Religious Education

Year: 5   Teacher: Mr McPhail Week Beginning: 22nd June 2020

One of the earliest examples of rules is the 10 commandments, given to Moses by God. Moses and his people (the Israelites) had been slaves for hundreds of years and had recently been freed and allowed to leave Egypt. For the first time in living memory, they could do what they choose rather than being commanded by their “masters”. Moses was worried that his people would make bad choices without structure to help them. He prayed and God answered his prayers with the 10 commandments: Laws for his people to follow to lead good lives. If you look at the 10 commandments, some of them have been adopted in modern legal systems.

God spoke, and these were his words:

*“I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt, where you were slaves.”*

1. *Worship no god but me. Do not make for yourselves images of anything in heaven or on earth or in the water under the earth. Do not bow down to any idol or worship it, because I am the Lord your God.*
2. *Do not use my name for evil purposes.*
3. *Observe the Sabbath and keep it holy. You have six days in which to do your work, but the seventh day is a day of rest dedicated to me. On that day no one is to work – neither you, your children, your slaves, your animals, nor the foreigners who live in your country. In six days I, the Lord, made the earth, the sky, the seas, and everything in them, but on the seventh day I rested. That is why I, the Lord, blessed the Sabbath and made it holy.*
4. *Respect your father and your mother, so that you may live a long time in the land that I am giving you.*
5. *Do not kill.*
6. *Do not be unfaithful.*
7. *Do not steal.*
8. *Do not lie against your neighbour.*
9. *Do not be greedy and want what other people own.*
10. *Do not take another’s husband or wife.*

Based on Exodus 20 1-17

Rules are used to keep us safe and to help people act responsibly, like our Class Charters in school – they help us to stay safe and to respect one another. Design your own charter that you can use at home to help everyone to stay safe and respect one another. You may want to ask everyone you live with to chip in ideas!