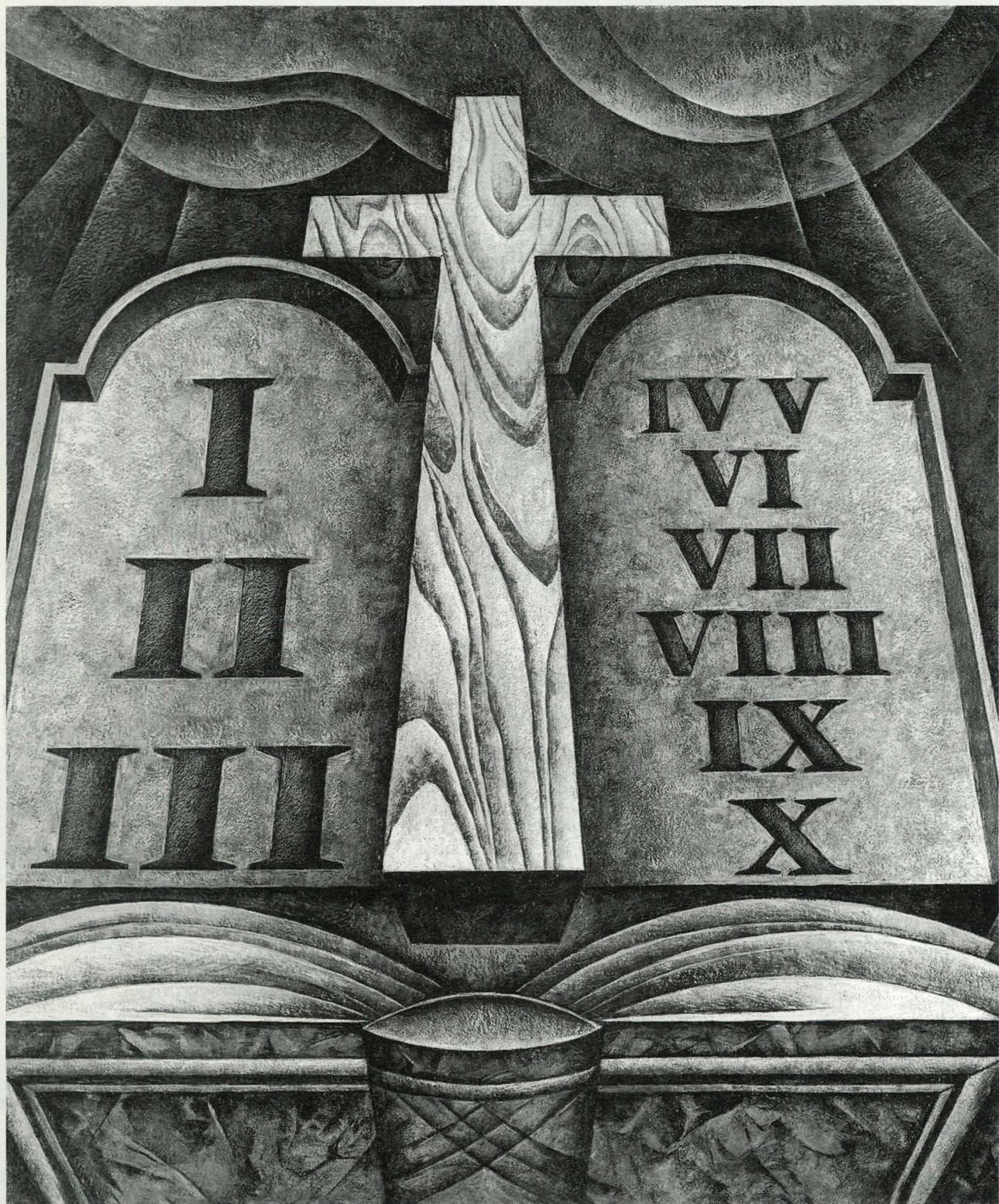
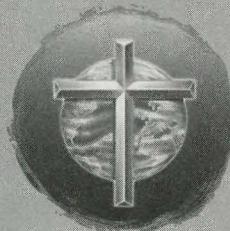


Study Guide





LifeLight

LifeLight Expands

Available NOW!

LifeLight Original Studies

(available until they are updated to new format; see schedule below)

Isaiah, Pt. 1

2 Corinthians

Daniel

Isaiah, Pt. 2

Luke, Pt. 1

Life of David

Ephesians/1 & 2 Thessalonians

Luke, Pt. 2

Selected Psalms

1 Corinthians

Minor Prophets

1 John

* The Bible: An Overview

Matthew, Pt. 1

Matthew, Pt. 2

* Galatians/Phil/Col

Genesis, Pt. 1

Genesis, Pt. 2

Romans, Pt. 1

Romans, Pt. 2

John, Pt. 1

John, Pt. 2

* 1 & 2 Peter

Exodus, Pt. 1

Exodus, Pt. 2

* James/Jude

Acts, Pt. 1

Acts, Pt. 2

* Proverbs

Hebrews

* Revelation

LifeLight New Format

(* all-new LifeLight material)

* Prophecy

* Bible Feasts

* Miracles

* Law & Gospel

LifeLight Foundations

(* all-new LifeLight material)

2006 RELEASES

- LifeLight—Isaiah, Pt. 1
- LifeLight—Isaiah, Pt. 2
- * LifeLight—Joshua
- * LifeLight Foundations—Baptism

January

April

July

October

2009 RELEASES

- LifeLight—Minor Prophets
- LifeLight—Daniel
- * LifeLight—Mark
- * LifeLight Foundations—Ministry

January

April

July

October

2007 RELEASES

- LifeLight—1 Corinthians
- LifeLight—2 Corinthians
- * LifeLight—Judges
- * LifeLight Foundations—Between the Testaments

January

April

July

October

2010 RELEASES

- LifeLight—Life of David
- LifeLight—Selected Psalms
- * LifeLight—Ecclesiastes/Song of Songs
- * LifeLight Foundations—Creation/New Creation

January

April

July

October

2008 RELEASES

- LifeLight—Luke, Pt. 1
- LifeLight—Luke, Pt. 2
- * LifeLight—Ruth/Esther
- * LifeLight Foundations—Triune God

January

April

July

October

Other Future Studies:

- 1, 2 & 3 John
- Job
- Wilderness Wanderings (Lev., Num. & Deut.)
- Ezra, Nehemiah

This helpful resource is also available:
Intro Kit

Hear the Stern Message of the Law

Distribute before session 1 for use in session 1.

Use enrichment magazine pp. 2–5.

Exodus 19–20; Matthew 5

Resources for Worship

Use these resources for your daily study at home and at the week's assembly.

Hymn

The Law of God is good and wise
And sets His will before our eyes,
Shows us the way of righteousness,
And dooms to death when we transgress.

To Jesus we for refuge flee,
Who from the curse has set us free,
And humbly worship at His throne,
Saved by His grace through faith alone.

Matthias Loy, 1828–1915

Prayer

Holy Lord, fill us with awe and reverence for Your Word. Shake and break down our stony hearts until our lives rest upon Christ and His righteousness alone. Amen.

Digging Deep

My Personal Study for Week 1

Day 1 • Read Exodus 19

Throughout history, Church leaders such as the apostle Paul, Augustine, Luther, Calvin, C. F. W. Walther, and Walter A. Maier have emphasized the importance of proclaiming God's Law and Gospel. Unfortunately, these foundational teachings of God's Word are no longer well understood.

1. Briefly write down common definitions or uses for the term *Law* and the term *Gospel* in popular culture today.

2. In what setting and circumstance did God give the Law? See Exodus 19:1–2. If you are not familiar with the history of the Exodus, read Exodus 6:1–8.

3. Read Exodus 19:3–8. What role did these words have in defining the people of Israel?

4. a. What did God ask the people to do in order to receive His Law? See Exodus 19:10–15.

b. Why do you think God required these preparations?

5. How might this example affect the way you approach and use God's Word?

6. How does Exodus 19:16–24 describe God's presence?

7. How might God's presence inspire both fear and trust in the Israelites and in you? See also John 1:14–18.

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Day 2 • Read Exodus 20:1–17

In Exodus 20:3–17, the Lord gives what Deuteronomy 4:13 calls the “Ten Commandments.” This brief list summarizes the *moral Law*, which tells Israel *and all people* their duty toward God and other people. Not all Jewish rabbis or Christian teachers agree about how to number the list. But all do agree that these commandments are the very heart of God’s Law.

8. Challenge question. Moses received the Law at Sinai c. 1446 BC. But when did God begin to make known His will through the Law?

Romans 1:18–20

Romans 2:14–15

9. The Ten Commandments are not written specifically in the form of commands! Three times Moses refers to them as the “Ten Words” (Exodus 34:28; Deuteronomy 4:13; 10:4), though the phrase is usually translated in English as “Ten Commandments.” Although these words certainly function as commands, we need to hear them also the way the Israelites did in the beginning—as descriptions of who God’s people are and the way they therefore will live.

a. Read Exodus 20:3–11. Do these words accurately describe your life—including your inner thoughts? Why or why not?

b. Read Exodus 20:12–17. Do these words accurately describe your life? Why or why not?

10. When God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses, He Himself carved them on tablets of stone to illustrate their importance and permanence. The Israelites “broke” them immediately by turning from God to an idol (Exodus 32:14–20). How “easy” is it for us to break the Law? (How hard is it for us to keep it?)

Psalm 14:3

Ecclesiastes 7:20

James 2:10–11

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Day 3 • Read Matthew 5:17–26

11. While God wrote His commandments directly for the people of Israel, how do we know that they apply to *all people of all time*?

Matthew 5:19

Romans 3:19

12. What is the penalty (punishment) for breaking God’s commands?

Genesis 2:15–17

Romans 6:23

There are three kinds of laws in the Old Testament: the *moral law* (the Ten Commandments), which tells all people their duty toward God and other people; the *ceremonial law*, which regulated the religious practices in the Old Testament; and the *political law*, which was the state law of the Israelites. Only the moral law was written into the human heart.

13. **Challenge question.** Read Matthew 5:17. “The Law or the Prophets” was a common way to designate

Hear the Comforting Message of the Gospel

Distribute before session 2 for use in session 2.
Use enrichment magazine pp. 6–9.

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**Mark 14–16; Romans 3:21–31;
2 Corinthians 5:14–21**

Resources for Worship

Use these resources for your daily study at home and at the week's assembly.

Hymn

The Gospel shows the Father's grace,
Who sent His Son to save our race,
Proclaims how Jesus lived and died
That man might thus be justified.

It sets the Lamb before our eyes,
Who made atoning sacrifice,
And calls the souls with guilt opprest
To come and find eternal rest.

It brings the Savior's righteousness
Our souls to robe in royal dress;
From all our guilt it brings release
And gives the troubled conscience peace.

Matthias Loy, 1828–1915

Prayer

Lord Jesus, cover my guilt and sin by wrapping me in the robe of Your righteousness. Exchange Your faithfulness for my doubt. Trade Your mighty power for my weakness. Then will I proclaim how You lived and then died so that I might be justified. Then I will live and serve in peace. Amen.

Digging Deep My Personal Study for Week 2

Day 1 • Read Mark 14

The first study began by reflecting on the use of the terms *Law* and *Gospel* in popular culture. This study begins by considering the origin of the term *Gospel* in Greek culture. The Greek word we translate *Gospel* is *euaggelion* [yoo-ang-GHEL-ee-on], which literally means "good news" or a "good message." The imagery is that of a messenger who runs to announce a victory in battle.

1. Today we speak of the *four* Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) or "Mark's Gospel" or "Matthew's Gospel." But the early Christians did not speak this way. In the ancient manuscripts, each of these books is known as "*The Gospel according to [writer's name]*." What do these ancient titles illustrate about the character of the Gospel?

2. In essence the Gospel is a message. What is the "Good News" about? (See Mark 1:1.)

3. Mark 14 (along with its parallels in Matthew 26, Luke 22, and John 12) tells a part of the Gospel that is crucial for understanding the whole Gospel and its meaning for your life. See Mark 14:1, 12.

a. How does this part of the story begin?

b. What did these two feasts commemorate?

Exodus 12:13, 23, 27

Exodus 12:15–20

c. What meaning do these two festivals have for Christians today?

1 Corinthians 5:6–8, especially v. 7

Hebrews 7:27

4. How does Jesus explain the meaning of His upcoming "Passion"—His suffering and death?

Mark 10:45

Mark 14:22–25

Matthew 26:28

5. Read Mark 14:35–36. What does the lack of response by the heavenly Father say about the meaning of Jesus' Passion?

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Day 2 • Read Mark 15:1–39

6. What issues confront the Jewish and Roman leaders in 15:1–15?

7. What amazed Pilate?

8. a. Make a list of key verbs used to describe the actions of the soldiers in Mark 15:16–24. Reflect on Jesus' experience.

b. How does Jesus sum up His experience in verse 34?

9. **Challenge question.** In 15:25–32 Mark uses the mocking words of the passing crowds, the chief priests, and the teachers of the Law to help us understand the meaning of these brutal events. How do their insults draw attention to what Jesus is actually doing on the cross?