



**Mustard Seed Children's Summary for 5 July 2009**  
**Released on Wednesday, July 1, 2009**

**"Rules to Live By"**

**LESSON TEXT:** Deuteronomy 5:1-9a, 11-13, 16-21

**BACKGROUND SCRIPTURE:** Deuteronomy 5:1-27

**MEMORY VERSE:** "Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them" (Deuteronomy 5:1)

**Deuteronomy 5:1-9a, 11-13, 16-21**

**1** And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep and do them.

**2** The Lord our God made a covenant with us in Horeb.

**3** The Lord made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day.

**4** The Lord talked with you face to face in the mount out of the midst of the fire,

**5** (I stood between the Lord and you at that time, to show you the word of the Lord: for ye were afraid by reason of the fire, and went not up into the mount,) saying,

**6** I am the Lord thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

**7** Thou shalt have none other gods before me.

**8** Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth:

**9a** Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them.

.....

**11** Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

**12** Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee.

**13** Six days thou shalt labor, and do all thy work.

.....

**16** Honor thy father and thy mother, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

**17** Thou shalt not kill.

**18** Neither shalt thou commit adultery.

**19** Neither shalt thou steal.

**20** Neither shalt thou bear false witness against thy neighbor.

**21** Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbor's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbor's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or any thing that is thy neighbor's.

**THE OBJECT IN VIEW:**

Help the children understand that the Ten Commandments are God's rules for good living.

**TRUTHS TO STRESS:**

1. God gave us the Ten Commandments.
2. The first four commands show us how to love God.
3. The last six commands show us how to love other people.

**PLANNING LESSON AIDS:**

For Telling the Lesson, find a picture of Moses holding the Ten Commandments.

For Helping to Remember, you will need for each student: brown craft paper (two - 12 x 9 inch pieces), crayons, markers and safety scissors (blunt tip). Complete your own finished craft to display.

For Lesson Activity, make a copy of the word search for each student. This will review keywords and phrases from the lesson.

**TEACHER'S NOTES:**

Time: about 1406 B.C.

Place: Plains of Moab, probably at Shittim

After leading the people of Israel out of Egypt, God brought them to the mountain where He had first called Moses. There God gave His people His laws, part of these were the Ten Commandments. The events in this lesson occurred at a later time. Before they entered the Promised Land, Moses reminded the people of God's law. The Ten Commandments give God's basic rules for living - for honoring Him and for showing love to other people.

**BEGINNING THE LESSON:**

How many of you like rules? Most people do not like rules, but good rules can be very helpful. If there is a bully in the class, it is very helpful to have a "no fighting" rule.

Sometimes it is hard for people to make good rules that help everyone. We do not always know what is best.

God does know what is best, and He knows what is best for everyone. After God led the people of Israel out of Egypt, He gave them His rules. His rules are always right and good.

**TELLING THE LESSON:**

Years later, Moses reminded the people how God had given them His law. God had called Moses up to the mountain by himself. There God had spoken to him face-to-face. How wonderful! (Show Moses.)

Then God gave Moses ten special laws to show the people how to live. The first and most important law was about God. They were to always worship God, always put Him first, and never worship any other gods but Him. This was important because the Lord is the only true and living God.

The second law was that they were not to make any idols to worship. Idols are images, statues, or other things worshiped instead of the Lord God. Only the Lord God is worthy of our worship.

The third rule showed them how to use God's name. They were to use it in worship and praise but never in swearing or for other foolish reasons. God's name is special, and how we use His name shows how much we love Him.

The fourth rule was that God made one day each week to be special - for rest and for worship. God's people must always honor God's day.

So the first four rules showed them how to love God - worship Him only, stay away from idols, use His name with love, and remember His special day.

How many rules are left? Yes, six are left. The last six rules showed God's people how to love other people.

The fifth rule was that they were always to honor their father and mother. They were to show respect to their parents. They could do this by the way they talked and by the way they obeyed.

The sixth rule was that they must not murder anyone. God made people special, in His image. Only God should decide when a human life ends.

The seventh rule was for husbands and wives. People who are married should love their own mate. They should not show this special love to some other man or woman. Marriage is very special in God's plan.

The eighth rule told them not to steal from one another. They were to respect one another's belongings.

The ninth rule told them not to lie about one another. They should always tell the truth.

The tenth rule said that they should not wish to have things that belonged to other people. They were to be content with what they had.

God gave these rules because He loved His people. Can you imagine what it would be like if most people thought it was OK to murder or to steal? It is not a happy place to live where people do not follow God's rules. His rules make our lives more peaceful.

### **TELLING HOW TO LIVE:**

When you think about God's rules, remember that they are His rules for good, happy living. None of us follow them perfectly. We have sinned. We need Jesus to be our Saviour.

The more we follow God's rules, the more we will have the happy life He planned for us. As you heard God's rules, maybe you knew that you had broken one of them - or more than one. God will forgive you when you are sorry for your sin.

### **HELPING TO REMEMBER:**

Let the children make two stone-looking tablets with the Ten Commandments written on them. Use your finished version as an example.

On each of the pieces of brown craft paper, draw a tablet shape with a rounded top. Cut on the tablets. Slightly crumple the paper tablets for an aged look. Straighten and smooth the paper. Write ***The Ten Commandments*** in the rounded top of Tablet # 1; also write commandments 1-5 on this tablet. Note that the number of the commandments should be center in the space just above it. On Tablet # 2, write commandments 6-10.

### **EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:**

*"Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them" (Deuteronomy 5:1)*

Moses had gathered the people of Israel together. He was going to remind them of the laws God had given them. He called on them to listen and pay attention.

"Statutes" and "judgments" are different ways of saying "God's rules." Moses was getting ready to read God's rules to the people again. The people needed to learn them so that they would not forget them. They needed to keep doing what God's rules said. It is also important for us to read God's laws and remember them. When we follow His rules, we make life easier and happier for ourselves and everyone around us.

### **CONCLUSION:**

Young people often think rules are restraining and harsh. They find rules to be too detailed and picky. However, rules are a positive fact of life. Rules are everywhere – companies, schools, homes, churches, governments. Driving a car without traffic laws would result in extremely dangerous conditions for everyone. Toddlers exploring their surroundings

would encounter harmful and unsafe things if they were not limited in what they could do or where they could go.

So while we may not like rules, they are an important part of life. Even as children of God, we have God's Word that gives us rules for good living. We are commanded to honor and show love to God – the first and great commandment according to Jesus (Matthew 22:37-38). We are also commanded to love our neighbors and others. If we love God and other people, we can automatically keep His commandments.

**PRAYER:**

Dear God, thank You for Your Word that teaches us how to have a good life. Help us to honor and to love You. Help us to show love to others, in Jesus' name. Amen.

**ANTICIPATING NEXT WEEK'S LESSON:**

Next week's lesson is "An Event to Celebrate" and focuses on God's commandment that Israel should observe the Passover celebration to remember how He brought them out of Egypt. Study Deuteronomy 16:1-8.

**LESSON SUMMARIZED BY:**

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**WORKS CITED**

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The KJV Parallel Bible Commentary, by Nelson Books

**LESSON ACTIVITY:**

**“Rules to Live By” (Deuteronomy 1-9, 11-13, 16-21)**

**Find the following keywords or phrases from the lesson:**

NO OTHER GODS	NO IDOLS	HONOR GOD’S NAME	COMMANDMENTS
COVENANT	SABBATH	TELL THE TRUTH	NO STEALING
MOSES	FATHER	NO ADULTERY	LOVE OTHER
LOVE GOD	MOTHER	NEIGHBOR	NO MURDER

S O A L N N U C H D N O S T E A L I N G H S G  
O O A V M G O N O O D O G E V O L G H C R N T  
M O E O S H M M A V N S N O O O O A D I O O N  
N A N H T A O L U D E O R E O A O F M O H A O  
O B C G N L Y T D R N N T E I E E N T O T D N  
H S E R E H T A F L D O A H H G N O S E T U D  
T O I S M L G S O N R E S N A T H D M M S L G  
A L E L D B A G A A S T R I T O O B E L G T O  
B E O S N T E L L T H E T R U T H E O D T E T  
B S O O A E O R N G L T M F L R V D V R I R M  
A D E M M E B I T O R O B O N H I D O O H Y R  
S I T S M R L O T G T D O F T O R R A O L R B  
M V I B O E E E R H M B R R N O O S M N V D E  
H N S N C M E L E H O N O R G O D S N A M E E  
R N N T E S U R A H L N O O T H E R G O D S N  
N V A O S B C E C S M L H N U B N O E R T L S

**Solution Key to Lesson Activity:**

**“Rules to Live By” (Deuteronomy 1-9, 11-13, 16-21)**

                  N      C          N O S T E A L I N G  
                  O      O      D O G E V O L                  N  
                  S          M      V      S N                  O  
                  T          U      E      R E                  A  
                  N          R      N      E I                  D  
H      R E H T A F      D      A      H G                  U  
T      M                  E      N      T H                  S L  
A      D                  R      T      O B      L      T  
B      N T E L L T H E T R U T H E O                  E  
B S      A                  M                  D V R      R  
A      E      M                  O                  I      O      Y  
S      S M                  T                  O                  L  
                  O          H          N  
                  C M          E H O N O R G O D S N A M E  
                  R          N O O T H E R G O D S