Learn by Doing

Choice Path to Sinai



About three months after Lord brought the children of Israel out of Egypt they arrived at Mount Sinai. They remained there for about a year and received the Ten Commandments and other laws that would guide them on the rest of their long journey. The path to Sinai was not easy. The children of Israel could not clearly see where the Lord was leading them and complained many times.

We may also have difficulty seeing where the Lord is leading us. Some of our choices may appear to be dead ends—as if we were in a *maze*. In reality, the Lord's path for us is the true path. Though it may take twists and turns, like a *labyrinth*, it always leads to the center—to heaven—if we stay on the path. Our job is to go to "Mount Sinai" (the Word) to receive the Lord's laws so we can follow His path. Unlike a *maze*, a *labyrinth* has only one path.

Students will walk a labyrinth to model following the Lord's path. Choose between setting up a labyrinth indoors using tape on a carpet, outside using chalk on pavement, or at a table using a printed labyrinth and tracing a path with a finger.

1. Have you ever had experiences that turned out differently than you expected? What happened? (For example, you did not want to go on an outing with your family, but did and really enjoyed it)
2. Each day of our lives is like a journey. We make plans but we never know *exactly* what will happen. Does the Lord know what will happen to us each day?
3. Does the Lord want us to feel He is leading us? Why or why not? (The Lord does lead us directly, but He wants us to feel as if we make choices ourselves. Without the feeling that our choices are our own we could not go to heaven.)
4. How does the Lord lead us? (Through the Word. The Ten Commandments are a summary of everything in the Word.)
5. Just as the children of Israel were given the Ten Commandments at the start of their long journey, we need to learn the Commandments when we start out in life. Knowing them and doing what they teach can give us the greatest happiness in heaven.
6. Hand out *Path to Sinai* (p. 11). Read two or three quotes together.
7. Do you know what a labyrinth is? (It's similar to a maze but has no dead ends. It has a *single* path through it to the center.) For centuries churches have used labyrinths as a symbolic meditative practice for walking the path of life. People often walk labyrinths in silence while thinking about ways the Lord is leading them.
8. Walk the labyrinth you have chosen.

Materials Needed

copies of *Path to Sinai* p. 3 cut in half, copy of *Sinai Labyrinth* p. 2 to use as a finger labyrinth for each student *OR* tape to create a labyrinth on carpet *OR* chalk for on pavement

Prepare in Advance

Print copies. Cut *Path to Sinai* p. 3 in half. If you make a large labyrinth, get supplies and construct a labyrinth for students to walk. Use *Sinai Labyrinth* p. 2 as a template or create your own.

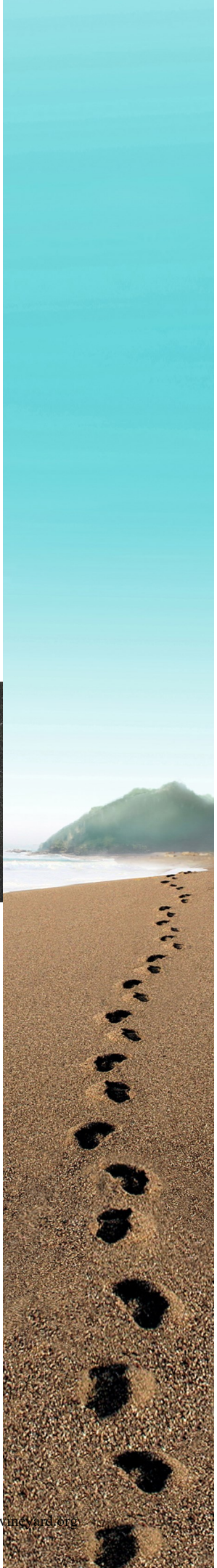


New Church Concept

The Lord Leads Us

The infinite ways the Lord leads us "appear as a labyrinth even before the angels…." *Apocalypse Explained* 1153.7

The Lord is constantly present and wanting to come in, but we have to use the freedom we have been given by the Lord to open the door. He says, "Behold! I am standing at the door and knocking. If any hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and will dine with them and they with me" (Revelation 3:20). *True Christian Religion* 285



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Sinai Labyrinth



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Path to Sinai



Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Psalm 119:105.

You will show me the path of life. In Your presence is fullness of joy. At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Psalm 16:11

Everyone who has any religion thinks about heaven and wishes to go there. Yet heaven is granted only to those who know the way to it and walk in that way. This way can be known to some extent from knowing the character of those who make up heaven, and from knowing that no one becomes an angel or comes into heaven except a person who brings an angelic character with him from the world. Present in an angelic character is a knowledge of the way from walking in it, and a walking in the way through a knowledge of it. See *Divine Providence* 60

The spiritual world has in it actual paths which lead to every society of heaven and to every society of hell. People see their own paths as though of themselves. They see them because there are paths there for every love, and love reveals the paths and leads people to their societies. No one sees any other paths than those of his or her own love. See *Divine Providence* 60

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