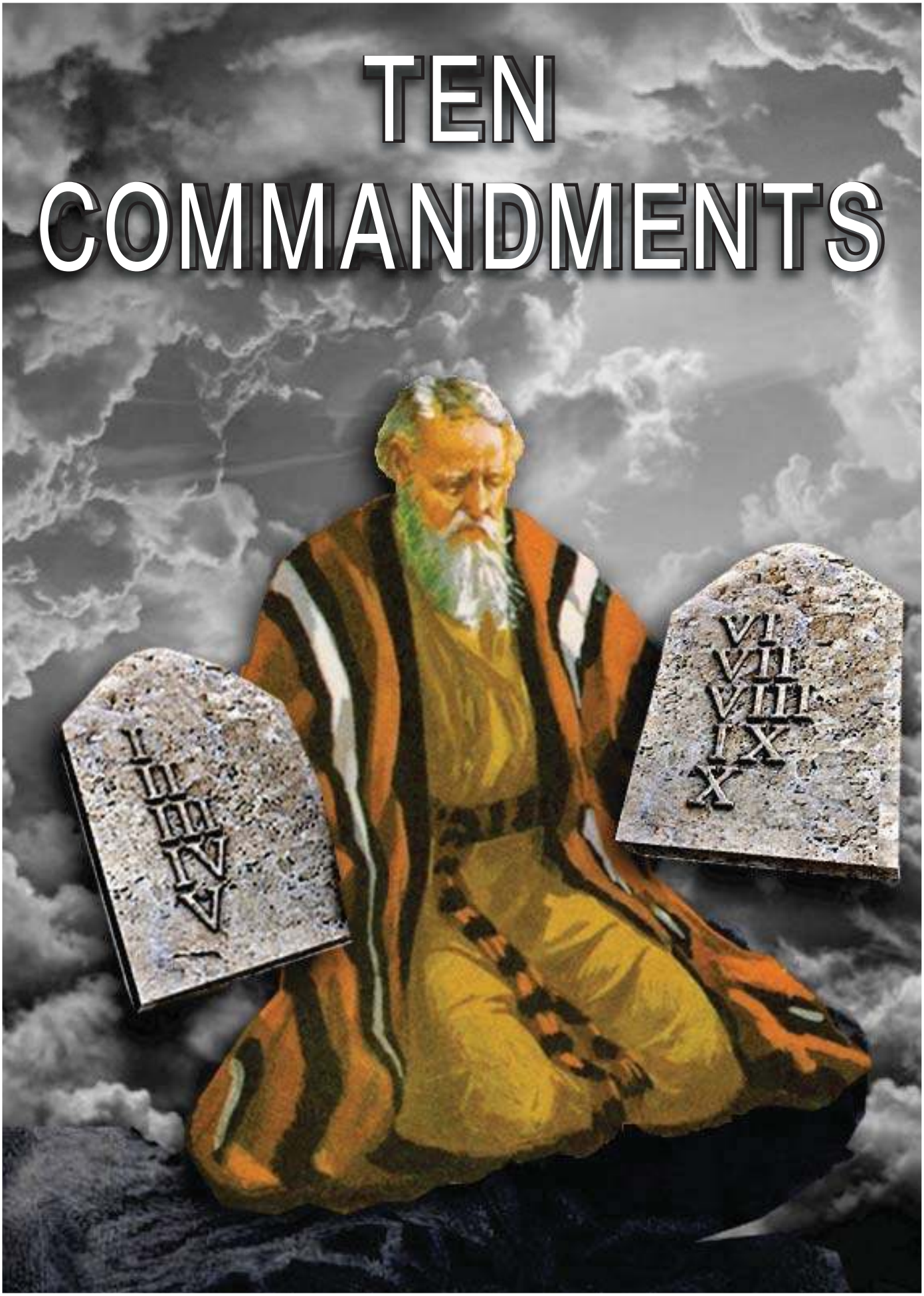
TEN COMMANDMENTS



AGE 0-4

The Missionary Baptist
Vacation Bible School Literature Committee presents

TEN COMMANDMENTS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL LESSONS FOR AGES 0-4
ALL LESSONS WRITTEN BY SISTER MICHELLE CORDER

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LESSON ONE

GOD PRESENTS HIS COMMANDMENTS

LESSON TEXT: EXODUS 19:3-9
KEY VERSE: EXODUS 19:8

In Bible times, there was a group of people called the Israelites. They were God's chosen people. Some of these people had forgotten God's rules and they did not always obey God's laws. They were unhappy and had a lot of troubles. God saw that the Israelites needed to have the rules written down for them.

So, God called Moses, who was their leader, up to the top of Mount Sinai. God talked to Moses and told him to tell the Israelites that they needed to obey His rules. God promised to make a great nation of the Israelite people if they would listen and obey His rules. Moses went back to the people and told them of God had said. The people were happy and they promised Moses they would obey God's law.

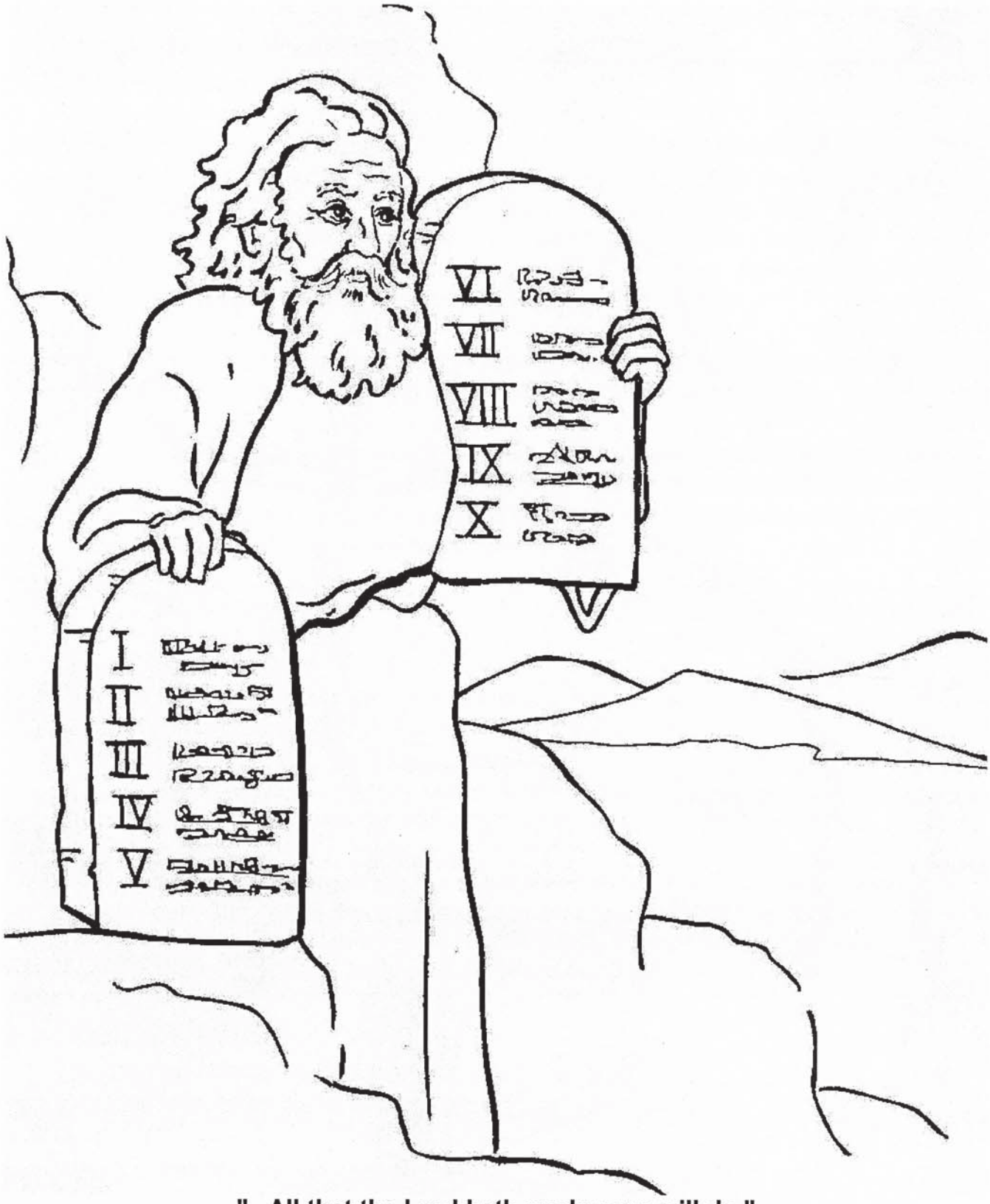
Three days later, the Israelites woke to thunder and lightning and a loud trumpet. There was fire and cloud of smoke at the top of Mount Sinai and the whole mountain was shaking. God had come down on the mountain. Moses and all the people hurried to the bottom of the mountain. When Moses called out to God the trumpet stopped. The people heard God's voice call Moses up to the top of the mountain.

Moses obeyed God and went back up the mountain and into the cloud of smoke. God carved His rules on two stone tablets. Moses brought the stones down to the people. Ten rules were written on the stones. We call them the "Ten Commandments".

Moses spoke to the people to tell them that God wanted them to obey Him and follow His rules. The Israelites knew that they had not been acting in ways that pleased God. They told Moses that they would listen and obey God's rules.

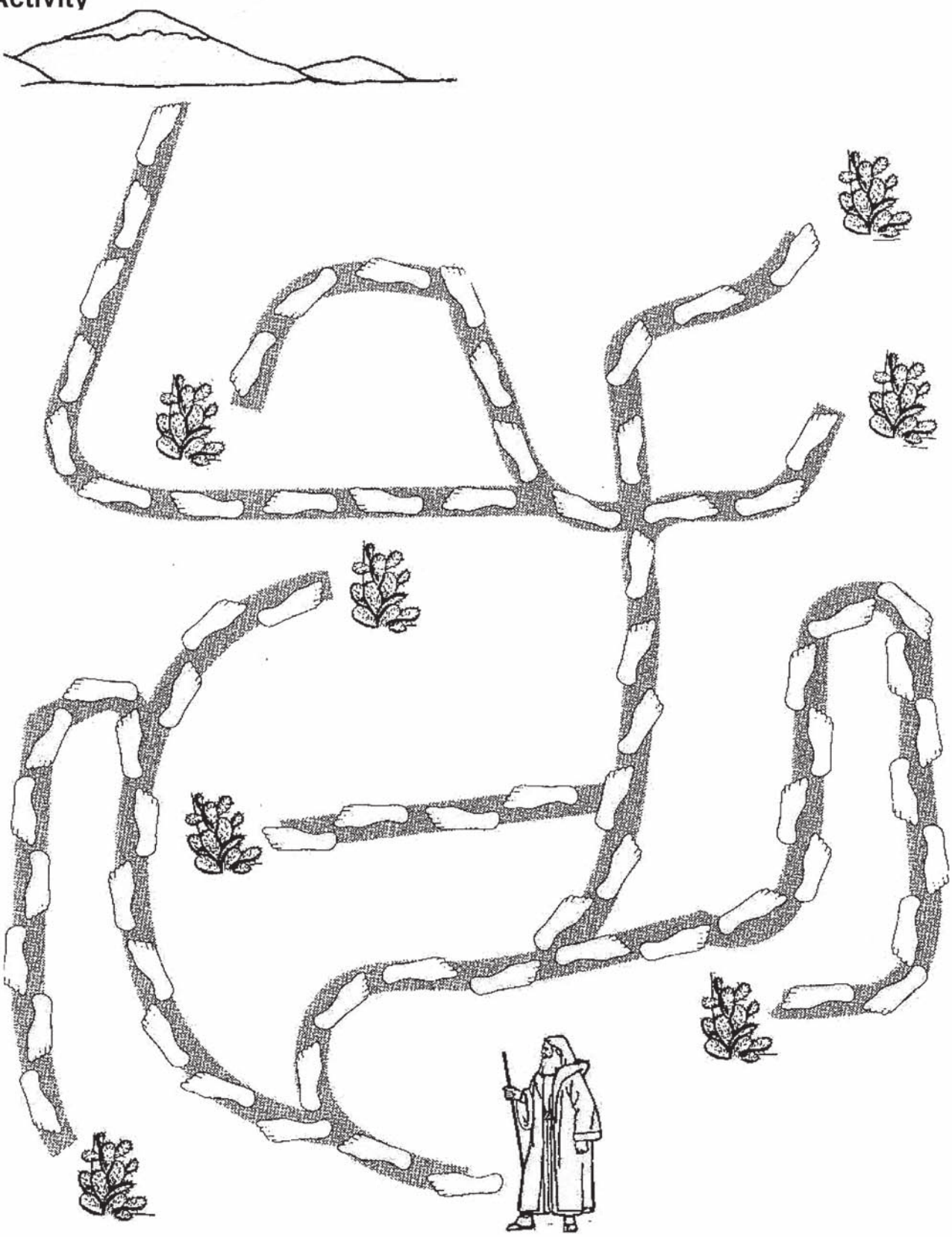
Even though the Ten Commandments were given to the Israelites long ago, they are the rules for us to live by today.

Coloring



"...All that the Lord hath spoken we will do."

Activity



Can you help Moses go to the mountain? Watch out for thorny bushes.

LESSON TWO

HONORING GOD

LESSON TEXT: EXODUS 20:1-7
KEY VERSE: ISAIAH 25:1

The first rules on the stone tablets tell us how to honor God. Honor means to show that something is the most important and the best.

The first commandment says, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." This means that there is just one real God and we must worship only Him. We should put God above everything else in our lives. We should try to always do what God wants us to do, even if means giving up something. God's will for us may not always be what we want to do, but it is what God wants us to do. We honor God when we worship Him. Going to Sunday school and church, praying, singing hymns, telling God we love Him, being thankful and obeying God are all ways we worship Him.

The second commandment says, "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image." A graven image is a carved idol or representation of a god used as an object of worship. This means that we should not worship anything or anyone except God. We must not bow down and pray to anything. Pretend idols or gods are not alive. God is alive. We cannot see Him, but we know He is always with us. The third commandment says, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." This means that we should only say the name of the Lord in a nice way. God does not like it when people use His name in cursing, or when they are not speaking to Him, or about Him. We must never say God's name in a silly way or with any bad words. We should be very careful to speak in way that is pleasing to God, especially when using His name.

These first three commandments are very important for us to study because they help us know how to honor God. By putting God first, not worshipping anything but Him, and by using His name appropriately, we will be a people that God is pleased with. We should always try to do everything that we can to please God.

Coloring

"O Lord...I will praise thy name..."

Activity **God Says . . .**

1

I am the only God. Worship me.

2

Do not worship pretend gods.

3

Never say my name in a bad way.

LESSON THREE

THOU SHALT

LESSON TEXT: EXODUS 20:8-12
KEY VERSE: COLOSSIANS 3:20

We know that God expects us to honor Him at all times and in all places and in all ways. But there is a special time and place; in church on Sunday. There is also a special way; obeying our parents.

The fourth commandment says, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." This means that we should show respect for the Sabbath, the day of rest. God gave us an example of this in the creation. God made the world in the first six days, then He rested on the seventh day. God did not physically need to rest, but He gave us this example of a day for rest and worship in honor of Him. The Sabbath day should be the most special day of the week.

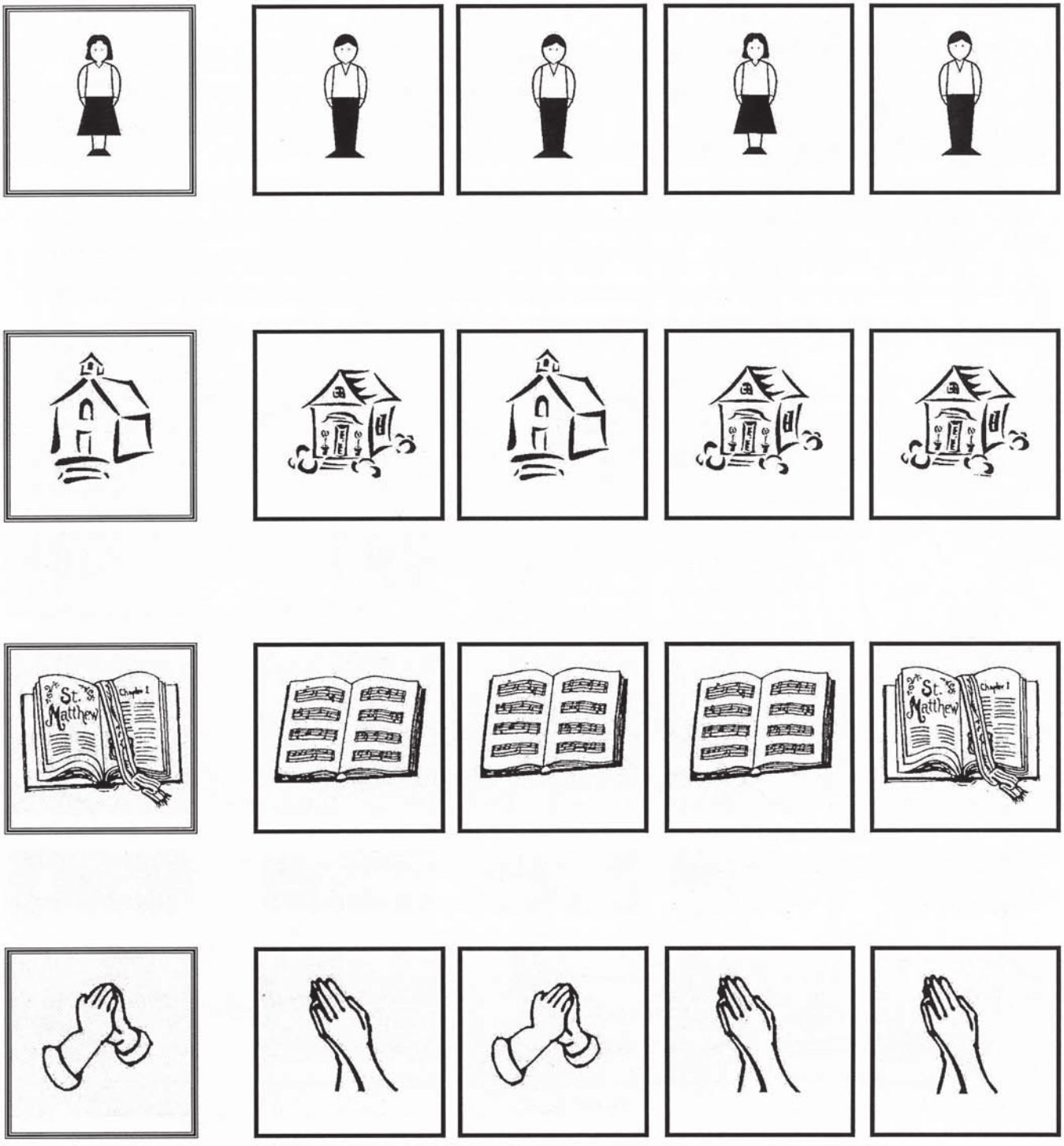
The fifth commandment says, "Honour thy father and thy mother." This commandment instructs us to obey our parents. When we do things that please our parents, we honor God. We should not worship our parents as we worship God, but we should give them the respect that they deserve. God gave us families to show us how much He loved His son, Jesus. Jesus is a wonderful example of honoring and obeying His earthly parents and His heavenly Father. We should all strive to be as much like Jesus as we can.

God gave these two commandments to mankind to instruct us on the things we should do. We should always respect the Sabbath day and honor our parents.

Coloring

"Children, obey your parents in all things..." Colossians 3:20

Activity



Look at the first picture in each row; find its match. Color them.

LESSON FOUR

THOU SHALT NOT

LESSON TEXT: EXODUS 20:13-17
KEY VERSE: PSALMS 101:2

We have learned how God gave the Israelites the Ten Commandments and we have talked about the first five. They are instructions on what God says we should do. In this lesson, we will talk about the things God says we should not do.

The sixth commandment says, "Thou shalt not kill." This means that God does not intend for any human to take the innocent life of another. We should love other people even if they do not always do things that are good.

The seventh commandment says, "Thou shalt not commit adultery." This means that everyone should treat their husband or wife different from other people. Marriage is a special relationship. Husbands and wives should only love the person that God chose for them.

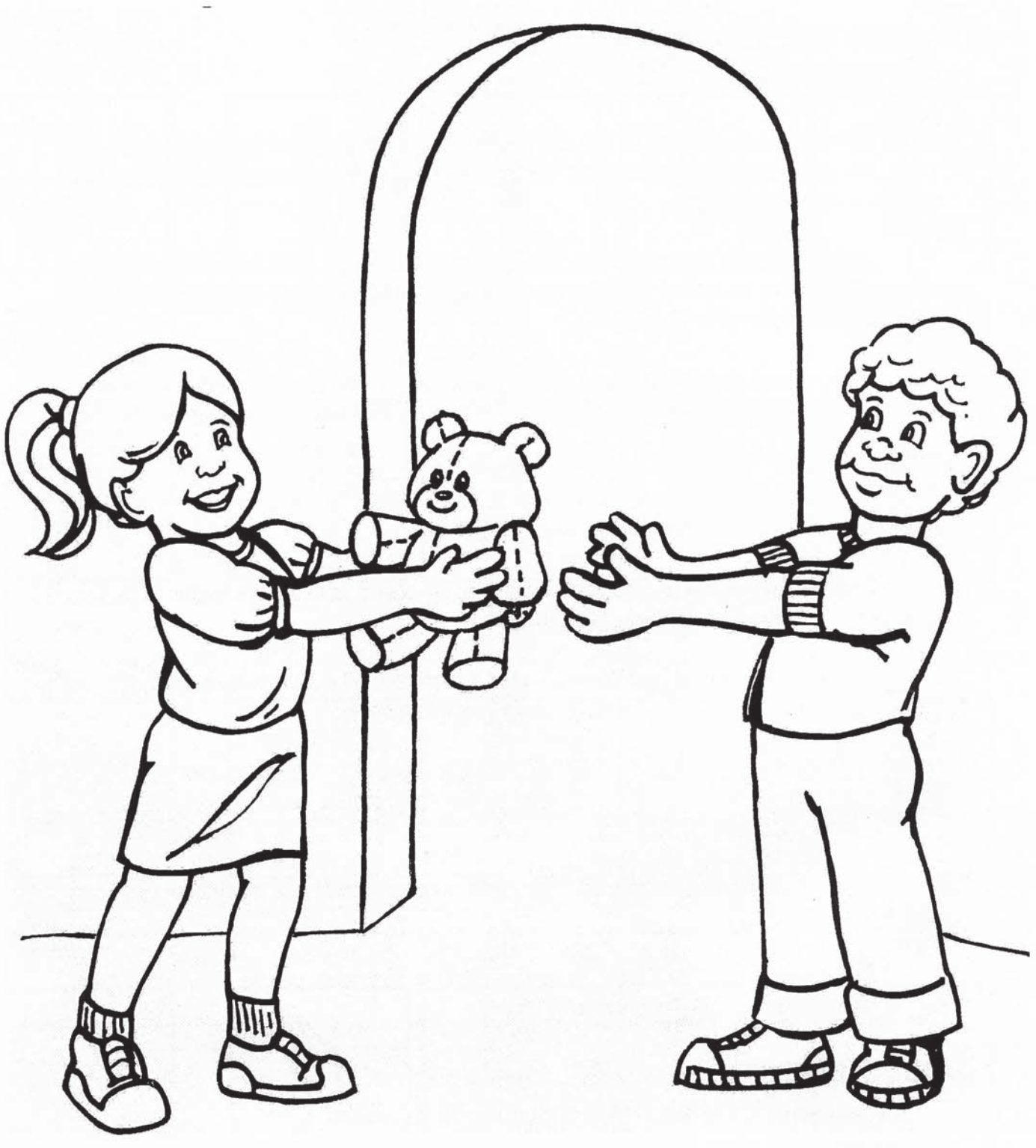
The eight commandment says, "Thou shalt not steal." This means that God does not approve when someone takes something that is not his or hers. We should value our own possessions and respect other people's things.

The ninth commandment says, " Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." This means that we should not lie. God knows the truth in every situation, and He expects us to always tell the truth. Telling lies hurts others and makes God angry.

The tenth commandment say, " Thou shalt not covet." Covet means to want something so much that one is willing to anything to get it. God wants us to rely on Him for the things we need and to ask Him for the things we want. We should never rely on ourselves to get what we want. God knows what we need and He will give us what He sees fit for us to have. This means that we should work to earn things that we would like to have.

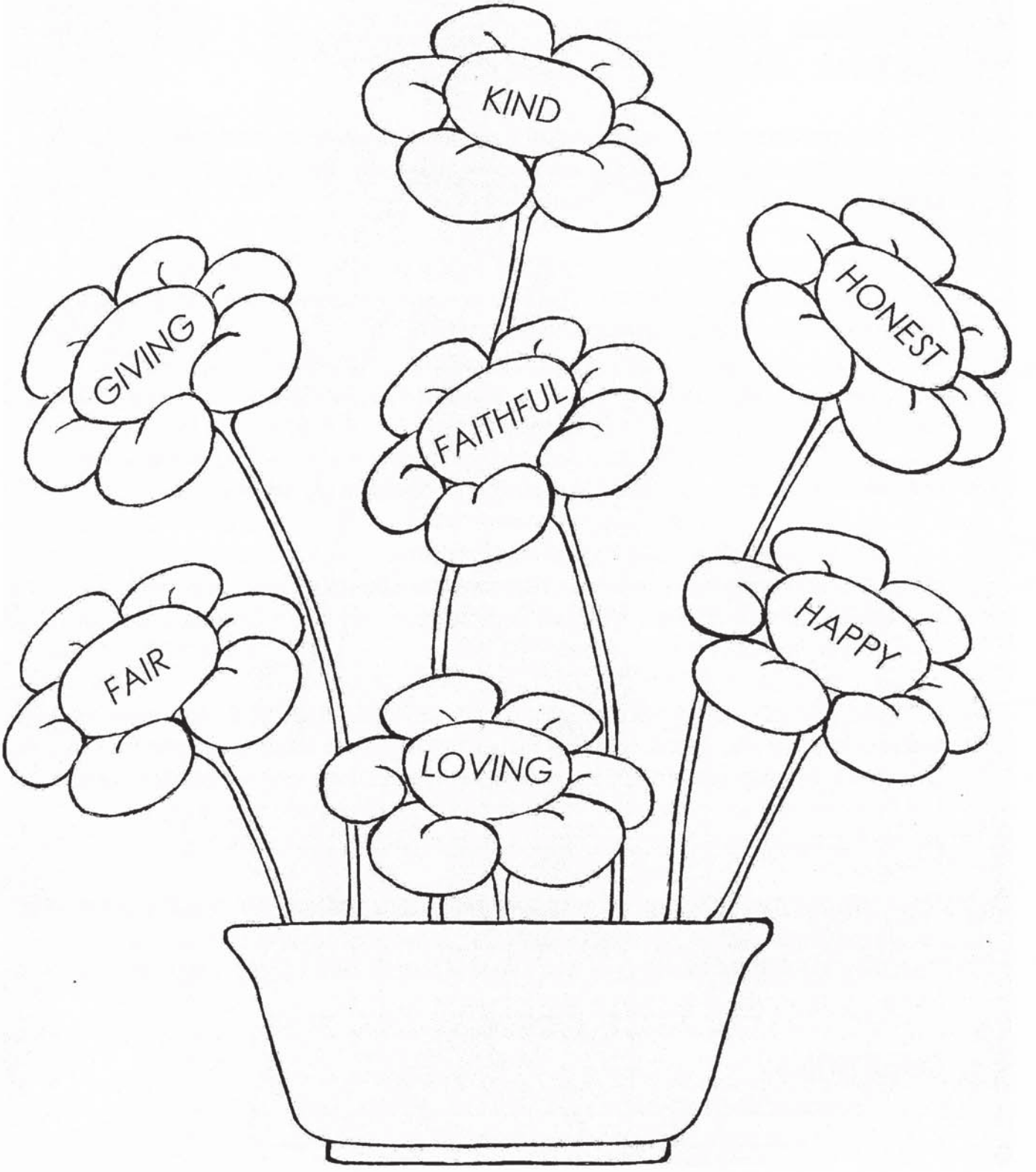
God gave us these "NO" rules to teach us how to treat other people. If we obey them, we will please God and get along with others.

Coloring



"I will behave myself wisely in a perfect way." Psalms 101:2

Activity



"Bee" Obedient to God's Commands.

LESSON FIVE

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT: LOVE

LESSON TEXT: MATTHEW 22:34-40
KEY VERSE: JOHN 14:15

Which one of God's ten commandments is the most important? Jesus taught a lesson to answer this question.

When Jesus was on earth, He preached to people about God. He often preached to very large groups of people. One group of people who listened to Jesus preach was the Pharisees. The Pharisees did not always believe what Jesus was preaching. They often tried to trick Jesus by asking Him difficult questions.

One day, a group of Pharisees asked Jesus which of the Ten Commandments was the most important. Jesus gave them this answer, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Jesus wanted to teach the Pharisees and all people that we should love God above everything. If we love God, always listen to Him, and do our best to obey His will, then we should not have any problem obeying the other nine commandments. Also, if we love our neighbor and treat him or her as we would want to be treated, then the other commandments will be obeyed as well.

God gave the Ten Commandments to all people so that there would be written rules to follow. We should always try to do our best t follow the Ten Commandments. God knows that we will not always be able to obey all of the commandments all of the time. But, God loves us enough to forgive us when we ask Him in the right way.

Coloring

"If ye love me, keep my commandments." John 14:15

Activity

Can you find 4 hearts hidden in the picture? Color each heart.

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