

# The Golden Calf

Exodus 24:12-18; 31:18 - 32:35; 34:1-7, 28-33



## The Story

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to Me on Mount Sinai and I will give you tablets of stone, and the law and commandments which I have written, that you may teach the people."

So Moses went up to Mount Sinai and left Aaron in charge of the people. Moses stayed on the mountain 40 days and 40 nights. God spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai. He gave Moses two tablets of stone. God's wrote His commandments on these stones.

The people grew restless waiting for Moses those 40 days. They came to Aaron and said, "We do not know if Moses will come back. Make us a god to worship."

Aaron said to them, "Bring me your golden earrings." So all the people brought their gold to Aaron and he made a calf of gold. Aaron also built an altar before it. The people ate and danced before the golden calf.

The LORD said to Moses, "Go, get down! The people are worshiping a golden calf."

Moses prayed for the people and asked God to forgive them their sin of worshiping an idol.

Moses went down from the mountain, and the two tablets of the Testimony were in his hand. In his great anger at seeing the people worshiping the golden calf, Moses threw down the tablets and broke them. Then he took the calf which they had made, burned it in the fire, and ground it to powder. He then scattered it on the water and made the children of Israel drink it.

Moses commanded that all those who still worshiped the golden calf be

killed. About three thousand men were killed.

Moses and the people asked God for forgiveness.

The LORD said to Moses, "Come to Me on the mountain with two new tablets and I will again write the commandments. Let no man or animal be near the mountain."

Moses did as the LORD said and he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights and the LORD wrote the Ten Commandments.

When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the Testimony, the skin of his face shone from talking with the LORD. When Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses they were afraid to come near him. Then Moses gave them the tablets containing the LORD's Commandments and told them all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai.

When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face.

***The Children of Israel committed the sin of Idolatry.***

***God commands that He be more important than anything in our lives.***

**Activity One** - Cross out the underlined word and write the correct word from the WORD BOX to make the sentence true.

1. Moses went up Mt. Horeb to receive God's commandments.
2. Joshua was left in charge of the people.
3. Moses stayed on the mountain 25 days and nights.
4. Aaron made a golden snake for them to worship.
5. Moses threw down the two tablets of plastic.
6. Moses face disappeared after he had spoken to the LORD.
7. God gave the 7 Commandments for all people to obey.

WORD BOX

calf

Aaron

10

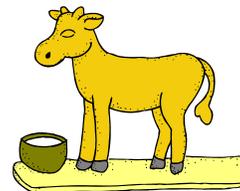
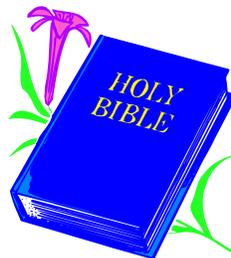
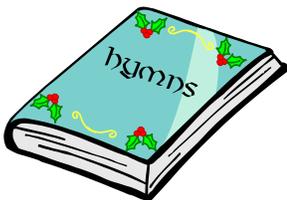
Sinai

stone

40

shone

**Activity Two** - Put an X on those things which people could love more than God. Circle the things that help us worship God.



## Passages

The First Commandment  
You shall have no other gods.  
What does this mean?

We should fear, love and trust in God above all things. (*Sydow Catechism* © 2000)

### Fill in the blanks of the First Commandment.

*The First Commandment*

You shall have \_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_.

*What does this mean?*

We should \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in God  
above \_\_\_\_\_.

Matthew 4:10b - "You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve."

### Hymn - TLH 430 v. 1, 8 Use a highlighter or yellow crayon to highlight each name of Jesus.

What is the world to me with all its vaunted pleasure  
When Thou, and Thou alone, Lord Jesus, art my Treasure!  
Thou only, dearest Lord, my soul's Delight shalt be;  
Thou art my Peace, my Rest — what is the world to me!

What is the world to me! My Jesus is my Treasure,  
My Life, my Health, my Wealth, my Friend, my Love, my Pleasure,  
My Joy, my Crown, my All, my Bliss eternally.  
Once more, then, I declare: what is the world to me!

## Prayer

Dear Jesus,  
today we learn about how quickly God's people turned to other gods. Keep anything from becoming more important to us than Jesus and His Word. Thank You for sending Jesus to be our Savior from sin. Amen.