

Mishpatim (Judgments)

Shemot/Exodus 21:1-24:18

“613 Commandments”

Objective:

- The children understand that there are 613 commandments in the Torah.
- The children understand that Moses wrote down the commandments because they are an agreement between God and Israel.
- The children understand that Yeshua taught us to forgive people, even when they are difficult to give forgiveness to.

Welcome/Opening Slide

- Welcome the children & organize as required
- Opening Prayer

Please Remember These Rules

Say: Here are the rules:

- Please don't talk when others are talking
- Please raise your hand if you would like to ask a question
- Please keep your hands, feet and other body parts to yourself
- You must ask to leave the room

Title Slide

Note: If possible, hold your Bible open throughout the story.

Say: Last week's Torah study we learned about the Ten Commandments.

Question: Can you tell me any of the Ten Commandments? (Wait for or encourage a response)

Note: Make sure the children know all Ten Commandments listed below:

1. *“You shall have no other gods before Me.”*
2. *“You shall not make for yourself an idol ...”*
3. *“You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain ...”*
4. *“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.”*
5. *“Honor your father and your mother ...”*
6. *“You shall not murder.”*

7. *"You shall not commit adultery"*
8. *"You shall not steal"*
9. *"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor"*
10. *"You shall not covet ..."*

Say: Our Torah portion this week is called Mishpatim, or in English Judgments.

Say: It is called judgments because God gave the Jewish people more than just Ten Commandments.

The Commandments or Mitzvot

Say: The Hebrew word for commandments is Mitzvot.

Say: In the Torah there are many, many commandments or Mitzvot.

Say: Actually there are 613 commandments.

Say: That is a lot!

Say: There are 365 negative commandments and 248 positive commandments.

The 365 Negative Commandments

Say: The negative commandments are things we should not do or "You shall not"

Say: For example, "You shall not steal"

The 248 Positive Commandments

Say: Positive commandments are the thing we should do or "You shall".

Say: For example, "Honor your father and mother.."

Say: God gives us these commandments so that we know how to act. Actually, it is that way we say we love God.

The Commandments and Israel

Say: Moses came down from the mountain and told the people everything the LORD had said, including all the rulings.

Say: The people answered with one voice: "We will obey every word ADONAI has spoken."

Say: Moses wrote down all the words of ADONAI.

Say: Moses made a sacrifice of an animal the LORD.

Say: He took half of the blood and splashed it against the altar.

Say: The other half he put in basins and sprinkled it on the people

Say: Then he took the commandments he wrote down and made a book called the “Book of the Covenant”

Say: Moses read it aloud, so that the people could hear; and they responded, “Everything that ADONAI has spoken, we will do and obey.”

The Commandments and You

Say: God had Moses write down the commandments because they were important.

Say: When people get married or buy a car, they write the agreement down on a piece of paper.

Say: The commandments are like an agreement or promise between the LORD and us.

Say: If we obey and do the commandments of God we will receive many, many blessings!

Say: However, if we disobey or ignore the LORD’s commandments, there will be no blessing only punishment.

Say: God wanted to get the attention of the Jewish leaders to emphasize the importance of the commandments.

The Jewish Leaders Meet God

Say: The LORD asked Moses, Aaron and the seventy leaders of Israel to come up to the mountain to meet God.

Say: When they got to the mountain top they saw the God of Israel.

Say: Under his feet was something like a sapphire stone pavement as clear as the sky itself.

Say: They ate and drank with God on the mountain.

Let's Talk About a Commandment - Eye for Eye

Say: In **Shemot/Exodus 21:23-25** it says, "But if any harm follows, then you are to give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound and bruise for bruise."

Say: Many people think this means that if you hurt someone's eye, then they have the right to hurt your eye.

Say: It is called eye for an eye. A big person's word for this idea is called "**retaliation**".

Say: For example, if someone broke a favorite toy of yours, you would think you could take their favorite toy and break it.

Say: The ancient rabbis did not teach that, because they felt the Torah did not agree that it was good to hurt other people or break their things.

What the Rabbi's Teach

Say: The ancient rabbis taught that verses referring to "an eye for an eye" were requiring us to pay money to replace or fix the item you broke.

Say: For example, someone took your favorite toy and broke it, then that person would be expected to pay you to replace it or pay you so you could get a new toy.

Say: Grown-ups or adults know this very well. We have insurance on our cars, so if we cause an accident, we are required to pay to fix the other person's car.

Say: So the idea of eye for an eye is not about poking another person's eye, but helping to fix things that you cause to break.

Say: If you poke someone in the eye and they poke your eye back, what good is that? Both of you now have eyes that hurt and you both now will have trouble seeing.

Say: Yeshua had something to say about "Eye for an Eye".

Mattityahu/Matthew 5:38-40

"You have heard that our fathers were told, Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I tell you not to stand up against someone who does you wrong. On the contrary, if someone hits you on the right cheek, let him hit you on the left cheek too! If someone wants to sue you for your shirt, let him have your coat as well!"

Yeshua teaches us about “Eye for an Eye”

Say: Yeshua was teaching us that we should forgive and not get mad at other people when they do wrong to us.

Question: For example, if someone broke your favorite toy how would you act?

Say: It would be easy to be mad and say mean and angry words to that person.

Say: The person is willing to get you a new toy, but that does not make you happy. You are still angry.

Say: Yeshua wants us to forgive the person who does wrong to us, like breaking our favorite toy.

Say: He wants us not to get or stay mad at that person. We must forgive them. They should also try to replace the toy or help us if they hurt us.

Say: But it is very important to forgive everyone!

Note: There is a good video on You Tube from G-dcast.com called “Parshat Mishpatim: A Writer Talks About the People Of The Book”. This can be a good review.

Here is the link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3s8azhLI2Sc>

You can download the video and use it as additional material if you want. I did not include it due to the large size and difficulty of emailing.

Let's Learn Hebrew!

Say: Our Hebrew words this week are the singular and plural words for commandment and commandments.

Mitzvah

מִצְוָה

Commandment

Mitzvot

מִצְוֹת

Commandments

Note: Have the children practice the phrase a few times together with you.

What Did We Learn Today?

- There are 613 commandments in the Torah.
- Moses wrote down the commandments because they are an agreement between God and Israel.
- Yeshua taught us to forgive people, even when they are difficult to give forgiveness to.

Small Group Time

Break the children into two groups:

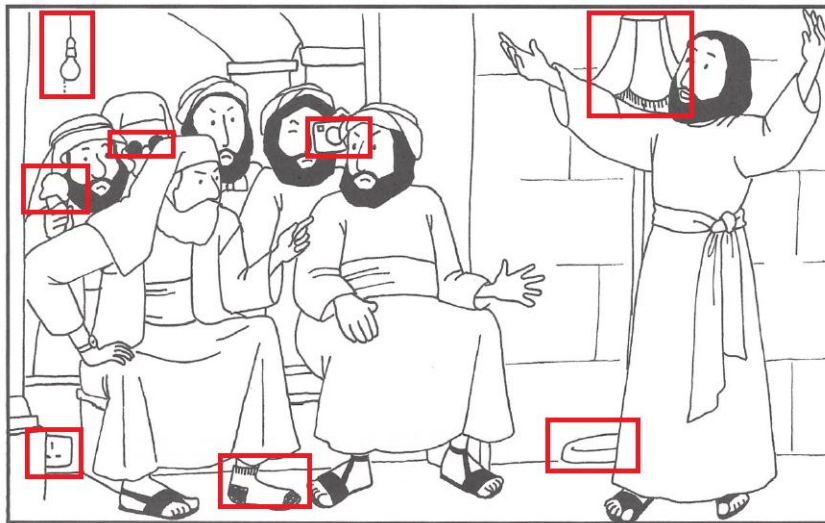
- Primary – Ages 4-7
- Elementary Ages 8-12

Distribute the self-directed learning handout to each child and let them work together or alone.

Primary Activity and Handout Answer Sheet

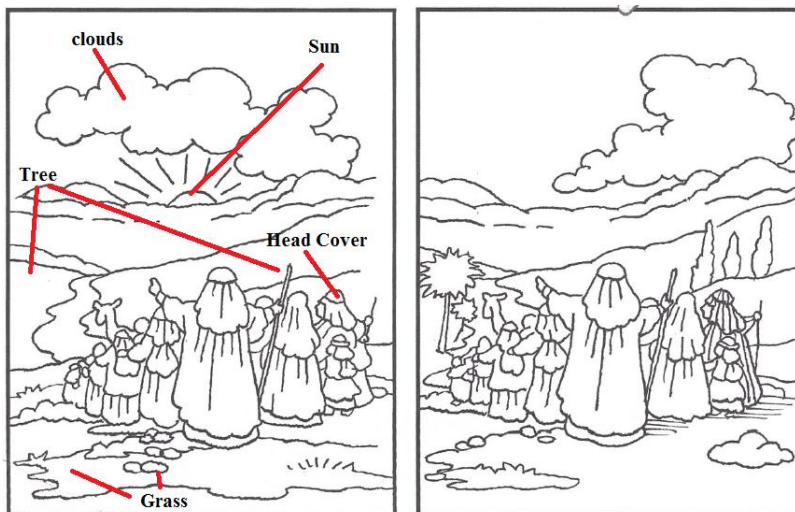
Moses and Israel's Elders – Page 1

Moses started to get the 70 Elders of Israel together to meet the LORD. Circle all the mistakes you can find.



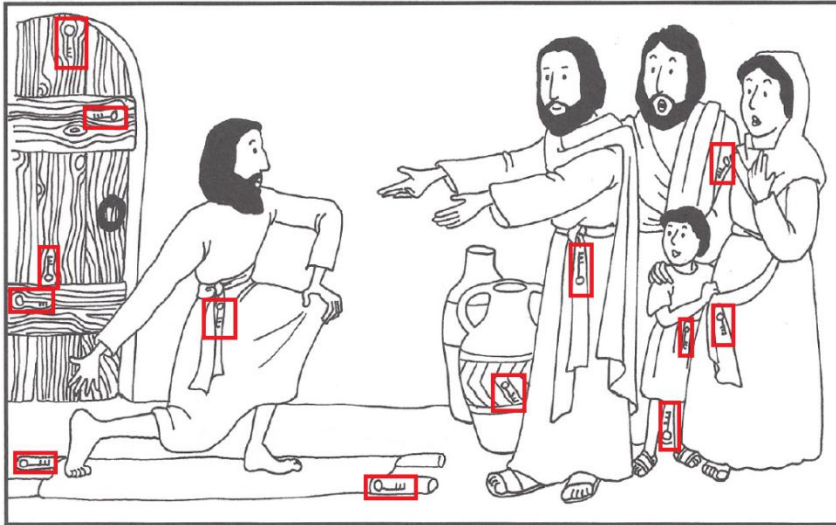
Moses on the Mountain – Page 1

The people are looking at Mount Sinai while Moses is on the mountain. How many differences can you see between the 2 pictures?



The Key of Forgiveness – Page 2

Yeshua taught us to forgive others when they have done wrong to us. Also, when we do wrong to someone, we need to help them to forgive us. The key is forgiveness. Can you find the 13 keys hidden here?



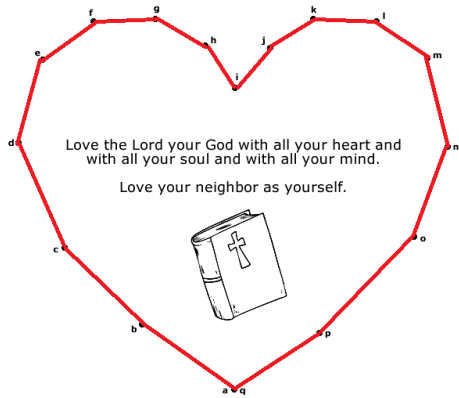
Moses and the Ten Commandments – Page 2

Moses received the Ten Commandments from Adonai on Mount Sinai. Connect the dots to see the tablet that contains the 10 commandments.



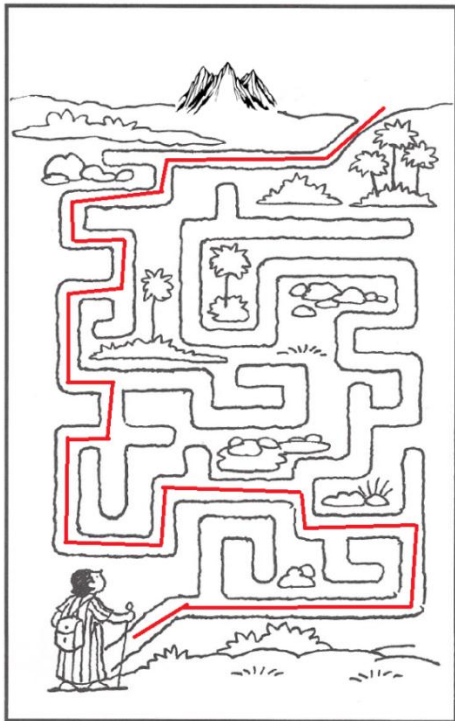
The Greatest Commandment – Page 3

Connect the dots and color the picture.

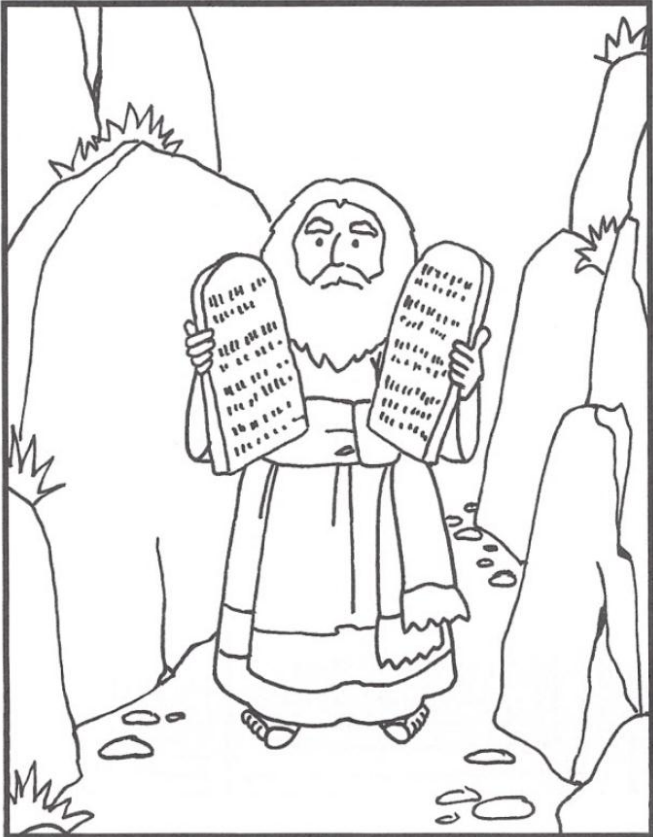


The Amazing Maze – Page 3

Help Moses find the path to Mount Sinai.



Color Me – Moses with the Tablets – Page 4



Elementary Handout Answer Sheet

Exodus/Shemot 24:1-11 – Page 1

¹ Then He said to Moses, “Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu and seventy of the elders of Israel, and you shall worship at a distance. ² Moses alone, however, shall come near to the LORD, but they shall not come near, nor shall the people come up with him. ³ Then Moses came and recounted to the people all the words of the LORD and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice and said, ‘All the words which the LORD has spoken we will do!’ ⁴ Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. Then he arose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain with twelve pillars for the twelve tribes of Israel. ⁵ He sent young men of the sons of Israel, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as peace offerings to the LORD. ⁶ Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and the other half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. ⁷ Then he took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, ‘All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!’ ⁸ So Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, and said, ‘Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.’ ⁹ Then Moses went up with Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, ¹⁰ and they saw the God of Israel; and under His feet there appeared to be a pavement of sapphire, as clear as the sky itself. ¹¹ Yet He did not stretch out His hand against the nobles of the sons of Israel; and they saw God, and they ate and drank.

Let's Learn Hebrew! – Page 1

Our Hebrew words this week are the singular and plural words for commandment and commandments.

Mitzvah

מִצְוָה

Commandment

Mitzvot

מִצְוֹת

Commandments

Mattityahu/Matthew 5:38-40 – Page 1

“You have heard that our fathers were told, Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I tell you not to stand up against someone who does you wrong. On the contrary, if someone hits you on the right cheek, let him hit you on the left cheek too! If someone wants to sue you for your shirt, let him have your coat as well!”

Questions – Page 2

1. How many commandments are found in the Torah?

- A. 2
- B. 10
- C. 613

Answer: C. 613

2. Fill in the Blanks; Then He said to Moses, “Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu and _____ of the elders of Israel, and you shall _____ at a distance. (Exodus 24:1)

Answer: Seventy, Worship

3. How many negative commandments are in the Torah?

- A. 365
- B. 10
- C. 2

Answer: A. 365

4. Circle the Correct Words: ... All the people answered with one voice and said, ‘All the words which the LORD has **(WRITTEN/SPOKEN)** we will do !’ (Exodus 24:3)

Answer: Spoken

5. Fill in the Blanks: Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. Then he arose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain with _____ pillars for the _____ tribes of Israel. (Exodus 24:4)

Answer: Twelve, twelve

6. How many positive commandments are found in the Torah?

- A. 10
- B. 248
- C. 144

Answer: B. 248

7. Fill in the Blanks: Then he took the book of the _____ and read it in the hearing of the people ; and they said, 'All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be _____ !' (Exodus 24:7)

Answer: Covenant, Obedient

8. Circle the Correct Words: "... and they saw the God of Israel ; and under His feet there appeared to be a pavement of (RUBY/SAPPHIRE), as clear as the sky itself. (Exodus 24:10)

Answer: Sapphire

9. Yet He did not stretch out His hand against the nobles of the sons of Israel ; and they saw God, and they ate and drank. (Exodus 24:1)

TRUE or FALSE

Answer: True, exact quote from scriptures

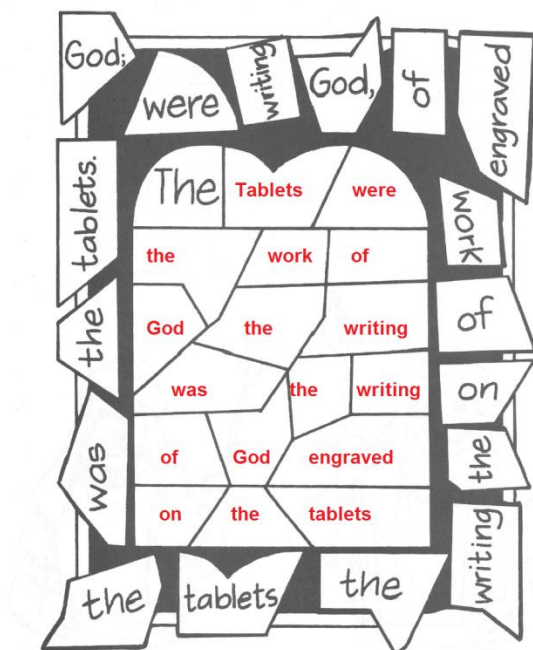
Beware of Imitations – Page 3

Is it possible to have a substitute for God? Color in each box where the answer does not equal 24 to see what God says in Exodus 20:3.

$9 \times 4 =$	$14 + 10 =$	$14 + 13 =$	$8 \times 3 =$	$68 - 30 =$	$6 \times 7 =$	$28 - 4 =$
T	Y	H	O	E	E	U
$35 - 11 =$	$18 - 16 =$	$19 + 5 =$	$48 \div 2 =$	$49 - 24 =$	$16 \div 8 =$	$68 - 44 =$
S	O	H	A	N	L	L
$11 + 16 =$	$24 \times 1 =$	$7 \times 4 =$	$4 \div 20 =$	$55 - 31 =$	$81 - 55 =$	$74 + 10 =$
A	H	U	A	V	N	E
$3 \times 12 =$	$42 - 22 =$	$72 \div 3 =$	$64 - 20 =$	$9 + 17 =$	$9 \div 15 =$	$8 \times 6 =$
O	R	N	R	Y	O	U
$48 - 24 =$	$24 \times 1 =$	$21 + 5 =$	$63 - 39 =$	$11 + 13 =$	$37 - 8 =$	$97 - 73 =$
O	T	E	H	E	W	R
$51 - 27 =$	$47 - 24 =$	$3 \div 21 =$	$23 + 14 =$	$99 - 75 =$	$52 - 27 =$	$83 - 59 =$
G	A	O	F	D	O	S
$4 \times 6 =$	$12 + 12 =$	$17 + 7 =$	$9 + 9 =$	$36 - 12 =$	$2 \times 12 =$	$6 + 18 =$
B	E	F	A	O	R	E
$24 \times 0 =$	$41 - 28 =$	$37 - 13 =$	$12 \times 12 =$	$84 - 27 =$	$2 + 22 =$	$20 + 14 =$
A	R	M	H	A	E	N

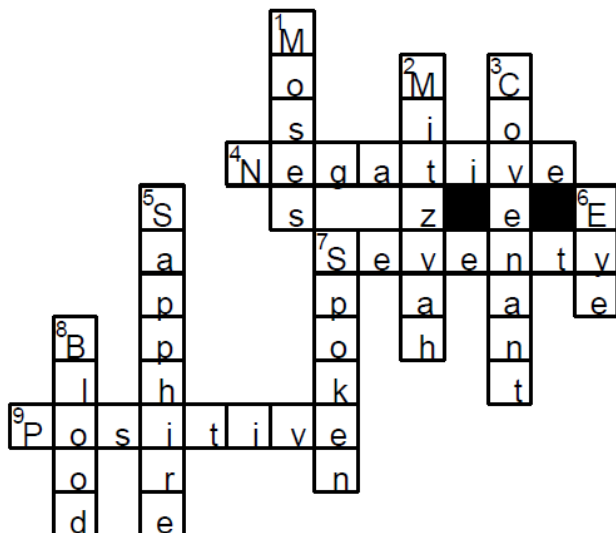
Written in Stone – Page 3

Find the shape on the outside of the puzzle that matches a shape in the tablet. Write the word from that shape on the matching shape. Read Exodus 32: 1-6, 15-20 .



Crossword Puzzle – Page 4

Complete the puzzle using the clues shown below.



Across

4. There are 365 of this type of commandments?
7. How many Elders went up to the mountain with Moses?
9. There are 248 of this type of commandments?

Down

1. Who was given the Ten Commandments?
2. The Hebrew word for commandment
3. Then he took the book of the _____ and read it in the hearing of the people ... (Exodus 24:7)
5. What was the color of the pavement that the LORD's feet were on?
6. Eye for _____ and tooth for tooth (Matthew 5:38)
7. All that the LORD has _____ we will do, and we will be obedient! (Exodus 24:7)
8. What did Moses sprinkle on the people?

The 613 Commandments – Page 4

In the Torah there are many, many commandments or Mitzvot. Actually there are 613 commandments. That is a lot! There are 365 negative commandments and 248 positive commandments. The negative commandments are things we should not do or “You shall not”. For example, “You shall not steal”. Positive commandments are the thing we should do or “You shall”. For example, “Honor your father and mother”. God gives us these commandments so that we know how to act. Actually, it is that way we say we love God.

God had Moses write down the commandments because they were important. When people get married or buy a car, they write the agreement down on a piece of paper. The commandments are like an agreement or promise between the LORD and us. If we obey and do the commandments of God we will receive many, many blessings! However, if we disobey or ignore the LORD’s commandments, there will be no blessing only punishment.

Remember:

365 Negative Commandments

248 Positive Commandments

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All references are taken from the Jewish New Testament, David H. Stern, Publisher: Jewish New Testament Publishers and the New American Standard Bible unless otherwise noted.