The Ten Commandments

Keep a running record this week of how and when you observe these Commandments by what you did—or didn't do.

1. I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me.

Think of ways to make God first in your life. Make time for God.

2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

Be mindful of how you use God's Holy name and the name of Jesus. God is truth. Speak only what is true, and when you speak the truth, do it with love.

3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.

Get your homework done on Saturday, and spend Sunday going to Church and relaxing with family and friends.

4. Honor your father and mother.

Think of ways to show your mom and dad that you care for them and appreciate all they do for you.

5. You shall not kill.

Words kill. Think of ways to be life-giving with what you say, always seeking to build others up, never to tear them down, exclude them, or make fun of them.

6. You shall not commit adultery.

God has prepared someone special for you someday. Practice chastity—the responsible use of your sexuality. Have age-appropriate friendships, and never watch inappropriate material on TV or on the Internet.

7. You shall not steal.

Do your own school work! Do not violate copyright by stealing songs, videos, or other materials from the Internet. If it's not yours, don't take it without paying for it.

8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Speak well of others. As the saying goes, "If you don't have something nice to say, don't say anything at all!" Gossip and scandal should have no place in our lives.

9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.

Be happy with the friendships you have, and give praise to God for them. Do not envy the relationships that others have.

10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

God has given you great gifts to be used for your good and the good of others. Do not be angry with others that they have what you do not have.