

MOSES MAKES NEW STONE TABLETS

Old Testament Lesson #208

Previously, Moses had received two tablets of stone from God. “They were inscribed on both front and back. The tablets were the work of God; the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets” (Exodus 32:15-16).

Moses had spent 40 days and nights on Mount Sinai where he received these first stone tablets which contained the Testimony of God inscribed by the finger of God. This corresponded to the Ten Commandments. While Moses was away from the camp of Israel getting these first tablets, the people worked with his brother Aaron to make a golden calf for an idol for them to worship.

When Moses came down the mountain, he saw the golden calf and what Israel had done. Moses’ “anger burned and he threw the tablets out of his hands, breaking them to pieces at the foot of the mountain” (Exodus 32:19). God was very angry with Israel because of this sin, and He was going to punish them for it. Moses prayed on behalf of the people, and God consented to continue to lead the nation to the Promised Land. However, now the original tablets were broken and needed replacing.

God told Moses to create two new tablets of stone to replace the first ones. Moses was to be ready in the morning to go up Mount Sinai. Moses did as God commanded him and “chiseled out two stone tablets like the first ones and went up Mount Sinai early in the morning” (Exodus 34:4).

When he got up on the mountain, an amazing thing happened! “Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, ‘The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation’” (Exodus 34:6-7).

This prompts Moses to pray to God: “ ‘O Lord, if I have found favor in your eyes,’ he said, ‘then let the Lord go with us. Although this is a stiff-necked people, forgive our wickedness and our sin, and take us as your inheritance.’”

The LORD responded to Moses by making a covenant with him. He said He would do wonders never before done or seen in any nation. The people they lived among would see “...how awesome is the work that I the Lord will do for you” (Exodus 34:10b).

We can be sure that God is still full of compassion today and is merciful towards those who turn to Him in faith and seek to obey Him. Let us follow Moses’ example and keep God’s commandments.

POINTS TO CONSIDER:

- At the end of Exodus 33, Moses asks God to show him His glory. God says He will, and He associates His glory with the declaration of His name (Exodus 32:19). What we see here in Exodus 34 is a display of that glory which Moses witnesses, and is taught by God that it is His glory that is revealed in His character.
- God’s name was specified to Moses earlier in the book of Exodus when the angel of the LORD appeared to Moses in the burning bush in Exodus 3. It was here that God revealed his name. Moses wanted to know what they should call Him, and God said, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers – the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob – has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever, the name by which I am to be remembered from generation to generation” (Exodus 3:14-15).
- When Moses goes up the mountain this second time to get the tablets of stone, he again spends 40 days and 40 nights. It tells us this in verse 28: “Moses was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights without eating bread or drinking water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant – the Ten Commandments” (Exodus 34:28).

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ANSWER KEY:

Moses, chisel, two, stones

broken, words

Sinai, morning, down, cloud

name, Lord, gracious, slow, anger

abounding, love, faithfulness, forgiving

punishing, bowed, worshiped

wickedness, covenant, wonders

people, see, awesome, work

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
a	S	L	O	W	A	B	O	U	N	D	I	N	G	F
c	W	Y	O	B	O	W	E	D	O	X	A	G	O	A
e	O	I	C	R	X	O	E	W	Y	C	N	R	W	I
g	R	C	C	O	D	R	N	S	L	Z	G	A	O	T
i	S	H	Z	K	V	K	E	O	O	I	E	C	N	H
k	H	I	X	E	E	E	U	P	V	M	R	I	D	F
m	I	S	N	N	W	D	N	I	E	N	E	O	E	U
o	P	E	T	A	Y	O	N	A	S	O	Z	U	R	L
q	E	L	W	M	I	G	R	E	N	T	P	S	S	N
s	D	Y	O	E	X	Y	Z	D	S	T	O	L	Z	E
u	M	O	R	N	I	N	G	X	S	S	Y	N	E	S
w	P	U	N	I	S	H	I	N	G	M	O	S	E	S

The LORD said to Moses, ‘Chisel out two stone tablets like the first ones, and I will write on them the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke.’”

Words to complete the story are hidden in the word search grid — down, up or diagonal. The location of the first and last letters of each missing word are given. Find the words, circle them, and put them in the blanks.

God told _____ to _____ out _____ new _____ tablets because Moses had
10w 4m 14w 2g 2q 3o 3s 9o 13w

_____ the first ones he had been given. God would rewrite His _____ on them. He told Moses to go
4c 4m 5m 9u

alone up Mount _____ in the _____. God came _____ in a _____ and proclaimed
1i 5q 1u 7u 10a 7g 10e 6m

His _____ — the _____, compassionate and _____, _____ to _____,
4m 4s 2a 5g 12c 12q 1a 4a 11c 11k

_____ in _____ and _____, _____, yet
5a 13a 9g 9m 14a 14w 14a 6q

_____ sin. Moses _____ to the ground and _____. He asked God to
1w 9w 4c 8c 1c 1s

forgive all their _____. The Lord God made a _____ to do _____
1c 10u 3e 10s 13e 13q

for the nation so all _____ of earth could _____. His _____.
8k 13u 8g 6k 5a 11m 6c 6i

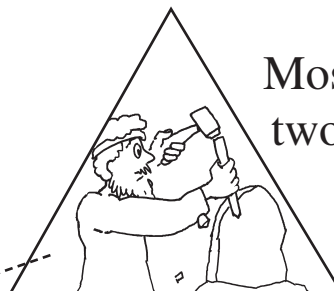
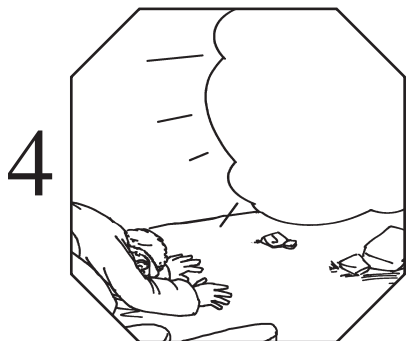


	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
a	S	L	O	W	A	B	O	U	N	D	I	N	G	F
c	W	Y	O	B	O	W	E	D	O	X	A	G	O	A
e	O	I	C	R	X	O	E	W	Y	C	N	R	W	I
g	R	C	C	O	D	R	N	S	L	Z	G	A	O	T
i	S	H	Z	K	V	K	E	O	O	I	E	C	N	H
k	H	I	X	E	E	E	U	P	V	M	R	I	D	F
m	I	S	N	N	W	D	N	I	E	N	E	O	E	U
o	P	E	T	A	Y	O	N	A	S	O	Z	U	R	L
q	E	L	W	M	I	G	R	E	N	T	P	S	S	N
s	D	Y	O	E	X	Y	Z	D	S	T	O	L	Z	E
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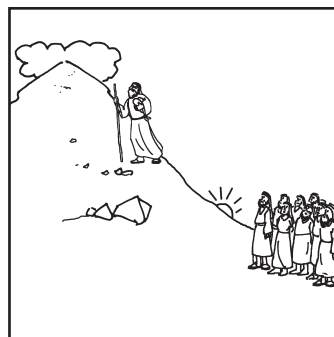
Name _____

“The Lord said to Moses, chisel out two stone tablets like the first ones and I will write on them ...”

Put the pictures in the correct order by matching the shapes.



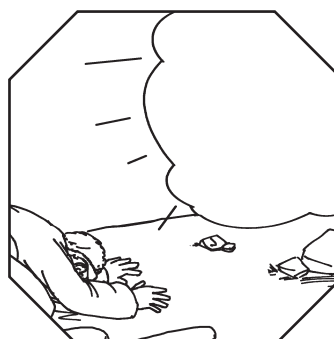
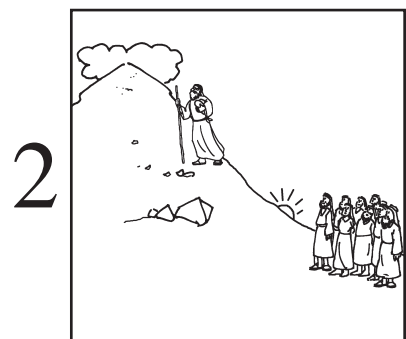
Moses chiseled two new stone tablets.



Moses went up Mount Sinai early in the morning.



The Lord came down in a cloud.



Moses bowed before God and worshiped Him.

Name _____