

# Ages 11-14: Mount Sinai Maze

## Materials Needed

Copies of *Sinai Maze*, pens or pencils

## Prepare in Advance

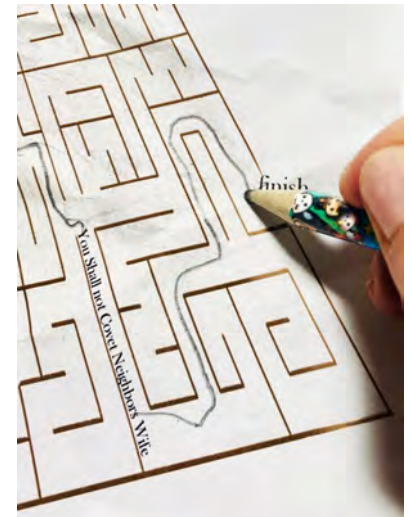
Print a copy of the *Sinai Maze* for each student.

## New Church Concept

### Teacher Background

A person is regenerated by means of truth and good. When people have been regenerated, the Lord manifests Himself to them, for they have by now risen up from the lowest step, as if by a stairway, to the one where the Lord is. Coming down is subsequent to this, for no one is able to come down before they have gone up. Coming down however is nothing else than surveying truth from good, as when one climbs a mountain and then regards the things that lie below. From that position one can take in an incalculably greater number of things than people standing below or in the valley, as is evident to anyone. It is exactly the same with those who are governed by good, that is, by love to the Lord and charity towards the neighbor. These can see incalculably more than those governed merely by truth, that is, by faith alone. See *Arcana Coelestia* 3882

The psalmist sang, “You will show me the path of life” (Psalm 16:11). The Lord laid out that path, the path that leads to heaven, in the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. Like the children of Israel, we know nothing to begin with. As we grow, we experience opportunities to learn about the Lord and His laws. However, learning—or ascending Mount Sinai—is not enough. We must make the ideas we learn part of our daily walk, our path, by living them. This activity invites students to trace a path to the summit of Mount Sinai and then descend again, passing each commandment along the way to represent the process of learning them and then bringing them into our lives.



1. You are about to embark on a journey, the journey of the Ten Commandments. However, as with any journey, we will look at a map before we set off. Distribute copies of the *Sinai Maze*. What do you notice about this map? (the maze is over an image of Mount Sinai; each commandment is on the path.)
2. Why do you think the map is a maze, with potential wrong turns, and not a labyrinth, or a single path? Do you think the Lord sees our spiritual progress as a single path or a maze?
3. Our journey of life involves many choices. We could not go to heaven if this were not the case. Seeing evil and rejecting it is the first step on the Lord's path. Sometimes we will make choices we regret. However, no matter what choices we have made in the past, the Lord forgives us and welcomes us back on His true path.
4. Why do you think the maze goes up Mt Sinai and comes back down? (We must bring the commandments down into our daily lives by acting on them.) Think about bringing the commandments into your life as you work to solve the maze. (A solution page is given for the teacher if students need help.)
5. Distribute pencils or pens. Invite students to complete the maze. Be sure to pass through each commandment along the way.

## New Church Concept

### Teacher Background

Every least thing with a person is foreseen by the Lord and is provided by Him for the person's future state which continues for ever. This is done for their own good, to the extent that this is in any way possible and the person allows themselves to be led by the Lord." See *Arcana Coelestia* 2679

