

Leader Guide

Influence With Wisdom *August 21, 2022*

Main Passage: Deuteronomy 5:1-22

Theological Theme

God gave the Ten Commandments so that His people will know how to live in relation to Him and to others. We must know and obey His Word as we teach the next generation to appreciate the gift of God's wisdom for daily living.

Introduction

- Share any funny assembly story you have experienced or heard.
- Phow do you typically respond when faced with a list of instructions? Why?

The Ten Commandments were given as a guide for daily living. They give us wisdom for relating to God and to others. We should know and obey His Word and lead the next generation to do the same.

1. The Word Teaches (Deuteronomy 5:1-6)

In this passage, Moses—the leader of the children of Israel and author of Deuteronomy—called the people together in an assembly. He had been sharing with them the laws and statutes they needed to follow as they made their way toward the promised land. The people had been in bondage in Egypt and were now out on their own, heading toward the place God had promised them. There was a massive amount of people and some law and order needed to be reiterated to keep them organized and moving together in a healthy, God-honoring way.

Love God and Others (Deuteronomy 5:7-21)

Having emphasized why the people needed to listen and apply the instructions of the Lord, Moses got specific. Just as we need to hear some instructions multiple times, Moses reminded them of the Ten Commandments God had given His people in Exodus. This list gives ten commands that apply to all the relationships in our lives today. Because He loves us and wants us to live godly lives, God knew we needed guidance. It is important to recognize that the Ten Commandments were not given to make us legalists, but to teach us to rightly order our loves.

3. Our Responsibility (Deuteronomy 5:22,32-33)

The Ten Commandments were meant to be handed down through the generations. We are called to do the same with God's Word today. It is crucial that we respond to what we learn from Scripture with wisdom and by applying it to our lives. It is not enough to just hear the Word. We need to be intentional about obeying God's Word and then committed to teaching it to the next generation in our homes and throughout our lives. Consider how the church would be different if we recognized that our homes are the original small groups. It is time to take that responsibility as seriously as God intended and create an intentional plan to teach and develop the generations God has put in our care.

Questions to Guide Your Group's Discussion

- What does this passage say?
- What did this passage mean to its original audience?
- What does this passage tell us about God?
- What does this passage tell us about man?
- What does this passage demand of me?
- How does this passage change the way I relate to people? (How can you use this information this week at work or with friends and neighbors?)
- Property of the property of

^{*}Adapted from Seven Arrows by Matt Rogers pastor of The Church at Cherrydale, Greenville, SC