



## Moses

The Israelites were slaves in Egypt. When Moses was born, Pharaoh had decided there were too many Israelites, so he ordered all the baby boys to be killed. Moses' mother hid him in a waterproof basket in the river among the reeds. Pharaoh's daughter found him and raised him.

When Moses grew up, he saw an Egyptian guard severely beating an Israelite, so he tried to stop him and ended up killing him. To keep from being arrested and put in jail he fled into the desert. There he met a shepherdess and stayed with her family working as a shepherd.

One day he saw a bush that was burning but not burning up. He went closer and heard God who spoke to him from the bush. God told him to go back to Egypt and bring the Israelites out of Egypt. So he did. It took 12 plagues to convince Pharaoh to let the Israelites leave.

The Israelites complained and said they did not know what God wanted them to do so Moses went up the mountain and talked to God. God gave them the Ten Commandments. These commandments tell us how to behave. We must learn them and know them by heart.

## ABOUT

# THE COMMANDMENTS

The Ten Commandments are God's laws of love. (Exodus 20:1–17)  
God gave us the commandments as a gift to help us live in peace.

### The Ten Commandments

### Living the Ten Commandments

1. I am the Lord your God. You shall not have other gods besides me.	We believe in God. We only worship God. We love him more than everyone and everything else. We offer God prayers of adoration and of thanksgiving.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.	We never use the name of God or Jesus in an angry way. We use the names of God, Jesus, Mary, and the saints with respect at all times.
3. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day.	On Sunday we worship God by celebrating Eucharist with our family and friends. We rest and enjoy creation.
4. Honor your father and mother.	We love, honor, respect, and obey our parents and all adults who care for us.
5. You shall not kill.	We believe that God gives us the gift of life. We must protect the lives of children not yet born, the sick, and the elderly. We respect the life of all creatures. We live peacefully to prevent harm from coming to others and ourselves.
6. You shall not commit adultery.	God created man and woman in his image. God calls each to accept his or her identity. The Church teaches that chastity is important for us to be healthy and happy. We must respect our bodies and the bodies of others. We honor the lifelong marriage covenant.
7. You shall not steal.	We take good care of the gifts that God has given us and share them with others. We want others who come after us to have them, too. We do not cheat.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.	We must not tell lies, or mislead others on purpose. We must not hurt others by what we say. If we have misled somebody, then we must correct what we have said.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.	We respect the promises married people have made to each other. We must always dress and act in a decent way.
10. You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.	We are satisfied with what we have. We are not jealous, envious, or greedy. The Gospel teaches us to place God first in our lives.

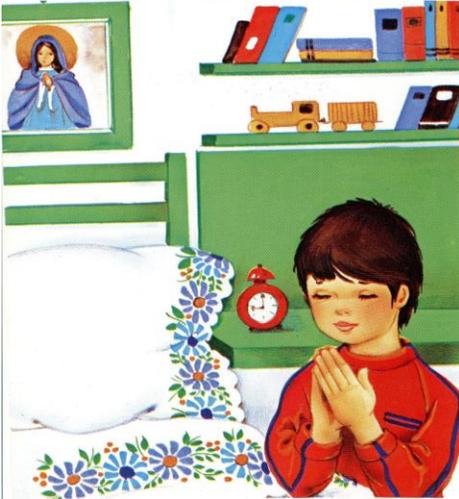
## Questions You Ask Yourself

### About God

#### THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

GOD SPEAKS:

1. "I, the Lord, am your God, you shall not have other gods besides Me."



- Did I miss saying my morning or night prayers?
- Did I miss saying a prayer during other times of the day?

You honor and worship God by being faithful in saying your daily prayers.

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### About the Holy Name of God

GOD SPEAKS:

2. "You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain."

- Did I use holy names, like "Jesus," and "God" when I should not have used them?



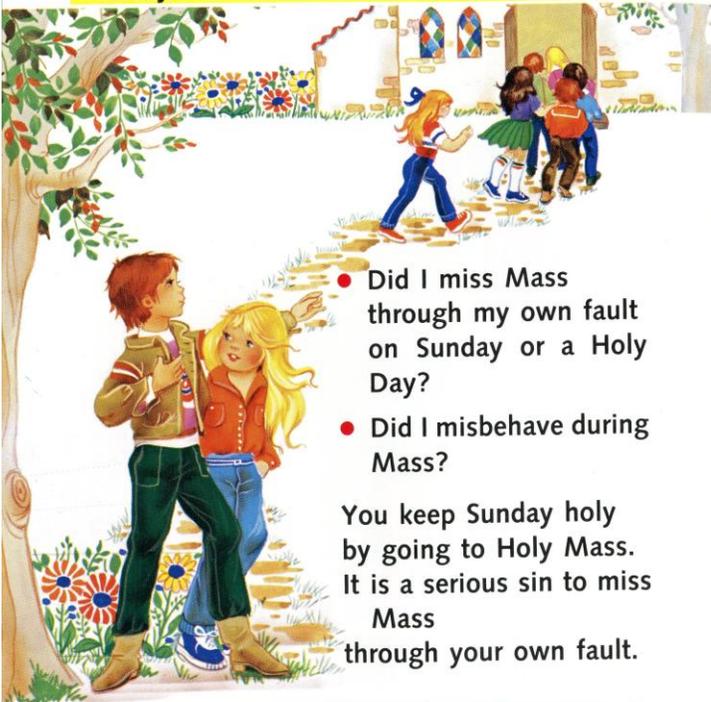
When children get angry and fight they may easily use the name of God and Jesus. This is sinful.

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### About Sunday

GOD SPEAKS:

3. "Remember to keep holy the sabbath day."



- Did I miss Mass through my own fault on Sunday or a Holy Day?
- Did I misbehave during Mass?

You keep Sunday holy by going to Holy Mass. It is a serious sin to miss Mass through your own fault.

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### About parents

GOD SPEAKS:

4. "Honor your father and your mother."

- Did I disobey my parents or teachers?
- Was I mean to them?
- Did I answer back?
- Did I make fun of my parents or old people?



You honor your father and mother by obeying them.

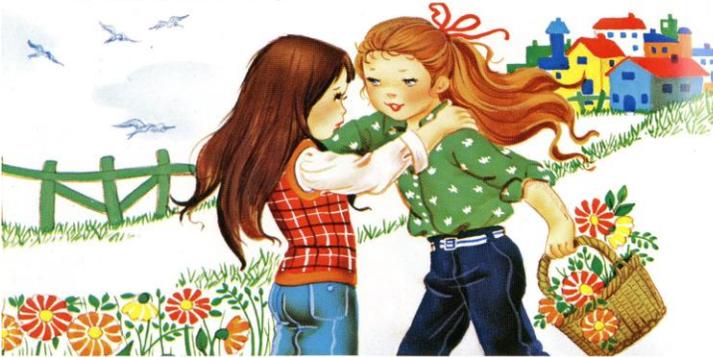
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### About being kind

GOD SPEAKS:

#### 5. "You shall not kill."

- Did I hate anyone?
- Did I do anything mean to anyone?
- Did I let myself get angry?
- Did I quarrel and fight?
- Did I wish anything bad to anyone?
- Did I make anyone sin?



Jesus said that if we forgive others, God will forgive us. Confession helps us to forgive others.

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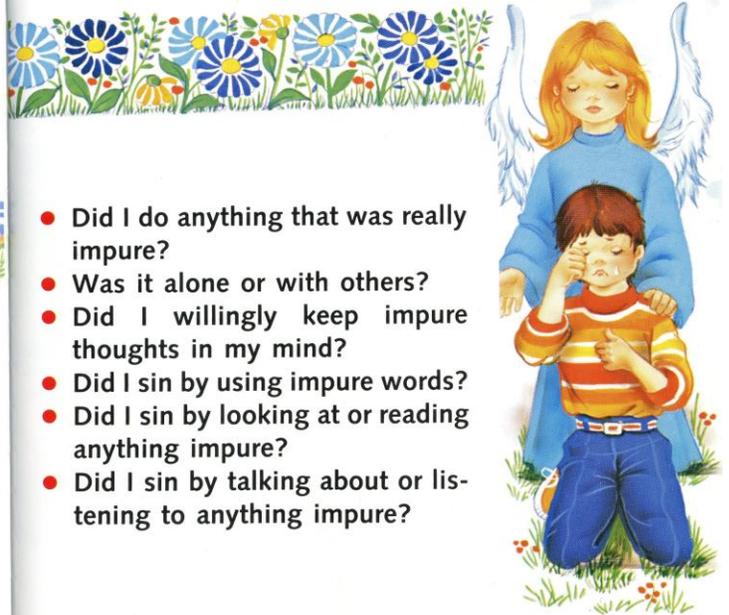
### About being pure

GOD SPEAKS:

#### 6. "You shall not commit adultery."

#### 9. "You shall not covet your neighbor's wife."

- Did I do anything that was really impure?
- Was it alone or with others?
- Did I willingly keep impure thoughts in my mind?
- Did I sin by using impure words?
- Did I sin by looking at or reading anything impure?
- Did I sin by talking about or listening to anything impure?



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### About being honest

GOD SPEAKS:

#### 7. "You shall not steal."

#### 10. "You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor."

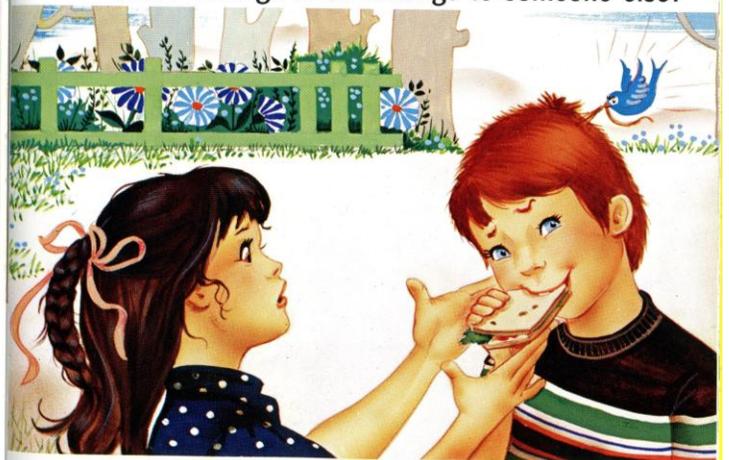
- Did I steal anything?
- Did I keep anything that did not belong to me?
- Did I damage what belongs to someone else?



Jesus said,  
"Blessed are the pure of heart,  
for they shall see God."

To be pure means to be without sin.  
The Sacrament of Penance takes away your sins  
and helps you to avoid evil.  
If you are in God's grace—free from sin—  
you will be truly happy.

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Bobby stole some of Susie's lunch and made her very unhappy. He offended God by being selfish.

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