

# Ten Commandment Magnets

By Julie Filby



Introduce the Ten Commandments to children by making a magnet to illustrate the relationship described in each commandment. This can help children understand that the Commandments are not simply a list of do's and don't's, but a gift from God that shows us how to live in relationship with God and one another.

## For

Young Family

## Season

Fall

## Needed

Cardboard, index cards or other heavy paper cut into rectangles; glue; magnets or a roll of magnetic adhesive; crayons, markers or colored pencil to decorate

## Prepare in Advance

- Review the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20:1-17 and the corresponding explanations for young children (see chart on last page)
- Gather supplies

## Activity Plan

1. Explain that God delivered the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai after Moses had spent 40 days and 40 nights with God on the mountain. God told Moses that the Israelites were God's favored, chosen people, and so were given the Ten Commandments so they would know how to live. God promised that if they kept this covenant, they would always be protected and cared for by God.
2. Read each commandment and the corresponding children's translation. Write one commandment on each card. Illustrate each with a drawing that demonstrates the importance of relationship (with God or one another) expressed in that commandment.
3. Adhere a magnet to the back of each card.
4. Post the cards on the refrigerator for easy reference over the next several days or weeks.
5. Close with this prayer:

*O God, thank you for giving us your commandments and for always keeping your promise to protect us. With your help, I want to follow your rules because they keep us in relationship with you. Amen.*

# Ten Commandments

## Biblical and Kids' Version

Exodus 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words:

	As quoted from the Bible	Kids' version
1	I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall not have other gods beside me.	Put God first.
2	You shall not make for yourself an idol or a likeness of anything in the heavens above or on the earth below or in the waters beneath the earth; you shall not bow down before them or serve them.	Have no other gods but the one true God.
3	You shall not invoke the name of the LORD, your God, in vain.	Be careful how you use God's name.
4	Remember the sabbath day—keep it holy. Six days you may labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of the LORD your God. . . . For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them; but on the seventh day he rested. That is why the LORD has blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.	Keep Sunday special.
5	Honor your father and your mother, that you may have a long life in the land the LORD your God is giving you.	Respect your parents.
6	You shall not kill.	Do not hurt other people.
7	You shall not commit adultery.	Keep your marriage promises.
8	You shall not steal.	Do not steal.
9	You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.	Do not lie.
10	You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, his mate or female slave, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.	Do not want things that don't belong to you.

