



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 7: God's Commands  
Suggested Week of Use: January 12, 2025  
Core Passage: Exodus 20:1-17

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### News Story Summary

In 2024, the prescription drug industry spent more than \$4 billion on television commercials. By law, these commercials are required to warn consumers of potential side effects and risks. These disclaimers often take up more than half of an advertisement's run time. In order to keep the viewer's attention, most commercials show scenes of happy people and bright colors while a voice actor reads the warnings. The information also might be sped up to ensure everything is covered legally in the allotted time.

However, change is coming. New laws went into effect in November 2024 that require drugmakers to be more clear and more direct when explaining their medications' risks and side effects. The Food and Drug Administration has instructed drugmakers to use simple, consumer-friendly language when describing their drugs and to avoid medical jargon, distracting visuals, or audio effects.

For more information on this story, search "New FDA rules for TV drug ads."

### Engage

To supplement the Engage activities, play the video "Happy Fun Ball" (available on YouTube). Allow adults to share how they feel about products having so many warnings. Acknowledge that many companies—especially drug companies—spend a lot of time explaining the dangers or side effects of their products. Share a summary of the news story about the Food and Drug Administration's stricter rules on drug advertisements. Ask: *Why might drug companies want to downplay potential side effects of their drugs? How would clearer warnings affect your level of trust in drug manufacturers?*

Replace the Transition paragraph with the following: *Unlike modern pharmaceutical companies, God was crystal clear when giving warnings and instructions to His people. The Ten Commandments may not be easy to obey, but they are definitely easy to understand. By setting such clear expectations, God reveals His character and His standard for holy living.*

### Challenge

To supplement the Challenge activity, refer adults back to the information about prescription drug advertisements. Invite them to come up with a list of "side effects" for refusing to obey God's commandments. Discuss the benefits of following God's commands. Close in prayer.