

Shavuot Text Study

On Shavuot, we celebrate the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai. Another name for Shavuot is the "Festival of the Giving of Torah." Many Jews celebrate this holiday by going to shul and hearing the Ten Commandments read from the Torah.

As a family in the days leading up to Shavuot, see how many of the Ten Commandments you can check off from the included set. Make a copy for each person in your family and hang them on the refrigerator or a wall in your home. You can decide the "rules" of the game as a family. Here are some suggestions:

- 📖 Everyone focuses on the same commandment each day and shares how they observed it during dinner or during bedtime.
- 📖 Make it a competition. The first person to finish all 10 wins a prize.
- 📖 Create teams. The teams can change each day. Figure out what it means to observe the commandment together.
- 📖 As a family, make a list for each commandment on the many ways it can be observed.
- 📖 Use 1 chart for the whole family and try to complete all 10 together.

* The Ten Commandments image on the next page was found at mamaleh.com

ו□ 6

Do not hurt other people.

ז□ 7

Love and look after everyone in your family.

ח□ 8

Do not take things that belong to other people.

ט□ 9

Do not say things that are not true.

י□ 10

Be happy with the things that you have.

א□ 1

There is only one God.

ב□ 2

We should not make pretend Gods.

ג□ 3

God's name is special.

ד□ 4

Remember Shabbat is a day to rest and say
thank you.

ה□ 5

Listen to your parents and take care of them.

Below are some guided questions to help you observe the Ten Commandments as a family:

#1: What else do you "worship" in your daily life? What do you think you cannot live without? What could you give up?

#2: Who do you consider our heroes/heroines today? Who should you look up to? How can you be a role model for others?

#3: What are some of the names we have for God? If we are created in God's image, how does that make us special? What are some things we can do to show each person in this world is special?

#4: How does your family observe Shabbat? Is there anything you want to change about your observance? What are you thankful for that happens everyday?

#5: What does it mean to be a good listener? In what ways are you a good listener? How can you be a better listener?

#6: What are some ways that we hurt another person? Have you ever hurt someone and not noticed? How can you be a better friend or sibling?

#7: What are some things you do especially for your family? How can you show your family they are special to you?

#8: Have you ever taken something that wasn't yours without asking? How did the other person feel about that? How do you feel when someone takes something that is yours?

#9: Is it hard to tell the truth all the time? Have you ever not told the truth? How does it feel when you tell a lie?

#10: What are 5 things you are grateful for? What is something you want and don't need? How can we show we are happy with what we have?

ו□ 6

Do not hurt other people.

ז□ 7

Love and look after everyone in your family.

ח□ 8

Do not take things that belong to other people.

ט□ 9

Do not say things that are not true.

י□ 10

Be happy with the things that you have.

א□ 1

There is only one God.

ב□ 2

We should not make pretend Gods.

ג□ 3

God's name is special.

ד□ 4

Remember Shabbat is a day to rest and say
thank you.

ה□ 5

Listen to your parents and take care of them.

ו□ 6

Do not hurt other people.

ז□ 7

Love and look after everyone in your family.

ח□ 8

Do not take things that belong to other people.

ט□ 9

Do not say things that are not true.

י□ 10

Be happy with the things that you have.

א□ 1

There is only one God.

ב□ 2

We should not make pretend Gods.

ג□ 3

God's name is special.

ד□ 4

Remember Shabbat is a day to rest and say
thank you.

ה□ 5

Listen to your parents and take care of them.