FREE PRINTABLE · KING JAMES VERSION · EXODUS 20

The Ten Commandments

posters, kids' page, worksheets, coloring & memory cards

Exodus 20:3–17 in the King James Version · for families, Sunday school & homeschool

"The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple."

PSALM 19:7 (KJV)

WHAT'S INSIDE

10	2	3	1	10
commandments Exodus 20	posters full + short	activity sheets + key	coloring page	memory cards

BYSCRIPTURE

byscripture.com

START HERE

How to Use This Printable

1. **Print.** Print at 100% / "Actual size". Use cardstock (65–110 lb / 176–300 gsm) for the memory cards; plain paper is fine for the rest.
2. **Post.** Hang the full KJV poster (page 3) or the two tablets poster (page 4). For a bigger poster, print either page on tabloid (11 × 17 in) or A3 paper with "Fit to page".
3. **Learn.** Learn one commandment a day for ten days. Read it in the KJV, then say it in simple words (page 5). Color page 6 while you talk about it.
4. **Practice.** Check yourself with the fill-in sheet (page 7) and the order and sort sheet (page 8); answers are on page 9. Then cut out the memory cards (page 10).

MEMORY GAMES FOR FAMILIES & CLASSES

Ten fingers. Hold up one finger for each commandment as you say it. Fingers 1–4 are about loving God; 5–10 are about loving others.

Card shuffle. Shuffle the ten memory cards. Who can lay them out in order the fastest?

Which tablet? Read a card aloud. Is it about loving God or loving others? Sort the cards into two piles.

What's missing? Lay out all ten cards, turn one face down, and let the others name it.

WHAT'S INSIDE

3 The Ten Commandments poster · full KJV text, Exodus 20:3–17
4 The two tablets poster · short KJV words
5 The Ten Commandments for kids · simple words + KJV
6 Coloring page · two tablets
7 Fill in the missing word · worksheet with word bank
8 Put them in order · + love God or love others?
9 Answer key
10 10 memory cards · cut apart
11 How churches number them · chart
12 Keep going · more free resources

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Bible itself calls them "the ten commandments" (Exodus 34:28). They are listed twice: Exodus 20:1–17 and Deuteronomy 5:6–21.
- God wrote them on two tables of stone (Exodus 31:18). Jesus summed them up in two great commandments: love God, and love thy neighbour (Matthew 22:37–39).
- Churches group the same words differently, so the numbers can differ. This printable uses the Protestant numbering; page 11 compares the others.

"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

DEUTERONOMY 6:6-7 (KJV)

The Ten Commandments

Exodus 20:3–17, King James Version · print at 100%, or "Fit to page" on tabloid / A3 for a bigger poster

"I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage." EXODUS 20:2

1

NO OTHER GODS · EXODUS 20:3

3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

2

NO IDOLS · EXODUS 20:4-6

4 Thou shalt not make unto 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 water under the earth: 5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; 6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

3

HONOUR GOD'S NAME · EXODUS 20:7

7 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.

4

KEEP THE SABBATH · EXODUS 20:8-11

8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: 10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: 11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

5

HONOUR PARENTS · EXODUS 20:12

12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

6

DO NOT KILL · EXODUS 20:13

13 Thou shalt not kill.

7

BE FAITHFUL · EXODUS 20:14

14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

8

DO NOT STEAL · EXODUS 20:15

15 Thou shalt not steal.

9

TELL THE TRUTH · EXODUS 20:16

16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

10

DO NOT COVET · EXODUS 20:17

17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS · TWO TABLETS

The Ten Commandments

The opening KJV words of each commandment · Exodus 20:3–17

LOVE GOD · 1–4

I
Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

II
Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.

III
Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain.

IV
Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR · 5–10

V
Honour thy father and thy mother.

VI
Thou shalt not kill.

VII
Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII
Thou shalt not steal.

IX
Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

X
Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house.

"Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

MATTHEW 22:37-39 (KJV)

The Ten Commandments in Simple Words

Big words = a simple summary to help children understand (not Bible text) · small words = the King James Version

1. **Worship only God. Love Him most of all.**
   Thou shalt have no other gods before me. EXODUS 20:3

2. **Do not make idols or bow down to them.**
   Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image. EXODUS 20:4-6

3. **Say God's name with love and respect.**
   Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain. EXODUS 20:7

4. **Keep a holy day of rest to remember God.**
   Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. EXODUS 20:8-11

5. **Respect and obey your parents.**
   Honour thy father and thy mother. EXODUS 20:12

6. **Do not murder. Every life is precious to God.**
   Thou shalt not kill. EXODUS 20:13

7. **Keep marriage promises. Be faithful.**
   Thou shalt not commit adultery. EXODUS 20:14

8. **Do not take what belongs to someone else.**
   Thou shalt not steal. EXODUS 20:15

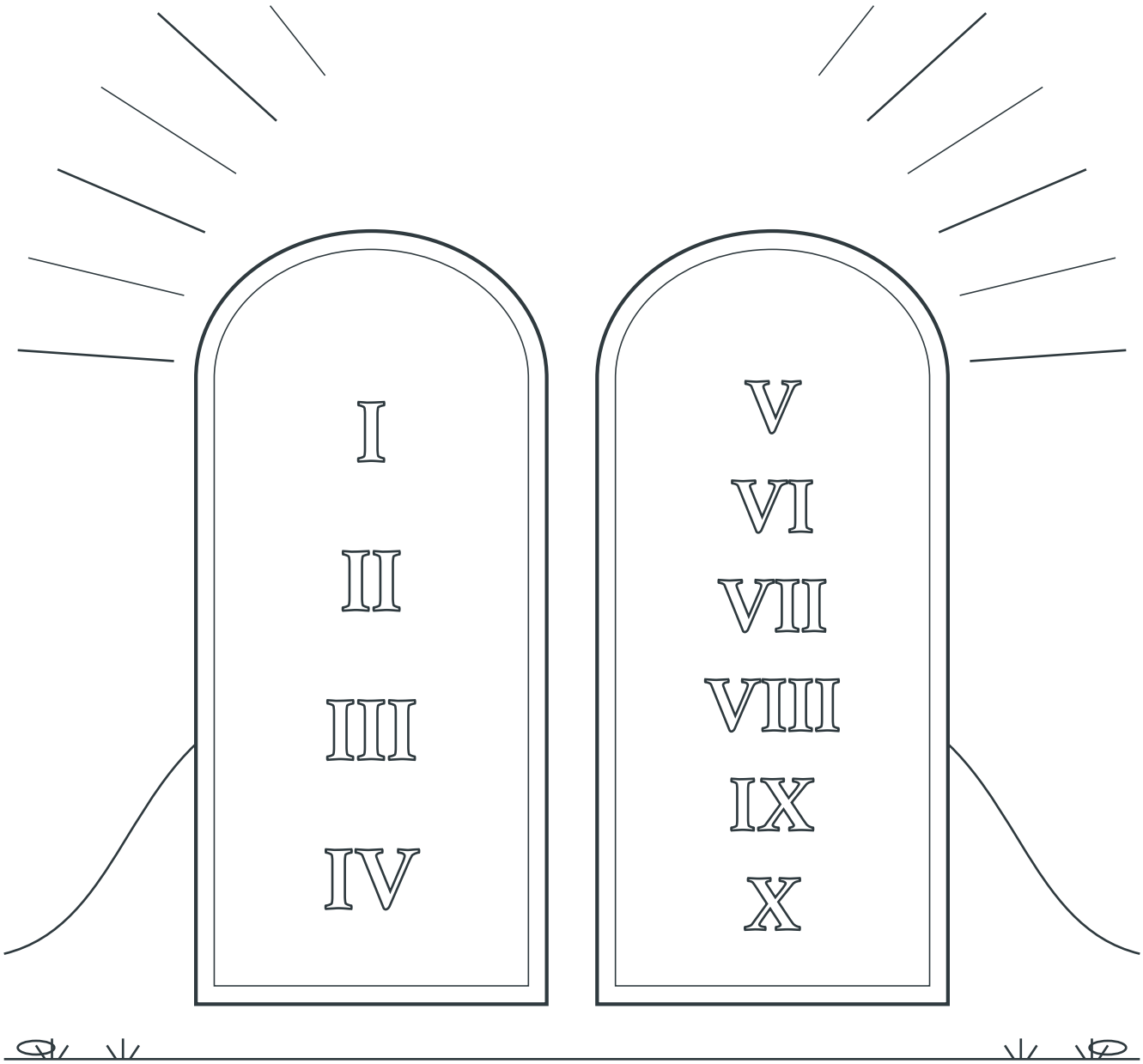
9. **Tell the truth. Do not lie about others.**
   Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour. EXODUS 20:16

10. **Be thankful. Do not crave what others have.**
    Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house. EXODUS 20:17

"If ye love me, keep my commandments."

JOHN 14:15 (KJV)

The Ten Commandments



Name _____ Age _____

"And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God." EXODUS 31:18 (KJV)

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS · WORKSHEET

Fill in the Missing Word

Write the missing word on each line · the first letter is given · use the word bank if you need help

Name _____ Date _____

1. Thou shalt have no other **g** _____ before me. (4 letters) — Exodus 20:3
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven **i** _____. (5 letters) — Exodus 20:4-6
3. Thou shalt not take the **n** _____ of the LORD thy God in vain. (4 letters) — Exodus 20:7
4. Remember the **s** _____ day, to keep it holy. (7 letters) — Exodus 20:8-11
5. Honour thy father and thy **m** _____. (6 letters) — Exodus 20:12
6. Thou shalt not **k** _____. (4 letters) — Exodus 20:13
7. Thou shalt not commit **a** _____. (8 letters) — Exodus 20:14
8. Thou shalt not **s** _____. (5 letters) — Exodus 20:15
9. Thou shalt not bear false **w** _____ against thy neighbour. (7 letters) — Exodus 20:16
10. Thou shalt not **c** _____ thy neighbour's house. (5 letters) — Exodus 20:17

WORD BANK · 10 WORDS

☐ adultery	☐ covet	☐ gods	☐ image	☐ kill
☐ mother	☐ name	☐ sabbath	☐ steal	☐ witness

"Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight."

PSALM 119:35 (KJV)

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS · ACTIVITY

Put Them in Order

Write the number (1–10) in each box · then tick: is it about loving God or loving others?

Name _____ Date _____

NUMBER		COMMANDMENT (KJV)	LOVE GOD	LOVE OTHERS
☐	A	Thou shalt not commit adultery.	☐	☐
☐	B	Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain.	☐	☐
☐	C	Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house.	☐	☐
☐	D	Thou shalt have no other gods before me.	☐	☐
☐	E	Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.	☐	☐
☐	F	Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.	☐	☐
☐	G	Honour thy father and thy mother.	☐	☐
☐	H	Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.	☐	☐
☐	I	Thou shalt not kill.	☐	☐
☐	J	Thou shalt not steal.	☐	☐

Bonus: Jesus summed up the commandments in two (Matthew 22:37–39). Which two? Write them here:

_____

_____

"My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:"

PROVERBS 3:1 (KJV)

ANSWER KEY

Answers for Pages 7 and 8

Answers in color · check the full text on page 3

PAGE 7 · FILL IN THE MISSING WORD

1. Thou shalt have no other **gods** before me. Exodus 20:3
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven **image**. Exodus 20:4-6
3. Thou shalt not take the **name** of the LORD thy God in vain. Exodus 20:7
4. Remember the **sabbath** day, to keep it holy. Exodus 20:8-11
5. Honour thy father and thy **mother**. Exodus 20:12
6. Thou shalt not **kill**. Exodus 20:13
7. Thou shalt not commit **adultery**. Exodus 20:14
8. Thou shalt not **steal**. Exodus 20:15
9. Thou shalt not bear false **witness** against thy neighbour. Exodus 20:16
10. Thou shalt not **covet** thy neighbour's house. Exodus 20:17

PAGE 8 · PUT THEM IN ORDER + LOVE GOD OR LOVE OTHERS

ROW	NUMBER	COMMANDMENT	TICK
A	7	Thou shalt not commit adultery.	LOVE OTHERS
B	3	Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain.	LOVE GOD
C	10	Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house.	LOVE OTHERS
D	1	Thou shalt have no other gods before me.	LOVE GOD
E	9	Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.	LOVE OTHERS
F	2	Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.	LOVE GOD
G	5	Honour thy father and thy mother.	LOVE OTHERS
H	4	Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.	LOVE GOD
I	6	Thou shalt not kill.	LOVE OTHERS
J	8	Thou shalt not steal.	LOVE OTHERS

Bonus: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" and "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Matthew 22:37–39). Commandments 1–4 are about loving God; 5–10 are about loving others.

TALK ABOUT IT · FOR FAMILIES & CLASSES

1. Which commandment do you think is the hardest to keep? Why?
2. Commandments 1–4 are about loving God and 5–10 about loving others. Why do you think God put loving Him first?
3. Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15). How does love help us obey?
4. What is one way you can honour your father and mother this week?
5. Pick one commandment. What could keeping it look like at home, at school or at work?

MEMORY CARDS · THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Print on cardstock · cut on the dashed lines · shuffle, then put them back in order

I
1

NO OTHER GODS — LOVE GOD

Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Exodus 20:3 (KJV)

II
2

NO IDOLS — LOVE GOD

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.

Exodus 20:4-6 (KJV)

III
3

HONOUR GOD'S NAME — LOVE GOD

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain.

Exodus 20:7 (KJV)

IV
4

KEEP THE SABBATH — LOVE GOD

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Exodus 20:8-11 (KJV)

V
5

HONOUR PARENTS — LOVE OTHERS

Honour thy father and thy mother.

Exodus 20:12 (KJV)

VI
6

DO NOT KILL — LOVE OTHERS

Thou shalt not kill.

Exodus 20:13 (KJV)

VII
7

BE FAITHFUL — LOVE OTHERS

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Exodus 20:14 (KJV)

VIII
8

DO NOT STEAL — LOVE OTHERS

Thou shalt not steal.

Exodus 20:15 (KJV)

IX
9

TELL THE TRUTH — LOVE OTHERS

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Exodus 20:16 (KJV)

X
10

DO NOT COVET — LOVE OTHERS

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house.

Exodus 20:17 (KJV)

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS · CHART

How Churches Number Them

Same words of Exodus 20, grouped in different ways · this printable uses the first column

EXODUS 20	IN SHORT	MOST PROTESTANT & ORTHODOX	CATHOLIC & LUTHERAN	JEWISH TRADITION
20:2	I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out…	*preface*	*preface*	1
20:3	No other gods before me	1	1	2
20:4-6	No graven image	2	1	2
20:7	Not take the name of the LORD in vain	3	2	3
20:8-11	Remember the sabbath day	4	3	4
20:12	Honour thy father and thy mother	5	4	5
20:13	Thou shalt not kill	6	5	6
20:14	Thou shalt not commit adultery	7	6	7
20:15	Thou shalt not steal	8	7	8
20:16	Not bear false witness	9	8	9
20:17	Thou shalt not covet	10	9 & 10	10

Where are they in the Bible? Twice: Exodus 20:1–17, at Mount Sinai, and Deuteronomy 5:6–21, where Moses repeats them to the next generation. The Bible names them "ten commandments" in Exodus 34:28, Deuteronomy 4:13 and Deuteronomy 10:4.

Why do the numbers differ? Exodus 20 does not number the commandments. Most Protestant and Orthodox churches count "no other gods" and "no graven image" as two. Catholic and Lutheran churches count them as one and split "thou shalt not covet" into two. Jewish tradition counts verse 2, "I am the LORD thy God", as the first of the Ten Words.

Which numbering does this printable use? The first column, used by most Protestant churches. If your church numbers them differently, the words are the same: only the numbers on the posters and cards change.

EXODUS 20 AND DEUTERONOMY 5: SMALL DIFFERENCES

- Commandment 4: Exodus 20:8 says "Remember the sabbath day"; Deuteronomy 5:12 says "Keep the sabbath day". Exodus gives creation as the reason (20:11); Deuteronomy adds the rescue from Egypt (5:15).
- Commandment 5: Deuteronomy 5:16 adds the promise "that it may go well with thee".
- Commandment 10: Deuteronomy 5:21 names the neighbour's wife first, then his house; Exodus 20:17 names the house first.

"These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me."

DEUTERONOMY 5:22 (KJV)

Hide Them in Your Heart

"For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."

1 JOHN 5:3 (KJV)

The Ten Commandments show us how to love God and love our neighbour. Say one each day this week, talk about what it means at home, and write down the one you want to remember most.

THE COMMANDMENT I WANT TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK

GO DEEPER IN THE WORD

SOAP Bible Study Journal

Study Exodus 20 and other passages with the SOAP method: Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer.

byscripture.com/shop/soap-bible-study-journal/

Scripture Memory Cards

Learned the Ten? Keep hiding God's Word in your heart, one verse at a time.

byscripture.com/shop/scripture-memory-cards/

Pray through it: 30-Day Prayer Journal at byscripture.com/shop/30-day-prayer-journal/
SOAP + Prayer journals + Memory Cards together: Starter Bundle at byscripture.com/shop/starter-bundle/
Also free: Books of the Bible Printable at byscripture.com/free-books-of-the-bible-printable/
Also free: SOAP Bible study sheet at byscripture.com/free-soap-sheet/

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