



LESSON 4 FOR LEADERS

INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Sets Apart His People

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 20

WORD OF WONDER: Deuteronomy 7:9

I was homeschooled until I went to high school. So my first few months of public school were good but challenging. I was different from the other kids—I didn't know all the slang; I hadn't had their experiences. I gradually adjusted and fit in. But there was always something different about me because I was a Christian. There were things I did and didn't do because of my faith.

In today's lesson, we see that God creates a people who are to be in the world but not of it. In many ways, they will operate like everyone else, but because of God's law and what it says, there will always be something different about them. Israel struggles with this all throughout the Old Testament. Many of us—and probably many of the kids you lead—struggle with this still today.

God calls His people to be set apart. It's not always easy. But when we walk in the way of the Lord and we look at His instructions, we realize His commands are good because He is good. We realize He's worth following.

God sets us apart to live for Him and to show others what He is like. That makes us different. But it's OK because our God is faithful.

—Denise Morris Snyder

Spiritual Formation Pastor

Contributor to Wonder Ink

LESSON 4 **FOR LEADERS**

GOD GIVES THE LAW

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

Moses is an important figure throughout Scripture. God called him to lead His chosen people out of Egyptian slavery. Moses received the law, and God made His covenant with him ([Exodus 19–24](#)). Moses wandered the wilderness because of Israel’s disobedience and died without entering the Promised Land.

WHAT?

God led Israel out of slavery in Egypt and delivered them from the pursuing Egyptian army. God called His people together at the base of Mount Sinai to make His covenant with them. God spoke to Moses, giving him the Law, and Moses brought it to the people.

WHERE?

Mount Sinai is the same “mountain of God” where God first called to Moses from the burning bush. God said Israel would return to worship Him here after being set free ([Exodus 3](#)). Today it’s called Jabal Musa in Arabic, meaning “Mountain of Moses.”

WHEN?

Israel came to Mount Sinai on the first day of the third month after leaving Egypt. According to the Hebrew calendar, this may have been in late May or early June, since Passover is celebrated in the first month around March or April.

CONNECTING TO GOD’S BIG STORY

God led His people to Mount Sinai to receive the Law of God. It showed how they were to live as God’s chosen people. In [Matthew 5–7](#), Jesus gave a sermon on a different mountain or hill. There Jesus said He had come to fulfill the Law, bringing all things to completion.



Curiosity

LESSON 4 **EARLY CHILDHOOD**

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

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Curiosity Activity: Who Is Set Apart?

Gather kids together in the middle of the room.

In God's big story today, we're going to learn how God's special people were set apart. Let's play a game where some people will be set apart.

Have kids sit down. Read each of the statements below and have the kids who fit the description stand after you read each line. Invite all of the kids to sit down again after each round.

- If you have brown hair, stand up.
- If you have a brother, stand up.
- If you have a sister, stand up.
- If you have a dog at home, stand up.
- If you like to eat cookies, stand up.
- If you like to eat pizza, stand up.
- If you are three years old, stand up.
- If you are four years old, stand up.
- If you are five years old, stand up.
- If you love God, stand up.

Each of you stood up according to something special about you! God chose to give His instructions (or rules) to a group of people to show that they were His special people. We'll learn today about how God sets apart His people.



10:45 Service

Belief

LESSON 4 **EARLY CHILDHOOD**

Guide kids into knowing God, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

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Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words:
God, thank You for being here with us today. Help us listen to what You have to say to us today. Reveal Your love for Your special people to each and every one of us today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

God's Big Story

Pull out the Bible

Ask: What is this called? *The Bible*

Ask: Why is the Bible important? *Because it is God's word. Everything in it is true. It really happened.*

TELL THE BIBLE STORY

The Big Picture Bible, page 36 The

Ten Commandments

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Who talked to God on Mount Sinai? (*Moses*)

What did God tell Moses about the people? (*They were His special chosen people.*)

- How many commandments (or laws) did God give Moses? (*10*)
- What was one of the commandments that God gave Moses?
- Which of the commandments do you think is the hardest to follow?
- Which of the commandments do you think is the easiest to follow?
- What does the commandment that talks about our parents say we should do? (*Do what our parents say.*)
- God says to pick one day each week to do what? (*rest*)
- What does this story show us about God and how He feels about His people?
-

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

**He is the faithful God. He keeps his
covenant of love to a thousand generations
of those who love Him.**

— Deuteronomy 7:9

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

Leader Tip: God being faithful means He will always do what He says He will do. He is trustworthy.

Gather kids to discuss these questions:

- **How has God been faithful to your family?**
- **How is God faithful to His special people?**



Faith

LESSON 4 **EARLY CHILDHOOD**

Help kids see the wonder of God's story and how it connects to their own story.

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Game: Follow the Commands

One of the commandments God gave was to set aside a special day each week to rest. Why do you think God would give that as one of the commandments? What is so important about resting in a way that allows us to worship? Allow the kids to respond. God knew that we need time to worship and rest without being too busy. God even rested after creating everything! We're going to play a game where you'll pretend to rest however you want when I say, "Rest." Let's practice. Say, "Rest" and allow kids to show you how they rest. Then have the kids stand again. Before we rest, we'll do all kinds of other actions, like a crazy dance or hopping on one leg. You'll need to listen for me to tell you each action. Ready? Let's start.

Play several rounds with different action commands. You can make up your own or use the list below (adding in "rest" at varying times).

- Hop on one foot.
- Run in place.
- Jump up and down.
- Do a crazy dance.
- Spin in a circle.
- Reach up as high as you can.
- Wave your arms above your head.
- March in place.



Identity

LESSON 4 **EARLY CHILDHOOD**

Create space for God to remind kids they are known, loved, led, and their lives can tell of God's wonder.

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Sets Apart His People

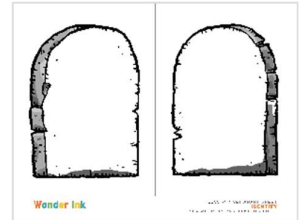
SCRIPTURE: [Exodus 20](#)

WORD OF WONDER: [From Deuteronomy 7:9](#)

Responding in Worship: Drawing Response

SUPPLIES: coloring utensils, tape, storyline from God's Big Story (optional), extra clothespins (optional)

Before kids arrive, print one copy per kid of the [Set Apart Sheet](#). Set out clothespins if you would like to let kids add their drawings to the storyline from God's Big Story.



In God's big story, He chose His people—the Israelites—and set them apart to live the way He wanted. And the same is true of us! God has chosen us and set us apart as His very own!

Let's listen to a verse about this. Read [Ephesians 2:10 \(NirV\)](#): "We are God's creation. He created us to belong to Christ Jesus. Now we can do good works. Long ago God prepared these works for us to do."

God made each of you special. Now you can serve Him and praise Him and show others what He is like.

This sheet has some stone tablets. Hold up the [Set Apart Sheet](#). **On the first tablet, you can draw one thing that makes you special.** Maybe it's your kindness, your heart, or your passion for playing sports, drawing, or singing. **On the other sheet, you can draw a way you praise God or help others because of how special you are.** Maybe you help your teammate when you play basketball, or you sing a song to worship God.

Give each kid a [Set Apart Sheet](#) and coloring utensils and let the kids draw pictures of what makes them set apart or special for God. You could play music from the Early Childhood flash drive in the background as they draw. After most of the kids have finished, hang these pictures in your room or add them to the storyline from God's Big Story.

10:45 Service

Leader Tip: If some of the kids have trouble thinking of what makes them special, share with them what you see that makes them special!

Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their activity, pray with them, thanking God for making them special and setting apart His people.

God, thank You for making each of us special. Thank You for loving us. Thank You for choosing us. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May you never forget that you are part of God's chosen people who have been set apart. Never forget how special you are and how much God loves you.