

At a service on October 29<sup>th</sup> 2017 a slide was shown giving more succinct ways of saying the 10 commandments:

<u>No</u>	<u>Original</u>	<u>More succinct?</u>
1	I am the Lord your God – you shall have no other gods before me	<b>Put God first</b>
2	You shall not make any idol or graven image and bow down to them	<b>Worship God only</b>
3	You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God	<b>No bad words</b>
4	Remember the Sabbath to keep it holy	<b>Make time for God</b>
5	Honour your father and mother	<b>Obey your parents</b>
6	You shall not murder	<b>Harm no-one</b>
7	You shall not commit adultery	<b>Don't cheat</b>
8	You shall not steal	<b>If it isn't yours – don't take it</b>
9	You shall not give false testimony	<b>Tell the truth</b>
10	You shall not covet your neighbour's things	<b>No jealousy</b>

Although some of the suggested new statements are wider than the original that isn't a bad thing. For instance "You shall not murder" does not specifically prohibit harming another person – just that you cannot kill them – but "Harm no-one" is more relevant and encompasses "You shall no murder".

NB there are over 600 other commandments passed through Moses which include many other things that the people of Israel were told to either do or not do, but these basic 10 are still an excellent guide to living in today's world.

**Question: How do YOU measure up to them?**