



# God's Famous "Top Ten" List

## Quiz yourself on the Ten Commandments

DAVID O'BRIEN

This quiz can help you, your students, and your students' families review what you know about our Catholic faith. Check your answers against the answer key on the last page of this file.

**1** The \_\_\_\_\_ are a basic foundation for Catholic morality.

- a) Ten Commandments
- b) works of mercy
- c) gifts of the Holy Spirit
- d) ecumenical councils

**2** Another name for the Ten Commandments is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) the Ark of the Covenant
- b) the Eucharist
- c) God's Top Ten list
- d) the Decalogue

**3** According to the First Commandment, how many gods should Catholics worship?

- a) 10
- b) ask your fortune teller
- c) one
- d) depends of what you believe

**4** Speaking negatively or gossiping about someone so as to damage their reputation breaks the \_\_\_\_\_ commandment.

- a) First
- b) Eighth
- c) Tenth
- d) Seventh

**5** St. Augustine said: "A \_\_\_\_\_ consists in speaking a falsehood with the intention of deceiving."

- a) crime
- b) public relations job
- c) misspoken statement
- d) lie

**6** Disobeying the Ten Commandments is a mortal sin. True | False

**7** When King David took Bathsheba from her husband, Uriah, and had him killed, what was the first commandment David broke? (2 Samuel 11)

- a) don't steal
- b) don't commit adultery
- c) don't kill
- d) don't covet your neighbor's wife

**8** The Ten Commandments are found in the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) prayers of the Mass
- b) New Testament
- c) Old Testament
- d) Code of Canon Law

**9** The Israelites carried the tablets with the Ten Commandments inside \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) the Ark of the Covenant
- b) the shofar
- c) the temple
- d) the holy backpack

**10** Which commandment forbids abortion?

- a) Third
- b) Fifth
- c) Second
- d) Tenth

**11** All the commandments only address our relationship to God. True | False

**12** The Ten Commandments are found in which two books of the Bible?

- a) Exodus, Deuteronomy
- b) Matthew, Mark
- c) 1 and 2 Samuel
- d) Psalms, Proverbs



**13** When a lawyer tried to trick Jesus into picking the most important of the 613 Jewish laws, Jesus taught the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) Prodigal Son parable b) Golden Rule c) Beatitudes d) Greatest Commandment

**14** "I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of \_\_\_\_\_" (Exodus 20:2).

- a) make-believe b) Israel c) Canaan d) Egypt

**15** Wanting something that a friend has is not a sin unless you steal it. True | False

**16** Which is NOT explicitly one of the Ten Commandments?

- a) honor your teacher b) honor your mother and father c) don't bear false witness d) don't kill

**17** Those who oppose capital punishment say it breaks the \_\_\_\_\_ commandment.

- a) First b) Fifth c) Second d) Seventh

**18** If you kill someone, it is only morally acceptable if it was \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) in self-defense b) in a war c) a bad person d) with a gun

**19** When Catholics marry, they promise to be open to having children, to be faithful to one another until death, and to \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) do their dirty laundry b) be fun c) only have one marriage partner d) be easy to live with

**20** Jesus taught that the use of violence against one's enemies was acceptable. True | False

## Kids' quiz

This quiz can help your students and your students' families review our Catholic faith. Check answers against the answer key on the next page.

### 10 Questions on the 10 Commandments

**1** Who wrote the 10 Commandments?

- a) Mary b) God c) Abraham d) Adam and Eve

**2** God gave the 10 Commandments to \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) Moses b) the pope c) King David d) St. Cecilia

**3** To take something that isn't yours is called "\_\_\_\_\_."

- a) killing b) coveting c) adultery d) stealing

**4** Moses was on Mt. Everest when God gave him the 10 Commandments.

True | False

**5** God gave Moses the 10 Commandments written on \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) the first page of the Bible b) an iPad c) two stone tablets d) paper

**6** The First Commandment says \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) don't steal b) don't kill c) only worship the one true God d) keep holy the sabbath

**7** Going to \_\_\_\_\_ on Sunday is part of the Third Commandment.

- a) sleep b) Mass c) Dunkin Donuts d) a football game

**8** When you disrespect or disobey your father or \_\_\_\_\_, you are breaking the Fourth Commandment.

- a) mother b) little sister c) neighbor d) dog

**9** \_\_\_\_\_ is when you want something that someone else has.

- a) Stealing b) Murder c) Idolatry d) Coveting

**10** You can kill someone in your heart. True | False



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## ANSWERS to Catholic IQ from page 28

- 1. a)** Church catechisms have used the Ten Commandments to teach morality (CCC, 2065).
- 2. d)** In Greek, *decalogue* means the “ten words.” For Jews and Christians, it means “a basic set of authoritative rules that are binding to believers” (see CCC, 2068).
- 3. c)** *I am the Lord thy God; thou shalt not have strange gods before me* (CCC, 2110). All Christians believe in one God but understand that one God to be a Trinity — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- 4. b)** *Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.* A person has a right to their good name and reputation (see CCC, 2479).
- 5. d)** “Lying is the most direct offense against the truth. To lie is to speak or act against the truth in order to lead someone into error. The Lord denounces lying as the work of the devil” (CCC, 2483).
- 6. True.** As with all mortal sins, however, a person must knowingly and willfully commit this sin.
- 7. d)** To covet means to desire what is not yours. David desired Bathsheba, which led him to steal Uriah’s wife, commit adultery with her, lie about it, and eventually kill Uriah to try to cover up the sin.
- 8. c)** The Old Testament tells the story of the Jewish people from the creation of the world until the years before the birth of Christ.
- 9. a)** For the Israelites, the Ark of the Covenant carried the evidence that God was with them. Besides the tablets, the Ark contained manna from the desert and Aaron’s staff (see Hebrews 9:4; cf. CCC, 2058).
- 10. b)** *Thou shalt not kill.* Since an unborn baby is a living human being, to

abort him/her is murder (see CCC, 2271).

- 11. False.** The first three refer to God, and the last seven speak to relationships with others.
- 12. a)** The Ten Commandments gave the Israelites concrete guidelines on how to live as God’s chosen people.
- 13. d)** Jesus said: “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. . . . You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37, 39).
- 14. d)** God worked miracles, including sending 10 plagues to convince the Egyptian Pharaoh to release the Israelite people from slavery after 400 years.
- 15. False.** The last commandment says: *You shall not covet your neighbor’s goods.* That means that we must control our thoughts so that we don’t desire what is not ours.
- 16. a)** Even though not explicitly stated, the Fourth Commandment includes the obligation “to honor and respect all those whom God, for our good, has vested with his authority” (CCC, 2197), including teachers.
- 17. b)** The Church teaches that if society cannot protect itself from a killer without the death penalty, it is allowed. However, necessary executions “are very rare, if not practically nonexistent” (CCC, 2267) because of options such as life in prison.
- 18. a)** “Someone who defends his life is not guilty of murder even if he is forced to deal his aggressor a lethal blow” (CCC, 2264).
- 19. c)** *Thou shalt not commit adultery* (the Sixth Commandment) teaches that married people can only share marital intimacy with their spouse (see CCC, 2380-2381).
- 20. False.** Jesus teaches against “anger, hatred, and vengeance.” Christ asks his

disciples to turn the other cheek and to love their enemies. He did not defend himself when he was arrested and told Peter to put down his sword (see CCC, 2262).

### kids’ quiz

- 1. b)** God wrote the 10 Commandments with his finger (see Exodus 31:18).
- 2. a)** Moses served as the mediator between God and the Israelites (see Exodus 19:16-25).
- 3. d)** The Seventh Commandment says: “*Thou shalt not steal.*” God knows it will hurt others if we take their things.
- 4. False.** Moses was on Mount Sinai, the place where Moses first met God in the burning bush (see Exodus 3).
- 5. c)** Moses took the stone tablets to the Israelites so they could learn and obey God’s laws.
- 6. c)** Like Jews and Muslims, Catholics believe in only one God. The commandment says: *I am the Lord thy God; thou shalt not have strange gods before me.*
- 7. b)** God said, “*Keep holy the Lord’s Day (the Sabbath)*” because we need time to rest, to be with our families, and to worship and thank God for how great he is.
- 8. a)** *Honor your father and mother.* Even Jesus obeyed this commandment with Mary and Joseph (see Luke 2:51).
- 9. d)** The last two commandments forbid coveting. So we not only have to avoid bad actions such as stealing, but we need to protect our hearts and minds against desiring what others have. These desires, called envy, can make us miserable and lead us to bad actions.
- 10. True.** If we hate people or want bad things to happen to them, we are, in a sense, harming them, and maybe even ourselves. Talk to a trusted adult about this subject.