

Moses

By

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Theme:

This play conveys how Moses was willing to obey God during the time when God was giving him the Ten Commandments.

Biblical Reference:

Exodus 19-20

Approximate Running Time:

15 minutes

Props:

Costumes that reflect Bible times.

Cast of Characters:

Moses: Moses is a man who is willing to do what God tells him to do even if it seems unpopular with the people God has called him to lead.

Joshua: Joshua is a man who is in full support of Moses and the God of the Bible.

Leader 1: A leader amongst the Jews who is arguing the giving of and the need to keep the Ten Commandments.

Leader 2: A Leader amongst the Jews who is arguing the giving of and the need to keep the Ten Commandments.

Leader 3: A Leader amongst the Jews who is arguing the giving of and the need to keep the Ten Commandments.

Leader 4: A Leader amongst the Jews who is arguing the giving of and the need to keep the Ten Commandments.

Notes: The leaders can be either male or female.

Scene I

[The four Leaders come to Moses and Joshua to discuss the need to keep the Ten Commandments.]

Leader 1: Moses, Joshua, we are four leaders who speak for the Jewish people. The people have asked us to come to you so that we could talk about some important business. Do you have some time to meet with us?

Moses: Yes, this would be a good time for us to meet with you.

Joshua: What is this important business that's on your mind?

Leader 2: There have been many changes in our lives recently. We have seen God do some incredible things. But we've been talking to a whole bunch of people about these Ten Commandments that you brought down from Mount Sinai and we're not sure if keeping them is a great idea.

Moses: What?

Leader 3: Yeah, I mean they might have been great for you and Joshua here to keep, you're great men of God, but do you really think that every day people have to obey them?

Joshua: Well, yes, I do think that everyone has to obey them.

Moses: Are you sure there are others in our camp who believe the way you believe?

Leader 4: They were great for about a week or two, but to be honest with you, I really can't find anyone who really wants to keep the Ten Commandments any longer than that.

Joshua: You've asked others what they think?

Leader: Actually, they've just come to me to tell me what they think.

Moses: I see. So, tell me what it is that you remember from my bringing the Ten Commandments down from the mount of God.

Leader 1: That's easy. Let's see, it just happened about 30 days ago, right?

Leader 2: No, I thought it was more like a month ago.

Leader 3: You don't know what you're talking about. It was more like two fortnights ago, wasn't it?

Leader 4: No, it was right after my birthday and that's easy for me to remember because my birthday happens every year, at least I think it happens each year, and I think my birthday was just last month, no maybe it was right before my birthday and my birthday is next month. Ah, never mind, I can't remember.

Joshua: That doesn't make any sense.

Leader 3: Yeah, what does your birthday have to do with any of this?

Leader 1: It doesn't matter when it was; let's just say that it was a month ago, okay.

Leader 2: Yeah, it was a month ago, okay.

Leader 3: So, anyway, like he was saying, it was right after you brought us out of Egypt...

Moses: The Lord led us out of Egypt. It wasn't me.

Leader 3: Yeah, whatever, you - the Lord - it's all the same to us. Like I was saying, it was right after the Lord led us out of Egypt. We walked right up to where the Rocky Mountains started and we set up camp.

Leader 4: No, I thought it was the Grand Titan Mountains.

Leader 1: No, it was the Smoky Mountains.

Leader 2: You're both wrong. It was Mount Sinai. I remember because it was the same place that my mother took me when I was a itty bitty little baby when our family went to Mt. Sinai on vacation.

Leader 1: Are you sure?

Leader 2: Yeah, I'm sure. I even got the pictures to prove it. I'll show them to you some time.

Leader 3: Yeah, and I remember that T-shirt you have that says, "I was at Mount Sinai and all I got was this lousy T-shirt."

Leader 4: Hey, I saw that T-shirt. It don't look too good on you.

Leader 2: What do you mean, that's my favorite T-shirt.

Leader 4: It might be your favorite t-shirt, but I still don't think it looks too good on you.

Leader 2: How would you know anyway?

Moses: Will you two cut it out?

Joshua: Let's get back to the story.

Leader 1: So anyway, as I was saying before I was rudely interrupted by my friend here, we get to this mountain we were going to and you go up on the mountain to "meet with God" and all the other stuff you did while the rest of us stayed down here to set up the tents.

Leader 2: And do the cooking.

Leader 3: And the cleaning.

Leader 4: And take care of the camels.

Leader 1: Now that's a really messy job. There's nothing but feeding one end and cleaning up after the other end. [*To Leader 2.*] Did you ever get that job?

Leader 2: Yeah, I used to get that job all the time. It is a messy job. I can't think that anyone would want that job if they got to choose which job they wanted..

Moses: You've gotten off track again.

Leader 3: Oh, yeah, so you and the Lord have this big meeting in the sky and then you come down and tell us what we're supposed to do - or else.

Leader 4: Like you're some sort of big hot shot or something.

Leader 1: Like you're expecting us to just listen to what you have to say and do what you tell us.

Leader 2: And we're all sick of it and we're not going to put up with it anymore.

Joshua: Are you done yet?

Leader 1: No, I'm not done yet. Those commandments that you have on those stone tablets.

Moses: Yes.

Leader 1: Do you really expect us to keep them or are they just a general guideline for healthy living?

Moses: As I have already told you, God has commanded that we keep them exactly as He has given them to us. They are more than a general guideline for healthy living; they are God's law for us to keep.

Leader 2: Ah, do we have to obey them exactly as God gave them to you?

Joshua: Yes, exactly.

Leader 3: But that's not so easy. I mean, I don't think it's so easy, do you think it's so easy?

Leader 4: It's not very easy for me.

Leader 2: But then again, you're not very smart.

Joshua: Don't go there.

Leader 1: Me either. I don't think that anyone thinks it's very easy for them to keep God's commandments.

Joshua: It's not easy to keep God's laws but He's God and we have to do what he commands us to do.

Moses: There's no doubt about it.

Leader 3: So, what were those rules again?

Moses: You mean the Ten Commandments?

Leader 4: Yeah, those ten rules.

Joshua: The ten rules you were complaining about?

Leader 4: I don't have a long attention span. I was born that way.

Moses: Okay, number one. You shouldn't have any other gods before the Lord God Almighty.

Leader 1: No other gods before me?

Joshua: It means that God should be first in your life.

Leader 3: Oh, I get it.

Moses: Number two. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on earth below and worship the idol.

Leader 2: So that golden calf that we made was a bad idea?

Joshua: Yeah, it was a bad idea.

Leader 4: But we did it to honor the god of Mount Sinai.

Moses: But you don't honor someone by doing something they've commanded you not to do.

Leader 1: Oh yeah.

Moses: Number three. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Leader 2: That just means that we don't say bad things while using God's name, right.

Joshua: Right.

Leader 3: That's an easy one.

Leader 4: Yeah, that one we can keep.

Moses: Number four. Keep the Sabbath holy.

Leader 1: Hey, that's an easy one too! Uh, what's a Sabbath?

Leader 2: It's when you get all of your work done and you decide it's time to take a break - that's a Sabbath.

Leader 3: No it's not. It's when you go out for dinner with your family and eat too much and have to loosen your belt and then just sit around and do nothing until you digest enough of you dinner so that you can get up and play again.

Leader 4: No, it's the day we sit on the couch and watch football!

Leader 1: Football? What's football?

Leader 2: It's a game that won't be invented yet for hundreds of years that's played with a pigskin where the players try to score touchdowns and field goals or safeties.

Leader 1: Okay, then what's a couch?

Leader 2: It's a real comfortable place to sit while you're watching football and eating your nachos and drinking your coca cola.

Leader 1: Coca what?

Leader 2: Never mind. You'll find out someday.

Joshua: You've got it all wrong. The Sabbath is a day we set aside to worship and honor the Lord. He rested after he created the world and we're to take time to rest from our everyday lives and remember how the Lord has blessed us.

Moses: You can go out to dinner or you could watch football - whatever that is - or you could just spend a day relaxing. As long as you take some time to honor God and REST.

Leader 1: We can do that.

Joshua: Those are most of the tough ones. The rest are pretty simple. Number five is to honor your father and mother.

Moses: That means to show them respect, to listen to what they have to say and to obey their wishes.

Leader 2: [*Like a little kid.*] Aw, do we have to?

Joshua: [*Like a father.*] Yes, you have to.

Moses: Number six is do not murder. Do you really need an explanation for that one?

Leader 3: Nah, that one isn't too hard to understand.

Joshua: Finally. Number seven is you shall not commit adultery.

Leader 4: Okay, we got that one too.

Moses: Number seven is you shall not steal.

Leader 1: Are we allowed to borrow for a long time?

Leader 2: Yeah, because I have a friend who borrowed my watch and he never gave it back to me.

Leader 3: Didn't you ask him to give it back to you?

Leader 2: Yeah, but he said that he wasn't done with it yet. How long can you borrow something without giving it back for it to count as stealing?

Joshua: That all depends on whether or not the owner wants it back. If the owner wants it back and you're not willing to give it back to them, then it's like you're stealing it from them.

Leader 2: So, that means I can ask him to give me my watch back and he should give it to me?

Joshua: That's what I'm saying.

Leader 2: Yes! Now I won't be late for dinner.

Moses: Number eight is another tough one. You're not allowed to tell lies.

Leader 1: Now I'm a little fuzzy about this lie thing. If I'm telling a little white lie that really doesn't do anyone any harm, then am I sinning against God?

Leader 4: Yeah, like if your friend asks you if like the new robe they just got and you really don't but you tell them that you do just to make them feel good - is that a lie?

Leader 3: Or if your friend asks you if you like the dinner you made and you couldn't stand to eat another bite. Do you tell them that you didn't like it or lie to them and tell them that you did like it?

Leader 2: Or if your friend gets a really cool new CD and asks you if you like it, do you tell him that you don't or lie to him and tell him you do and listen to it over and over and over again until you do like it or you burst your ear drums.

Leader 1: I'm not even going to ask you what a CD is.

Joshua: Good.

Moses: Those are all lies and this commandment tells us that we shouldn't lie. Number ten is a tough one. It says that you shall not covet your neighbor's house, wife, servants, donkeys, or any of his other stuff - like his couch, his football, or his CD.

Leader 4: But my neighbor's got some really nice stuff.

Leader 3: Yeah, and it's not fair that he's got all the really nice stuff and we don't have any kind of stuff that's as nice as the stuff that he has.

Joshua: It doesn't matter. God wants us to be satisfied with the stuff we have. He doesn't want us to keep looking around to see who has more stuff than we have. We need to be happy with the stuff that God's given us.

Moses: So, that's the list. Do you still have any problems with the list?

Leader 1: Well...

Joshua: If you obey God's commandments He promises that He will bless us and God's blessing is better than anything that you will get while you're breaking his commandments.

Leader 1: So, what do you guys think? Are we going to listen to our fellow men or listen to God?

Leader 4: As for me and my house I shall serve the Lord.

Leader 3: Me too.

Leader 2: You've convinced me. You can count me in too.

Leader 3: So, let's go tell the people that we should get rid of the golden calf.

[They begin to Exit.]

Leader 2: Great. After that we can listen to the new Newsboys CD.

Leader 1: Yeah, I love that CD.

- CURTAIN -



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