

## **March 7, 2021, 3rd Sunday in Lent, lesson for 4th-6th grade**

As usual with our readings, read them slowly, listening for words or phrases that jump out at you. Read through a couple of times and see if different parts catch your attention each time, then think about the questions.

### **Exodus 20:1-17**

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

NOTES: Exodus is the second book of the Old Testament. The word *exodus* is Latin for "going out." In the book of Exodus, God's people get out of slavery in Egypt.

Discuss:

- ◆ What word or phrase stood out to you?
- ◆ What do we call this passage of scripture?
- ◆ Do you remember this story from Godly Play? Where did the commandments come from? To whom did God give the commandments?
- ◆ Why did God give people the commandments?
- ◆ How do you feel about these dos and don'ts?

*Activity: THINK ABOUT RULES*

- ◆ What rules do we follow in our families? at school? with our friends?
- ◆ Which of these rules (or others) do we wish we could change?
- ◆ Which rules do you think are the most important rules do follow? Why?
- ◆ There are lots of new rules because of the pandemic. Think about them. Are they easy? Are they hard? Are they important? Why or why not?

Are rules easy? Which ones are easy for you?

Are rules hard? Which ones are hard for you?