



Sabbath Keeping Youth

Infuse

Have you read the latest issue of Infuse? If not you're missing out! Infuse is a new magazine for the young generation of Sabbath Keepers.

Plus, there's a forum where you can make new friends and get reconnected with old ones. Join in the daily discussions of a variety of topics.

Check it out by visiting
<http://infuse.cgi.org>

The Parents Corner

Everyone is a winner when they obey God's top 10. Here are a few ideas to help you and your kids memorize and understand the 10 Commandments.

- Make up a song or a rap.
- Read Exodus 20 as a family and then talk about it!
- Write each commandment on a slip of paper and place in a jar. Draw one piece of paper each evening at dinner and talk about it.
- Write each commandment on a large piece of paper and place where everyone can see it. (example: bathroom mirror or refrigerator)
- Make place mats with a commandment on each and incorporate a picture when possible.



Show Down in Egypt

The task of setting the Hebrews free from Pharaoh and his rulers seemed impossible to Moses. After seeing God's power revealed at the burning bush, Moses decided to accept the challenge. Moses knew Pharaoh would be a strong opponent, but Moses also knew he would win big if he stuck with God. When Pharaoh refused to let the Hebrews go, God sent 10 horrible plagues to the land of Egypt.

God's first attention grabber was turning the Nile River to blood. The fish died, the water smelled, and the people had to find other water to drink and bathe in. Pharaoh continued to disobey God's command to let the Hebrews go. So, God sent frogs, gnats, and flies to cover the land, the people, and their houses. Pharaoh still disobeyed God and things got worse. The livestock died, gross sores appeared on the Egyptians, hail fell from the sky, grasshoppers destroyed the farm fields, and darkness covered the land for three days.

After each plague, Moses appeared to Pharaoh and asked him to free the Hebrews or suffer more. The final blow came when God passed through Egypt in the night and all the firstborn sons and daughters of the Egyptians died. Pharaoh could stand it no longer, he ordered Moses and the Hebrews to leave Egypt.

When you stick with God and obey His words you will always be a winner. At times things may get a little tough. Friends may try and convince you to do something you know God wouldn't like. You can be sure Moses had some old Egyptian friends who wanted to see Moses quit obeying God.

But, Moses knew that sticking with God was the secret to winning big! Best of all, because Moses stuck with God, he will be resurrected and in the Kingdom of God!

You too can win big by obeying God and letting Him be the Lord and ruler of your life. If you do, then someday you'll be in God's Kingdom and you can sit down with Moses and ask him, "Just how many frogs were there in Egypt?"

Teaching Obedience

Everyone wants his or her children to be obedient--especially when in a public place. You want them to follow all the rules. So how do you teach your children to be obedient?

- Set boundaries with your children. It is a good idea to use the word boundary with them so they understand what a boundary is.
- Make clear what the rules are and consequences for breaking them. They need to know what is expected of them.
- Hold your children accountable for their behavior.
- Be consistent in your disciplining.
- Be decisive and confident in your disciplining.
- Don't back down to your children.
- Understand the difference between willful defiance and childish irresponsibility.
- Don't give them impossible demands.
- Always follow through with a punishment that was threatened.
- Use teachable moments to reteach expectations and how not to get in trouble again.
- Always reassure your children of your love for them.

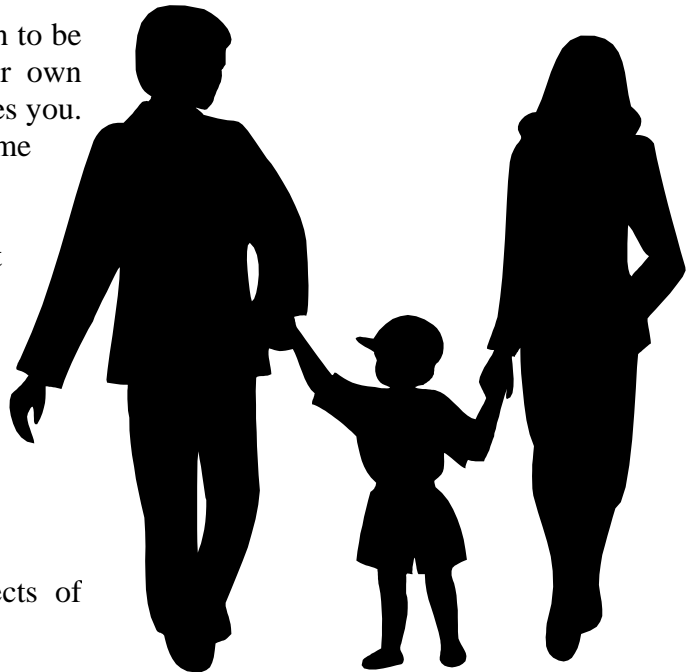
Try to instill in your children an intrinsic motivation to be obedient. They should want to be obedient on their own because they know that is what is right and that it pleases you. Remember it takes time to teach obedience. Take the time to do it because in the end it will be worth it.

The Bible Story on the next page teaches obedience to God. Just like you want your children to be obedient to you, you want them to be obedient to God. One day you want your children standing next to you in God's Kingdom. They will if they learn how to be obedient to God and then actually do it. So how do you teach them to be obedient to God? It is very similar to how you teach them to be obedient to you.

- Teach your children God's laws.
- Explain clearly to your children what God expects of them.

- Explain how they will be punished for not obeying God.
- Explain the wonderful blessings and rewards they will receive for obeying God.
- Make it clear to them the importance of following God.
- Don't make it a burden for your children to obey God.
- Explain why they should obey God.
- Always reassure your children of God's love for them.

Work to instill in your children an intrinsic motivation to be obedient to God. When they are grown, no longer living under your roof and making their own decisions, you want them to choose to follow and obey God. They should obey God because they know that it is what is right and it pleases God, not just because this is what Mom and Dad do.



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Joshua's Final Challenge

Joshua 24:14-28

Obedience means doing what we are told to do. In 1 John 5:2 we are commanded to be obedient to God in everyway. In the Bible we read many stories of people who were obedient to God and those who were not obedient to God. People who were not obedient to God did not receive many of God's blessings. The following story is an example of how we are to be obedient to God.

Joshua was nearing the end of his life. He gathered together the people of Israel. Joshua reminded the people of all God had done for them. God had taken them out of the land of Egypt and out of slavery. He gave them land they did not have to fight for. God also gave them homes that had already been built. Food was also provided by God from vineyards and olive trees the Israelites did not have to plant. God had blessed the Israelites and kept his promise to them.

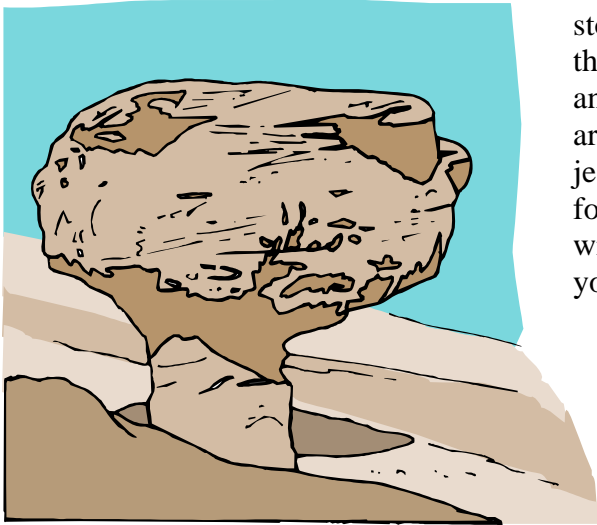
After Joshua had reminded the Israelites of all that God had done for them he said, "Now respect the Lord and serve him fully and sincerely. Throw away the gods that your ancestors worshiped on the other side of the Euphrates River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord. But if you don't want to serve the Lord, you must choose for yourselves today whom you will serve. You may serve the gods that your ancestors worshiped when they lived on the other side of the Euphrates River, or you may serve the gods of the Amorites who lived in this land. As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord."

The Israelites answered Joshua saying, "We will never stop following the Lord to serve other gods!" Joshua asked the Israelites again if they were positive they would serve God and not worship any other foreign gods. Joshua said, "You are not able to serve the Lord, because he is a holy God and a jealous God. If you turn against him and sin, he will not forgive you. If you leave the Lord and serve other gods, he will send you great trouble. The Lord may have been good to you, but if you turn against him, he will destroy you."

The Israelites answered back again saying they would serve God and not worship any other foreign gods. Joshua asked the Israelites three times if they would turn their hearts to God and get rid of the foreign gods. The Israelites were persistent and answered three times that they would follow God. After the third time Joshua set up a large stone as a

witness to their promise. Joshua placed the stone there as a reminder to the Israelites that they chose to serve and obey God rather than turning against Him. Joshua sent the Israelites home. Soon after, Joshua died at the age of one hundred ten years old.

Why did Joshua ask the Israelites three times if they wanted to serve God? Did he not want them to serve God? Joshua was not trying to discourage them. He wanted them to realize it is easier to say you will be obedient to God than to actually do it. God does not want you to just say you will be obedient to Him. He wants you to show Him by not worshiping idols such as money, clothes, toys, etc. It is okay to enjoy a new outfit you bought but you need to remember to put God first in your life. He is the one who provides for you and makes things possible. In the end, if you have been obedient to God he will give you the ultimate reward of eternal life and entering His Kingdom.



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Ten Bad Plagues

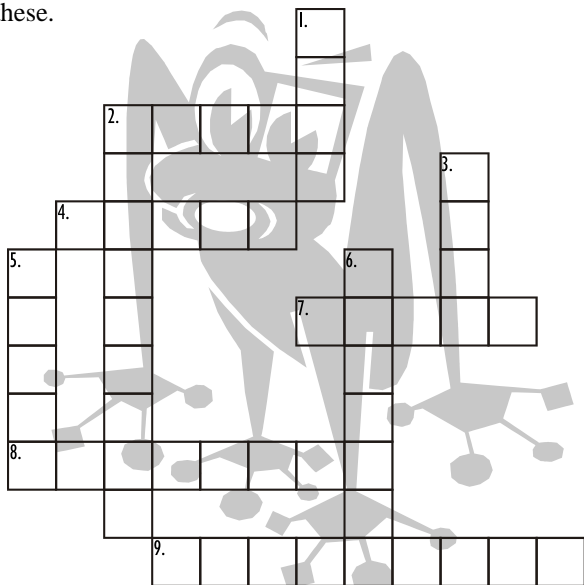
Things got really bad in Egypt when Pharaoh decided to defy God and refuse to let the Hebrews go free. God sent the 10 plagues described in Exodus chapters 7-11. Each of the plagues are in the puzzle below.

Across

2. These swarmed over the land and devoured everything in the fields.
4. Aaron stretched his hand over the waters and these covered the land.
7. These broke out on the bodies of all the men and animals.
8. Egyptians couldn't see anything for 3 days because this covered Egypt.
9. A plague fell on the fields and killed all of these.

Down

1. All the _____ throughout Egypt became gnats.
2. Every _____ child of Egypt died.
3. Moses stretched his staff upwards and this fell from the sky.
5. Moses struck the Nile with his staff and the water turned to _____.
6. These covered the ground so that it could not be seen.



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Fun Frog Facts

If you were an Egyptian living in the days of Moses, more than likely you were not the world's number one frog fan. In Exodus, the Bible tells about frogs crawling into bed with the Egyptians. Yuuuuck! No matter what you think of frogs, you probably don't want one visiting you in the middle of the night. You can read more about the



plague of frogs in chapter eight of Exodus. Now for you frog lovers out there, here is a fun froggy thing you might just "ribbit" over!

In June of 1997 the Press Democrat news service reported the following: "CULIACAN, Mexico - It rained toads in the town of Villa Angel Flores. A small tornado whirled up a cluster of toads from a local body of water Saturday night and dropped them all over the town in the Pacific coast state of Sinaloa, the newspaper El Debate reported Tuesday. Motorists reported the amphibians dropping from the sky around 11 p.m." That gives new meaning to the words splat and windshield.