

SET IN STONE

WHAT DO WE DO WITH
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS?

Part 2: No More Idols!

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The Second Commandment

“You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. **You shall not bow down to them or worship them;** for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God...”

– Exodus 20:4-6

The Idol Factory

1. The Ten Commandments are confirmation of a relationship, not a condition of relationship.

And God spoke all of these words: “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.” – Exodus 20:1-2

2. **First things first!**

“You shall have no other gods before me.” – Exodus 20:1-3

Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment.”

– Matthew 22:37-38

3. **What is idolatry? How do we define it?**

“You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God...” – Exodus 20:4-6

“An idol is not simply a statue of wood, stone or metal; it is anything we love and pursue in place of God... it is something other than God that we set our hearts on (Luke 12:29, 1 Cor. 10:6), that motivates us (1 Cor. 4:5), that masters or rules us (Psalm 119:133), or that we serve (Matthew 6:24).

– Ken Sande

An idol is anything I look at and say, “If I have that, my life has value.”

4. **The Warning and the Promise**

1. **But God, that’s not fair!**

“...punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me...” – From Exodus 20:5

2. **The power of a legacy**

“...but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.” – Exodus 20:6

5. **We confront our idols with the power of the Gospel!**

(Continues on back)

My Decision

I will not make, nor will I possess anything that I allow myself to worship in any way with my time, money or energy.

The Big Ten Challenge

I will commit to convene my most important small group (my family) once a week to discuss each 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 idols in your lives.

Family & Small Group Discussion Questions



These are tough questions, but they can help you identify idols in your life in order to enjoy relationship with God.

- 1) What do you love in life? What do you hate?
- 2) What things do you want, desire, crave or wish for?
- 3) Whose wishes do you obey above all others? A boss? A family member? Friends? An author or philosopher?
- 4) Can you think of any ways in which have you may have tried to reduce God to a visible, tangible, manageable object or idea?
- 5) Think about anything that you fear. Where do you turn for safety and security when that fear arises?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?