



The Greatest Commandment

Moses lived more than one thousand years before Jesus was born. After he came down from the mountain the people tried to walk with God and live holy lives by obeying his commandments. Some days they did a great job, and other days they gave in to temptation and sin.

As the years passed, more and more of the people turned their backs on God and his law. They stopped trying to live holy lives, became confused about the best way to live, and made excuses for their behavior.

But God still loved his people. So when the time was right, he sent his only son, Jesus, to save people from their sin and confusion and show them the best way to live.

One day Jesus was in the synagogue listening and teaching, when someone asked him a question: “Teacher, which is the greatest of the commandments?” Jesus replied, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest commandment. And the second is like it: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:36–40).