

SET IN STONE

WHAT DO WE DO WITH
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS?

Part 1: One God – and Only One

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The bottom line of the Ten Commandments:

God has a problem with takers.

The First Commandment

And God spoke all these words: "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. **You shall have no other gods before me**".

– Exodus 20:1-3

The Identity of Modern "gods"

- The god of money
- The god of comfort
- The god of excess
- The god of compromise
- The god of "me"

The Ultimatum of the One True God

Do not worship any other god, for the LORD whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God. – Exodus 34:14

The Choice of the First Commandment

See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse- the blessing if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today; the curse if you disobey the commands of the LORD your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known.

– Deuteronomy 11:26-28

The Curse of Disobeying the First Commandment

God will not bless my purpose, priorities or plans.

The Blessing of Obeying the First Commandment

1. No divided loyalties or competing voices
2. I serve the only God who holds the blessings
3. I fulfill the roles that God has called me to by default
4. I am open to receiving instruction that God gave for my good.

"...what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?" – Deuteronomy 10:12-13

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My Decision

I have given God first place in my life. Every part of my life has been surrendered to God – my time, my priorities, my values, my material possessions and my lifestyle.

The Big Ten Challenge

I will commit to convene my most important small group (my family) once a week to discuss this week's commandment. We will discuss the commandment questions with honesty and truthfulness and close our time by praying for each other.

Why should I accept this challenge?

Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land that the LORD swore to give your forefathers, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth. – *Deuteronomy 11: 18-21*

Suggestion for younger families:

Come up with a set of hand signs to represent each commandment. Review them each week until the whole family can do them together.

Suggestion for husbands and wives:

This is a great time to openly talk about your priorities – be open and honest about the “gods” in your lives.

Note for regular small groups:

In question three below, change the words “our family,” to “my life” and “are we” to “am I”.

Family & Small Group Discussion Questions



- 1) What was the highlight of your day? What was the low point of your day?
- 2) Why does God want us to serve and worship him alone?
- 3) Are there any “gods” in our family that take us away from worshipping and serving the One True God? Be open to everyone’s input on this one. What are we going to do about this problem?
- 4) Open up your Bible and read Exodus 20:1-17. Why are the Ten Commandments still important today? Parents, you may want to read Exodus 20:20 to find the answer!
- 5) Is there anything in your life that you think could become a “god” if you don’t keep it in check?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?