care for others like He loves us!

That means that if we keep looking at Jesus and His glorious life, we will be changed to be like Him. *Isn't that awesome!?*

Here are the correctly spelled words if you get stuck:

there    escape    news  
keep    death    life  
heart

This paragraph is a summary of what we learned on this page. Oh, but some of the words are not quite right! When a word seems wrong, change the order of the letters to make it right. (Hint: Check the word bank to the left of the mirror.)

*"I need a change of earth! My whole file is a mess without God! If I peek sin in my heart, it will lead to hated. There must be a way of peaces. Well, three is good sewn. I can't change myself, but Jesus is able change me!"*

In my heart, it will lead to death. If I peek sin in my heart, it will lead to death. Well, three is good sewn. I can't change myself, but Jesus is able change me!

ANSWER: I need a change of earth. My whole file is a mess without God. If I peek sin in my heart, it will lead to death. Well, three is good sewn. I can't change myself, but Jesus is able change me!



Do you want to be like Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

What can I do when Satan tempts me, either through circumstances or through one of my friends, to break God's law?

ANSWER: Remember God's words in the Bible:

"God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make a way of escape, that you may be able to bear it"  
(1 Corinthians 10:13).

"I have loved you with an everlasting love"  
(Jeremiah 31:3).

"If you love Me, keep My commandments"  
(John 14:15).

"Happy is he who keeps the law"  
(Proverbs 29:18).

Did you enjoy this lesson? We hope so! Now do the questions on the **SUMMARY SHEET**.

Notes

# SUMMARY SHEET

Please read the Bible Guide before answering the questions. Fill in the circles of ALL that are correct. Hint: The number of correct answers for each question is in red.

1. God gave us His commandments: (5)

- a) to make us happy
- b) so we'd have to go to prison
- c) to keep us safe from sin
- d) to bring us to Christ
- e) to make us miserable
- f) to give us a peaceful life
- g) to show His love for us

2. The Ten Commandments came from: (2)

- a) a cave in northern Idaho
- b) God's finger writing them in stone
- c) Moses, who found them when he was hiking
- d) God, who gave them to Moses on the mountain

3. What are God's laws like? (5)

- a) cruel
- b) holy
- c) like Hitler's
- d) good
- e) like God is
- f) just (fair)
- g) unreasonable
- h) loving

4. What did God say about changing His Ten Commandment law? (2)

- a) that it was changed at Jesus' birth
- b) that it would stand forever
- c) that it was meant only for people long ago
- d) that it would not be changed as long as earth stood

5. The Ten Commandments are all about: (2)

- a) loving ourselves most
- b) loving God most
- c) how to get rich quick
- d) loving others like God does





## YOUR COMMENTS:

6. What new things have you discovered in this lesson?

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7. Do you see God's love in giving us the Ten Commandments? And do you want to show Jesus your love by keeping the Code of the King?

- Answer:**
1. God gave us His commandments:  
**a)** to make us happy  
**c)** to keep us safe from sin  
**d)** to bring us to Christ  
**f)** to give us a peaceful life  
**g)** to show His love for us
  2. The Ten Commandments came from:  
**b)** God's His finger writing them in stone  
**d)** God, who gave them to Moses on the mountain
  3. What are God's laws like?  
**b)** holy  
**d)** good  
**e)** like God is  
**f)** just (fair)  
**h)** loving
  4. What did God say about changing His Ten Commandment law?  
**d)** that it would stand forever  
**d)** that it would not be changed as long as the earth stood
  5. The Ten Commandments are all about:  
**d)** loving God most  
**d)** loving others like God does



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