

Bringing it Home For Sunday October 4, 2026

By Allison de Kanel



Do you like to play games? I do. Games are fun.

Do you think games are fun when we lose? I think so, because we learn how to play better. But I know plenty of people who disagree with me about that.

One thing we all agree on is that games have rules. It doesn't matter whether the game uses a ball, or cards, or just has someone saying "Simon says."

We have rules in other places, too. At school, or at home, or at work, rules help us get along and get things done.

Today we heard a special set of rules. They are called the Ten Commandments. They are the rules God gave Moses for his people after they escaped from Egypt.

The first Commandments tell us that we have one God. We don't get to pick and choose, and as much as we love anything or anyone else, we don't treat them like God. We take a special day out of the week to worship God, and to rest.

The other rules tell us how to get along with other people. It's simple. Don't steal. Don't murder. Don't lie. Don't waste your life wanting what other people have.

We thought about games earlier. You may be wondering about something. Most games have people to make sure we play by the rules. Timekeepers, referees and scorekeepers. Do God's rules have umpires? What do you think? You can talk about this with your folks or your friends, if you like.

Let's pray. Dear God, thank you for giving us rules to help us to honor you and to get along with other people. This is how Jesus lived. Help us to be more and more like him. Amen.

Today's Bible reading: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."