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# CHAPTER TEN

## GREAT THINGS HAPPEN ON THE WAY TO THE PROMISED LAND

### Catechism of the Catholic Church References

Covenant: 839–40, 1539–41, 1961–64  
Decalogue: 1461, 2056–63, 2070–81  
Exile: 708–10  
Forgiveness: 2842–45, 2862  
God Forms His People, Israel: 62–64, 72, 218, 2077  
God’s Promise to Abraham: 705–6, 762  
Idolatry: 1862, 2112–14

Moses and the Prayer of the Mediator: 2574–77, 2593  
Old Law: 1961–64, 1975, 1980–82  
Priesthood of the Old Covenant: 1539–41  
Revelation of God’s Plan of Salvation: 51–53, 68  
Stages of Revelation: 54–55, 69–70  
The Spirit and the Word of God at the Time of the Promises: 702–16

### Scripture References

God Cares for His People in the Desert: Exodus 16—20; 34; 37  
The Israelites Near the Promised Land, but Doubt God: Numbers 13—14

The Death of Moses: Deuteronomy 34

## Summary of Lesson Content

### Lesson 1

God gave the Israelites manna from heaven to eat on their way to the Promised Land.

God cared for all their needs in the wilderness.

### Lesson 3

Moses climbed Mt. Sinai and received the Ten Commandments again.

God renewed his covenant with Israel.

God led the Israelites to the Promised Land.

### Lesson 2

When the Israelites arrived at Mt. Sinai, God made a covenant with them and gave them the Ten Commandments carved on stone tablets.

The People of Israel fell into idolatry, worshipping a golden calf. Moses became so angry he destroyed the tablets holding the Ten Commandments.

Moses begged God to forgive them.

### Lesson 4

God instructed the people to make the Ark of the Covenant to hold the Ten Commandments and serve as a sign of God’s presence.

Moses gave the people instructions on temple worship.

After 40 years in the desert, they were ready to enter the Promised Land. Moses saw the Promised Land, but died before entering it.

CHAPTER TEN: GREAT THINGS HAPPEN ON THE WAY TO THE PROMISED LAND
LESSON ONE: GOD’S LOVING CARE

Aims

The students will learn that God gave the Israelites manna from heaven to eat on their way to the Promised Land.
They will learn that God cared for all the needs of the Israelites in the wilderness.

Materials

- Activity Book, p. 37
Optional:
“Ubi caritas,” Adoremus Hymnal, #390
Wrapped hard candies, disposable cups
Children’s Bible
Unconsecrated hosts

Begin

Discuss what it must have been like leaving Egypt in such a rush and crossing the Red Sea. The Hebrews had to trust in God completely. They had no food, no water, no homes or cars, but they were free for the first time in their lives! The people were wandering through a desert, and no one knew where they were going! Ask the students what they may have thought or felt.

Develop

- 1. Read the first two paragraphs from the chapter with the students.
2. Discuss how the Hebrews, instead of being thankful to God, often complained. What should we learn from this? What kinds of things do we complain about? How could we be more thankful for the things in our lives?
3. Read Exodus 16:1–36 from a children’s Bible. Discuss the rules for collecting the manna. Also discuss how God provided quail for the Hebrews to eat.
4. Have a candy hunt. Take wrapped hard candies and scatter them outside or around the classroom. Give each student a cup, which he may decorate. Have the students collect the candies as though they were manna.
5. Discuss the bread from heaven God now gives to us every day. He gives us the Eucharist. Why do we call the Eucharist “bread from heaven”? The Eucharist is Jesus, truly present, and he is God, who came from heaven to become man in the Divine Person of Jesus.
6. Show the children unconsecrated hosts. Let them taste them and know that they are made from wheat. After they all eat their hosts, ask them what they all have in common. They all ate the same thing. Ask them if they know the saying “You are what you eat”? If we eat Jesus’ Body in the Eucharist, we are members of his Mystical Body. We are all united since we all eat the same thing, the Eucharist.
7. Discuss the effects of Communion. Discuss how it nourishes our souls and gives us strength, just as manna nourished the bodies of the Hebrews and gave them physical strength. You may chart and compare the Eucharist and manna, see box at right.

Reinforce

- 1. Have the students work on Activity Book, p. 37 (see Teacher’s Manual, p. 125).
2. Have the students discuss the parts of the Mass that speak of bread and the Eucharist. Review that bread is one of the matters in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.
3. Teach the students to sing “Ubi caritas,” Adoremus Hymnal, #390.
4. They may add this story to their notebooks.

Conclude

- 1. End the class with prayers of thanksgiving. Have the students each offer thanksgiving for something special in their lives.
2. They may learn and memorize a prayer before communion or a prayer of spiritual communion at home.

CHAPTER 10

Great Things Happen on the Way to the Promised Land

And the LORD said to Moses, “Lo, I am coming to you in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and may also believe you for ever.” Then Moses told the words of the people to the LORD.
Exodus 19:9

Bread from Heaven

On the way to the Promised Land, the Hebrew people wandered for a long time in the desert and they often ran into difficulties. Through all the preceding events, God was preparing the chosen people for very great and important revelations. God always provided for them, but still they did not trust him enough. Every time something went wrong, they would complain about how they never should have followed Moses and Aaron.
The day came when all the food that they had brought with them ran out. The next morning, God sent a heavy dew to cover the ground. And when the dew evaporated, it left behind white flaky bread that tasted of honey; they called it “manna.” What is more, God provided fresh manna each morning for the rest of the time that the Hebrews were in the desert.

The Ten Commandments

After three months the Hebrews arrived at the foot of Mount Sinai. God called to Moses from the mountain saying, “Tell the people of Israel, ‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. Now, therefore, if you will obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my own possession. You shall be a kingdom of priests and a consecrated nation.’”
When Moses spoke these words to the people everyone answered, “All that Yahweh has said, we will do.”
Then Moses climbed to the top of the mountain. A dense cloud covered it. Yahweh descended in the form of fire and spoke to him so that all people would hear and believe Moses. The whole mountain shook violently. The peo-



ple were not allowed to go near it, but they saw lightning flashes on Mount Sinai and heard peals of thunder and loud trumpet blasts, the sound of which made them tremble. To their eyes the glory of Yahweh seemed like a great fire on the mountaintop. Moses was gone for forty days and forty nights.
Then, one of the most important events in the history of the world took place. God gave Moses the Ten Commandments carved on stone tablets.
much, could forget him so quickly. He told Moses to go down from the mountain.
When Moses saw the people singing and dancing before the golden calf, he was so angry that he hurled down the tablets with the Ten Commandments that God had given his people, and the stone was shattered. Moses rebuked Aaron for letting the people get carried away. The golden calf was melted down and the people were punished for their sin, which was a grave sin of idolatry. Moses then wanted to make atonement for their sins, and he begged God to forgive them.

The Golden Calf

Meanwhile God’s stubborn people became impatient and again doubted him. They went to Aaron and said, “Make us a god who will lead us. Moses is gone. We do not know what has become of him.”
And so Aaron had their gold jewelry melted down and made into a statue of a calf.
“Tomorrow will be a feast in honor of the Lord,” Aaron announced.
The next day, the people worshipped and sacrificed to the golden calf. God was angry to see that these people, for whom he had done so

The Covenant Is Renewed

Once more, Moses climbed Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments on stone tablets. He ate and drank nothing for forty days. This time God renewed the covenant that he had made so long ago with the descendants of Abraham. He said, “Go to the land that I swore I would give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and to their descendants. I will send an angel on ahead of you.” God also gave the people of

COMPARING MANNA AND THE EUCHARIST

EUCCHARIST

- Bread from heaven nourishes soul
Gives strength to soul
Tastes like bread
Jesus is present (God from God)
Available daily at Mass
We can receive, if worthy

MANNA

- Bread from heaven nourishes body
Gave strength to body
Tastes like honey
Bread from God
Given 6 days a week
Could receive if desiring to eat it

Preview

In the next lesson, the students will learn about the Ten Commandments.

Israel many other laws to protect them and to be a sign that they were his chosen people.
When Moses finally came down the mountain, his face was radiant. It was shining so brightly from having spoken to God that he had to put a veil over it because people did not dare go near him. The mystery of God’s greatness is impenetrable and his majesty is a thing of awe. God called his people to enter into a covenant with him.

The Ark of the Covenant

Under God’s instructions, the people made a chest of fine wood called an ark. It was covered both inside and out with pure gold, and it had golden poles so that it could be carried. Inside the ark, they placed the stone tablets containing God’s Ten Commandments. They called it the Ark of the Covenant.
The ark was kept in a portable tent called the tabernacle. God’s presence dwelt in the tabernacle and there the priests would pray to God on behalf of the people. In addition to these, the people also made two beautiful altars and fine clothing for the priests.
The ark, the tabernacle, the vestments, and the altars were very carefully made following the instructions Moses received from God. These were all sacred. God also told Moses the

exact way in which the holy rituals of sacrifices were to be performed. An animal victim was to be offered as atonement for sins. Only Aaron and his descendants, the Levites, were allowed to be priests. They were especially chosen and consecrated for this.
The people of Israel continued travelling through the desert toward Canaan. The men carrying the Ark of the Covenant led the way, following a cloud which guided them.

Forty Years in the Desert

Finally one day, the Hebrews came to the edge of Canaan, the Promised Land. Moses sent out scouts on a secret mission. They were to see what Canaan looked like and who was living there.
The scouts came back with the report that the countryside was full of good fruits and vegetables. It really was a beautiful land. But the people living there, the Canaanites, were strong and fierce. Again, the people grumbled. “Let us get someone to lead us back to Egypt,” they said.
God was so displeased with them that he decided that not one of these grumblers would enter the Promised Land. The people would wander in the desert for forty years until the last of them was dead, and then their children would enter Canaan. So for forty years the Jews remained in the desert and could not enter Canaan, the land that had so long ago been promised to the descendants of Abraham.

The Death of Moses

One day, God called to Moses, “Climb up into these mountains and look at the land I am going to give to the children of Israel. And after you have looked at it, you will die.”
So Moses went up and looked at the Promised Land. And then he died up there on the mountain. Although the Hebrews had so often complained about him, they really loved him and

“The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.”
Psalm 19:7-8



CHAPTER TEN: GREAT THINGS HAPPEN ON THE WAY TO THE PROMISED LAND

LESSON TWO: GOD’S COVENANT

Aims

The students will learn that when the Israelites arrived at Mt. Sinai, God made a covenant with them and gave them the Ten Commandments carved on stone tablets.

They will learn that the people of Israel fell into idolatry, worshipping a golden calf. Moses became so angry he destroyed the tablets on which the Ten Commandments were inscribed. Then Moses begged God to forgive them.

Materials

- *Activity Book*, p. 38
- Age-appropriate examination of conscience
- Children’s Bible
- Optional:
  - Arrange for Confession
  - “Ubi caritas,” *Adoremus Hymnal*, #390

Begin

- Review the Ten Commandments and have the students write them on the board in order:
- You shall have no other gods besides me.
  - You shall not take the name of the Lord in vain.
  - You shall honor the Lord’s Day.
  - You shall honor your mother and father.
  - You shall not kill.
  - You shall not commit adultery.
  - You shall not steal.
  - You shall not bear false witness.
  - You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife.
  - You shall not covet your neighbor’s goods.

Develop

1. Read paragraphs 3–6 with the students.
2. Read Exodus 19:1—20:21.
3. Discuss Exodus 19:5–6: “Now therefore, if you will obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my own possession among all peoples; for all the earth is mine, and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.” Note that this is a conditional sentence. What must we do? How do we keep the covenant? We must keep the Commandments.
4. Have an age-appropriate examination of conscience. Discuss the difference between mortal and venial sin. In order for a sin to be mortal, it must be a serious matter, we must know that it is serious, and we must freely consent to it. Venial sin is of a less serious matter or is committed without knowledge or free will.
5. Discuss Exodus 19:9. How do we know that Moses spoke the truth when he came down the mountain—that he didn’t make up the Commandments? Read Exodus 19:9 “And the Lord said to Moses, ‘Lo, I am coming to you in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and may also believe you for ever.’” We know that these Commandments are from God to all of us. Therefore, we must work very hard to keep the Commandments.
6. What if we choose not to keep the Commandments? Read the section “The Golden Calf” from the text (paragraphs 7–11). We risk hell (review heaven, hell, and purgatory), but if we are sorry for our sins, we can be reconciled with God and our sins will be forgiven in the Sacrament of Penance.
7. You may have the students go to Confession. Review the steps to a good confession.

Reinforce

1. Have the students work on *Activity Book*, p. 38 (see *Teacher’s Manual*, p. 125).
2. Have the students write out the Ten Commandments in their notebooks. If they wish, they may write their own examination of conscience using the Ten Commandments, or they may use this time to help them to prepare for Confession.
3. Have the students go to Confession.
4. Have the students work on their Memorization Questions and Words to Know (see *Teacher’s Manual*, p. 121).

Conclude

1. Sing “Ubi caritas,” *Adoremus Hymnal*, #390.
2. Pray the Act of Contrition.

CHAPTER 10

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ple were not allowed to go near it, but they saw lightning flashes on Mount Sinai and heard peals of thunder and loud trumpet blasts, the sound of which made them tremble. To their eyes the glory of Yahweh seemed like a great fire on the mountaintop. Moses was gone for forty days and forty nights.

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much, could forget him so quickly. He told Moses to go down from the mountain.

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FIVE STEPS TO A GOOD CONFESSION

Follow these steps to prepare and receive the Sacrament of Penance:

1. Make an Examination of Conscience.
2. Have sorrow for sin.
3. Decide not to sin again.
4. Confess your sins to a priest in the Sacrament of Penance.
5. Do the penance given by the priest.

Preview

In the next lesson, the students will learn about the sin of idolatry.

Israel many other laws to protect them and to be a sign that they were his chosen people.

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So Moses went up and looked at the Promised Land. And then he died up there on the mountain. Although the Hebrews had so often complained about him, they really loved him and



CHAPTER TEN: GREAT THINGS HAPPEN ON THE WAY TO THE PROMISED LAND
LESSON THREE: WORSHIP

Aims

- The students will learn that Moses climbed Mt. Sinai and received the Ten Commandments a second time. God renewed his covenant with Israel and gave the Israelites laws for worship.
- They will learn that God instructed the people to make the Ark of the Covenant, which held the Ten Commandments and was a sign of the presence of God.

Materials

- Activity Book, p. 39
- Vestments and vessels presentation
- Appendix, p. B-16
- Bible
- Optional: "Ubi caritas," Adoremus Hymnal, #390

Begin

- Begin with a presentation on the vestments and vessels used during Mass. Have a priest do this presentation if possible.
- You may have the priest put on the vestments for the class and explain their use and symbolism. Have him explain the vessels and linens and how he would dress the altar for Mass.
- He may also explain the liturgical colors.

Develop

- 1. Read paragraphs 12–17 with the students.
- 2. Give the students the dimensions of the tent tabernacle from Appendix, p. B-16, and have them make scale drawings of this worship space. (They may find graph paper helpful.) You may want to emphasize that the Ark in which the presence of God dwelt was kept in the tabernacle. We too have a tabernacle where God's presence (i.e. the Eucharist) is housed.
- 3. As a class, make a replica of the Ark of the Covenant out of cardboard boxes. (Hint: a cubit is the distance from the tip of the middle finger to the tip of the elbow, and a span is the distance from the tip of the thumb to the tip of the little finger when the hand is spread out.) Look at Exodus 25:10–22 for details.
- 4. Once the Ark of the Covenant is made, discuss the reasons it was so important. The presence of God dwelt there. The Israelites carried the ark with them when they travelled and always assembled the tent tabernacle to house the ark. In the New Covenant, the Church is the Ark of the Covenant because the presence of God is found in the Church. Also, Mary is sometimes called the Ark of the Covenant because she held Jesus in her womb. (You may learn or read the litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary.)
- 5. Discuss the principles of Jewish worship. They had priests (chosen from the Levites) who were specially chosen and consecrated to offer sacrifices. The priests offered the sacrificial animals to God on behalf of the people for the atonement of their sins. You may compare Jewish worship with the worship in the Catholic Church. We, too, have consecrated priests who offer God a sacrifice for the atonement of our sins. Our sacrifice is Jesus, the Lamb of God.

Reinforce

- 1. Have the students work on Activity Book, p. 39 (see Teacher's Manual, p. 125).
- 2. Your class may attend a Mass and/or review the parts of the Mass.
- 3. You may take your class to pray and have silent adoration of Jesus in the tabernacle.
- 4. Have the students work on their Memorization Questions and Words to Know.

Conclude

- 1. Sing "Ubi caritas," Adoremus Hymnal, #390.
- 2. Have the students discuss their favorite part of the Mass and thank God for the gift of the Mass.



ple were not allowed to go near it, but they saw lightning flashes on Mount Sinai and heard peals of thunder and loud trumpet blasts, the sound of which made them tremble. To their eyes the glory of Yahweh seemed like a great fire on the mountaintop. Moses was gone for forty days and forty nights. Then, one of the most important events in the history of the world took place. God gave Moses the Ten Commandments carved on stone tablets. much, could forget him so quickly. He told Moses to go down from the mountain. When Moses saw the people singing and dancing before the golden calf, he was so angry that he hurled down the tablets with the Ten Commandments that God had given his people, and the stone was shattered. Moses rebuked Aaron for letting the people get carried away. The golden calf was melted down and the people were punished for their sin, which was a grave sin of idolatry. Moses then wanted to make atonement for their sins, and he begged God to forgive them.

The Golden Calf

Meanwhile God's stubborn people became impatient and again doubted him. They went to Aaron and said, "Make us a god who will lead us. Moses is gone. We do not know what has become of him." And so Aaron had their gold jewelry melted down and made into a statue of a calf. "Tomorrow will be a feast in honor of the Lord," Aaron announced. The next day, the people worshipped and sacrificed to the golden calf. God was angry to see that these people, for whom he had done so

The Covenant Is Renewed

Once more, Moses climbed Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments on stone tablets. He ate and drank nothing for forty days. This time God renewed the covenant that he had made so long ago with the descendants of Abraham. He said, "Go to the land that I swore I would give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and to their descendants. I will send an angel on ahead of you." God also gave the people of

they were very sad that he had left them. They cried for a month. Moses was a very great prophet. A prophet is someone whom God uses to speak to his people. Moses was very close to God, and God worked great miracles through him. Dramatic new revelations of God and the moral law were given through Moses to the Jewish people.

Words to Know:

- revelation
- manna
- consecrated
- Ten Commandments
- golden calf
- Ark of the Covenant
- tabernacle
- sacred
- prophet

- Q. 36 Why did God call the people of Israel to enter into a covenant with him? God called the people of Israel to enter into a covenant with him, so that they could come to know him and serve him as the one true God. God gathered his people to give them hope of salvation (CCC 54–64).
- Q. 37 What did the people of Israel have to do to keep the covenant? To keep the covenant, the people of Israel had to obey the Ten Commandments (CCC 62, 2061–62).
- Q. 38 Who must obey the Ten Commandments? All people must obey the Ten Commandments. God revealed them to Moses for all people (CCC 2072).
- Q. 39 What was manna? Manna was a bread rained down from heaven. God provided manna for his people in the desert so they would live (Ex 16:4–32).
- Q. 40 Why can we believe what Moses said and what God revealed through Moses? We can believe Moses because God descended upon Mount Sinai so all could see him in a dense cloud and hear him when he spoke to Moses. God did this so that all would believe in him forever (Ex 19:9).
- Q. 41 What was the Ark of the Covenant? The Ark of the Covenant was a chest lined with pure gold, in which the Ten Commandments were kept. In the Old Testament, God's presence remained with the Ark (Ex 25:8–10, Deut 10:5).
- Q. 42 Who were the priests of the people of Israel? Aaron and the Levites were the priests of the people of Israel (Ex 28:43–29:9).

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The ark, the tabernacle, the vestments, and the altars were very carefully made following the instructions Moses received from God. These were all sacred. God also told Moses the

"The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes."

Psalms 19:7–8

exact way in which the holy rituals of sacrifices were to be performed. An animal victim was to be offered as atonement for sins. Only Aaron and his descendants, the Levites, were allowed to be priests. They were especially chosen and consecrated for this. The people of Israel continued travelling through the desert toward Canaan. The men carrying the Ark of the Covenant led the way, following a cloud which guided them.

Forty Years in the Desert

Finally one day, the Hebrews came to the edge of Canaan, the Promised Land. Moses sent out scouts on a secret mission. They were to see what Canaan looked like and who was living there.

The scouts came back with the report that the countryside was full of good fruits and vegetables. It really was a beautiful land. But the people living there, the Canaanites, were strong and fierce. Again, the people grumbled. "Let us get someone to lead us back to Egypt," they said.

God was so displeased with them that he decided that not one of these grumblers would enter the Promised Land. The people would wander in the desert for forty years until the last of them was dead, and then their children would enter Canaan. So for forty years the Jews remained in the desert and could not enter Canaan, the land that had so long ago been promised to the descendants of Abraham.

The Death of Moses

One day, God called to Moses, "Climb up into these mountains and look at the land I am going to give to the children of Israel. And after you have looked at it, you will die."

So Moses went up and looked at the Promised Land. And then he died up there on the mountain. Although the Hebrews had so often complained about him, they really loved him and

VESTMENTS, VESSELS, AND LINENS

Vestments:

- Amice
- Alb
- Cincture
- Stole
- Chasuble

Vessels and Linens:

- Chalice
- Paten
- Cruets
- Pall
- Corporal
- Purificator
- Ciborium
- Chalice veil and burse
- Basin and finger towel

Preview

In the next lesson, the students will learn about the 40 years in the desert.



CHAPTER TEN: GREAT THINGS HAPPEN ON THE WAY TO THE PROMISED LAND
LESSON FOUR: FORTY YEARS

Aims

- The students will learn that God led the Israelites to the Promised Land, but they grumbled against God because they were afraid of the Canaanites.
- They will learn that God punished the people, letting them wander in the desert.
- They will learn that, after 40 years in the desert, the Israelites were ready to enter the Promised Land. Moses saw the Promised Land, but died before entering it.

Materials

- Activity Book, p. 40
- Paper and craft supplies
- Optional: "Ubi caritas," Adoremus Hymnal, #390

Begin

Explain that a pilgrimage is a journey of faith that we make to help us grow closer to God. Many people make pilgrimages to holy shrines such as Lourdes in France, or to the Vatican. We can also think of our lives as a pilgrimage—a life-long journey to heaven. Our goal is to grow as close to God as possible every moment of this journey. What are some milestones along our path to heaven? Baptism, the Sacraments, special events, etc.

Develop

- 1. Finish reading the chapter.
- 2. Discuss why God had the people of Israel wander in the desert for forty years. They did not want to enter the Promised Land because they were afraid and did not trust in God. They feared the Canaanites who were strong and fierce. What should they have done?
- 3. Why did they wander for so long? God made them wander in the desert so that the people who had been afraid to enter the Promised Land would not enter it. Their children would instead. It was a time of preparation and purification (like Lent and Advent).
- 4. God gave the Promised Land to Abraham and his descendants. This is where Jesus was born and preached the Good News. It is also a symbol of heaven, which is our Promised Land. Heaven is given to God's children; that is, those who keep his covenant.
- 5. Why couldn't Moses enter the Promised Land? Moses, too, had doubted God. He had not trusted in God when he brought forth water from the rock in the desert. Read Numbers 20:1–13.
- 6. Compare Moses with Jesus. Moses was a Hebrew. He became a shepherd and then a prophet. He performed God's miracles. He gave God's Law to the people of Israel. He led the people of Israel from slavery to freedom. He mediated between the people and God. He suffered with God's people and died among them. God established his covenant through Moses. Jesus was born of the Hebrews. He was the Good Shepherd. He was The Prophet. He performed miracles to show that he is God. He gave God's Law to the people in the Beatitudes, perfecting the Ten Commandments. He saved his people from their slavery to sin and Satan. He established the new and everlasting Covenant. He suffered and died, but rose from the dead.

Reinforce

- 1. Have the students work on Activity Book, p. 40 (see Teacher's Manual, p. 125).
- 2. Have the students draw a picture of the Promised Land. Optional: they can work together on a wall-sized mural.
- 3. Be sure the students understand how Moses prefigured Jesus.
- 4. Have the students work on their Memorization Questions and Words to Know.

Conclude

- 1. Lead the students in singing "Ubi caritas," Adoremus Hymnal, #390.
- 2. Have the students pray for the grace of a happy death that they too might enter the Promised Land.



ple were not allowed to go near it, but they saw lightning flashes on Mount Sinai and heard peals of thunder and loud trumpet blasts, the sound of which made them tremble. To their eyes the glory of Yahweh seemed like a great fire on the mountaintop. Moses was gone for forty days and forty nights. Then, one of the most important events in the history of the world took place. God gave Moses the Ten Commandments carved on stone tablets. much, could forget him so quickly. He told Moses to go down from the mountain. When Moses saw the people singing and dancing before the golden calf, he was so angry that he hurled down the tablets with the Ten Commandments that God had given his people, and the stone was shattered. Moses rebuked Aaron for letting the people get carried away. The golden calf was melted down and the people were punished for their sin, which was a grave sin of idolatry. Moses then wanted to make atonement for their sins, and he begged God to forgive them.

The Golden Calf

Meanwhile God's stubborn people became impatient and again doubted him. They went to Aaron and said, "Make us a god who will lead us. Moses is gone. We do not know what has become of him." And so Aaron had their gold jewelry melted down and made into a statue of a calf. "Tomorrow will be a feast in honor of the Lord," Aaron announced. The next day, the people worshipped and sacrificed to the golden calf. God was angry to see that these people, for whom he had done so

The Covenant Is Renewed

Once more, Moses climbed Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments on stone tablets. He ate and drank nothing for forty days. This time God renewed the covenant that he had made so long ago with the descendants of Abraham. He said, "Go to the land that I swore I would give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and to their descendants. I will send an angel on ahead of you." God also gave the people of

they were very sad that he had left them. They cried for a month. Moses was a very great prophet. A prophet is someone whom God uses to speak to his people. Moses was very close to God, and God worked great miracles through him. Dramatic new revelations of God and the moral law were given through Moses to the Jewish people.

Words to Know:

- revelation manna consecrated
- Ten Commandments
- golden calf Ark of the Covenant
- tabernacle sacred prophet

- Q. 36 Why did God call the people of Israel to enter into a covenant with him? God called the people of Israel to enter into a covenant with him, so that they could come to know him and serve him as the one true God. God gathered his people to give them hope of salvation (CCC 54–64).
- Q. 37 What did the people of Israel have to do to keep the covenant? To keep the covenant, the people of Israel had to obey the Ten Commandments (CCC 62, 2061–62).
- Q. 38 Who must obey the Ten Commandments? All people must obey the Ten Commandments. God revealed them to Moses for all people (CCC 2072).
- Q. 39 What was manna? Manna was a bread rained down from heaven. God provided manna for his people in the desert so they would live (Ex 16:4–32).
- Q. 40 Why can we believe what Moses said and what God revealed through Moses? We can believe Moses because God descended upon Mount Sinai so all could see him in a dense cloud and hear him when he spoke to Moses. God did this so that all would believe in him forever (Ex 19:9).
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MOSES AND JESUS

Moses:

- Descended from Israel
- Shepherd
- Prophet
- Gave God's Law

Jesus:

- Descended from Israel
- The Good Shepherd
- Our Prophet
- Completed God's Law
- Led people from slavery to freedom
- Mediated between God and Israelites
- Suffered and died among his people
- God established Old Covenant through him
- Led people out of the slavery of sin
- Mediates between God and all men
- Suffered and died for all men
- God established New Covenant through him

Preview

In the next lesson, the students will review and be quizzed on the content of this chapter.





# TEACHER'S NOTES