



Future-proofing our children

Confirmation 1

Lesson Title: The Ten Commandments

A Parent's Guide

Sunday School Home Schooling



Dear Parent

Welcome to the **Ten Commandments** Confirmation 1 lesson.

This document provides you with a minimum guide on how to present the lesson.

How to prepare and present the lesson

Below are some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
1	<p>Access the New Apostolic Church Website by keying-in or clicking on the following link from WhatsApp:</p> <p>https://bit.ly/3NACSSH5</p>
2	<p>Gather the following tools to ensure that you are ready for the lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible • The lesson in PDF format that is already prepared • Child's workbook and a pen, etc. • The Video Clip which is an additional/ optional resource tool • Catechism and Questions and Answers (especially for Confirmation) <p>Note:</p> <p>2.1: An ideal time preferably to present the lesson is after the Sunday morning service in line with the normal Sunday School time to maintain the routine.</p> <p>2.2: Please keep the lesson as concise (brief) as possible, bearing in mind the attention span (to focus on the lesson) of our children - you know your child best! <i>Sunday School normally does not exceed 45 minutes.</i></p> <p>2.3: The lesson is class specific (Confirmation 1).</p> <p>2.4: Please contact your Confirmation Teacher if you need any assistance or if you need any of the above resources.</p>
3	<p>Pray (see the prayer at the end of this document) and ask God to use you as a tool to present the lesson the way He would want us to present it.</p>



Present a Confirmation Lesson at Home

How to prepare and present the lesson

We continue to share some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
4	Create a pleasant, disturbance free learning environment where you and the child/ren are at the same level. Example: Sit around a table.
5	Read through the lesson. Re-read the lesson so that you understand it. Watch the video-clip of the lesson to get a better understanding of the lesson.
6	Make notes for yourself on important points that you would like to remember.
7	Understand the objective of the lesson that your child must remember.
8	Present the lesson to your child.
9	Show your child the video and recap on the meaning.
10	Refer your child to the activity in the child's workbook (I Also Want To....)
11	Pray, or ask your child to pray and close the lesson.

Available tools in terms of Home Schooling

Herewith some tools to enhance the quality of the lesson:

1. WhatsApp chat the lesson with another Sunday school family.
2. Discuss the lesson with other parents to obtain clarity regarding the lesson before it is presented.
3. Feel free to conduct (do) your own research for additional (extra) information.



The Lesson

Lesson Title	The Ten Commandments
Lesson Objective	The relevance of the Ten Commandments today. Our actions should reflect our behaviour that show love not only towards God but also towards our fellow human beings.
Bible text	Exodus 20

Lesson Summary:

The Ten Commandments
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1. I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods before me.</i><i>2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.</i><i>3. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.</i><i>4. Honour your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.</i><i>5. You shall not murder.</i><i>6. You shall not commit adultery.</i><i>7. You shall not steal.</i><i>8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.</i><i>9. You shall not covet your neighbour's house.</i><i>10. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbour's.</i>
Background: <p>God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. God gave the Commandments to the people of Israel so that they could structure their relationship with Him and have a good relationship with other people.</p> <p>This happened many thousands of years ago. Are the commandments still relevant today? Should it still influence and shape our behaviour today? Let's have a look by analysing each commandment and its relevance?</p>



The Ten Commandments

1 *I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods before me.*

The first commandment means God is Lord over all things.

Only He the creator of all things is worthy of worship. We honour God out of love. We accept God as he appeared to the world: in Jesus Christ. We do not make a god of power, money, idols and even ourselves. We do not see gods in statues, trees or other natural phenomena.

2 *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.*

We should keep all things to do with God and His name holy.

This applies to what we think, speak and do! Even the careless use of the names “God, Jesus Christ or Holy Spirit in loose talks or jokes is a violation of this commandment.

3 *Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.*

For Christians, the Sabbath is a Sunday (the day on which Jesus Christ was resurrected).

We set aside one day in the week to worship God and keep our thoughts busy with His word. The Sunday should be a day of rest and a day of celebration for the soul. We keep the Sunday holy by worshipping God in services and acting upon the word that we receive during the services.

4 *Honour your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.*

Show respect and appreciation to your parents.

This is the only commandment that promises a reward. It is for all people of all ages – to show respect and appreciation to your parents. No matter their age, children have a duty to honour their parents. *The promise of a “long life” is an expression of God’s blessing and is demonstrated in spiritual gifts.*



The Ten Commandments

5 *You shall not murder.*

Life is given by God. He alone is Lord over life and death.

No human being has the right to take/ terminate a life. We have a duty to protect and preserve human life. This commandment applies to abortion, suicide, killing in self-defense, killing in war, the death penalty and active euthanasia.

6 *You shall not commit adultery.*

Partners should be devoted to one another in faithfulness.

In general terms, any married person who has sexual intercourse with someone other than his/her spouse, or any unmarried person who has sexual intercourse with a married person, commits adultery.

7 *You shall not steal.*

It is forbidden to take the goods or possessions of another person.

This commandment covers exploitation, corruption, fraud. We must also not rob our “neighbour” (fellow mankind) of their honour and reputation nor attack their human dignity.

8 *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.*

False witness is an untrue statement (simply put – lie) with respect to someone else.

We must act and speak truthfully. White lies, half-truths and statements intended to hide the true facts and insults are all violations of this commandment. Also bragging, exaggeration, hypocrisy, spreading rumors, flattery are all expressions of untruthfulness.



The Ten Commandments

9 *You shall not covet your neighbour's house.*

10 *You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbours.*

The 9th and 10th commandments are often summarized into one as they are closely linked. Covet – sinful lust – if you desire that which is dear and valuable to another person. Desire can develop into jealousy, greed and envy and these are destructive emotions. We are commanded to exercise self-control and practice actions which display a pure heart.

Generally speaking, Commandments, laws, rules are there to protect us and keep us safe. It guides us in our actions and our behaviour. It teaches us how “to be” in order to have a good life here on earth and prepares us for a life in eternity.

What does this lesson mean for us today?

- In the Ten Commandments, God is addressing all human beings.
- It is a way in which we can structure our relationship with God and our fellow human beings
- Ultimately, we must allow the commandments of God to guide and influence our behaviour.





Some interesting information about Ten Commandments:

1. They were not called the “ten commandments” by Moses. In the Bible, the term used in the original languages are “ten words;” also known as the “Decalogue”.
2. The first four commandments refer to how mankind is to relate to God; the last six refer to how mankind is to relate to one another. The great commandment of Jesus (“Love the Lord your God with all your heart”) – first four commandments (“and love your neighbour as yourself”) – the last six commandments.
3. Only one of the commandments comes with an associated specific blessing – the fourth, “Honour your father and your mother that your days may be long upon the land which God is giving you”.
4. The commandment that is broken most often is probably the second. The phrase “Oh, my God” is taking God’s name in vain, which is specifically prohibited. People often say Jesus or Jesus Christ and in our modern times we often use the expression “OMG”. More importantly, the second commandment is the only commandment that hold a threat of a punishment. The bible does not however tell us what the punishment is.
5. Ten is a common number in the Bible to indicate a completed set – such as ten plagues of Egypt, ten virgins in the story in the New Testament, ten lepers healed, and more.

A Prayer for Daddy and Mommy to pray before the lesson:

Dear God, thank you for this day

Bless all parents and children

May we feel your presence

Bless the lesson we will have

Please teach us how to serve you

And help us to do your will

So that we grow closer to you

Send Jesus to fetch us

And may we be ready to meet Him