



A Child's Lesson Eighty-Year-Old Moses Learned

“How can I get my kids to act responsibly?” The question plagues parents. Some chase after their children like mobile garbage collectors. When the children grow older, the parents cover for them buying new tires monthly for their teenager's cars and replacing clothes that have been carelessly ruined or lost. Many people I know think that these are ordinary parental responsibilities. As weary and as frustrated as these fathers and mothers are, they feel that they have no choice.

How can we get both children and adults to act more responsibly? The Lord taught Moses a lesson about duty on Mt. Sinai. If you saw the movie, *The Ten Commandments*, or read the book (*Exodus 19-34*), you'll recall that the Lord called Moses up on the mountain. God prepared two stone tablets, etched the Ten Commandments upon them, and gave them to Moses to give to the people. Immediately after, the Lord told Moses that he should go down the mountain because the people of Israel were partying and worshipping the golden calf. Moses descended the mountain taking the tablets of stone with him. When he got to the base of the mount, Moses saw the golden calf and most of his people dancing and reveling. He angrily threw the stone tablets down breaking them to pieces.

The Lord called Moses back up to Mt. Sinai. God wrote the laws on stone tablets again. But guess who had to fashion the new set of tablets? It probably took strenuous effort for Moses to chisel them. Here's what I think the Lord taught Moses. “I give you important items. If you waste them, you will sweat to replace them.” This principle for applies to toddlers, teens, and those in their nineties.

“Teach a child how he should live, and he will remember it all his life,”

Proverbs 22:6.

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