## Home Discipleship

## Family Activities

## Q: What is the law of God stated in the Ten Commandments

A: You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol. You shall not make for yourself an idol. You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Honor your father and your mother. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony. You shall not covet.

Key Verse: Exodus 20:3

Key Passage: Exodus 20

**Music**: For each question there is a song that can be found on the New City Catechism App. Listen to the song for this question and sing it as a family. Songs have a unique way of helping ingrain truths into our hearts. Follow this link for another song to help your kids learn the ten commandments <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OSXviJco41k">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OSXviJco41k</a>

**Coloring Activity:** Coloring is a fun activity for all ages. And a great way to spend time thinking deeply about the spiritual truths that we have talked about today. On pages 3-4 of this document you will find two coloring pages to remind you of the Ten Commandments.

**Memory Activity:** Another great way to ingrain this truth into your family is to practice memorizing it with different activities.

Props: craft sticks, markers and two shoeboxes with lids.

Preparation: Print each word from the Catechism Question and a summarized version of each of the Ten Commandments on a craft stick. Make two sets of each stick. Place each set of sticks in a box. Add several blank sticks in the box as well. Put the lids on the boxes, and place the boxes on opposite ends of the table.

Divide the family into two teams. Invite the first play from each team to stand in front of their teams box and have the other players in that players team to stand in line behind them. At your signal, the first person will remove the lid and grab a stick and place it on the table then go to the back of their teams line. The other team mates will follow by grabbing one stick at a time and placing them on the table. As they place them on the table they are attempting to place them in order of the Catechism Question and Answer. The blank sticks are in there to slow you down, the first team to have the catechism question and answer in order on the table wins. Switch up the teams and play again if you want!



**Teaching Activities:** Teaching activities are meant to help reinforce the idea in the catechism question. Be sure to be asking kids questions as you do these activities to be sure that they see the connection.

**Activity #1** Have your kids think of their own ten commandments. It can be fun to hear what they think in their minds are the most important rules for all people to follow. Have them each explain why they chose the rules that they did and why they are important.

**Activity #2** Go outside and find ten medium sized rocks and write one commandment on each rock. Allow the kids to color the rocks with markers or paint. While they are decorating the rocks ask the kids why they think these commandments are so important.

## Reasons for the Law

- 1. Make sure you remind the kids that the Israelites were getting these commandments while in the desert with anticipation of entering the Holy Land. A holy land that was filled with idol worship, murder, and impurity. God wanted his people to be pure and above reproach in their new holy land that He gave them The Law so that they would worship Him as the one true God.
- 2. God also wants to us to bring him glory. We must remember that bringing him glory is a purpose of our being created and the creation of His law assists us in doing that.
- 3. The Law also plays a role in showing his people that they are sinners. An important part of the gospel is understanding that you need saving. If God's people just felt perfect they would not long for a Messiah.

**Activity #3** Cover with paper an area of wall that can become a "gratitude wall" at the top write, "I am grateful that God is... "

The Ten Commandments show us God's loving character through his direction, guidance, and gospel. Encourage your kids to write on the wall the things that they have learned about God's character from Exodus 20. Feel free to fill the wall with other attributes that we have learned from the previous catechism questions as well. Help the children to reflect on how wonderful it is that God chose to reveal himself in this way. Leave this wall up for the next few weeks as we explore more about who God is in the next few questions refer back to the wall and add to it!

**Discussion Questions:** Discuss a few of these questions as a family to help everyone think deeper about their own lives with this doctrinal truth.

- 1. Why are rules important?
- 2. Why are the ten commandments important for the Israelites?
- 3. Why are the ten commandments important for us today?
- 4. How do rules help us understand the Gospel?
- 5. Think through each of the ten commandments and how you may be disobeying them today. Read them in light of Jesus' teaching in Matthew 5:21-48

**Pray:** Take some time as a family to pray. Family prayer time is an incredible way to grow with one another and enjoy our God together! Pray, to God thanking him for giving us the ten commandments, for being a God who desires his people to be pure and loving. Praise him for direction and love and for giving us an understanding of why we need the Gospel. He is good and gracious and knows how we can best love him and each other, worship him through your prayer.



