

The Ten Commandments

- 1. My life is likely to last ten to fifteen years.
Any separation from you will be painful for me.
Remember that before you buy me.**
- 2. Give me time to understand what you want of me.**
- 3. Place your trust in me - it's crucial to my well-being.**
- 4. Don't be angry at me for long and don't lock me up
as punishment. You have your work, your entertainment
and your friends. I have only you.**
- 5. Talk to me sometimes. Even if I don't understand your
words, I understand your voice when it's speaking to me.**
- 6. Be aware that however you treat me, I'll never forget it.**
- 7. Remember before you hit me that I have teeth that
could easily crush the bones of your hand but that I
choose not to bite you.**
- 8. Before you scold me for being uncooperative, obstinate
or lazy, ask your self if something might be bothering me.
Perhaps I'm not getting the right food, or I've been out in
the sun too long, or my heart is getting old and weak.**
- 9. Take care of me when I get old; you, too, will grow old.**
- 10. Go with me on difficult journeys. Never say, "I can't
bear to watch it, or, "Let it happen in my absence."
Everything is easier for me if you are there.
Remember, I love you.**