

## Life Group Homework

For the week of Oct 16, 2016

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### QUICK REVIEW

- 1) Looking back at your notes from Sunday's teaching, was there anything that caught your attention?

### MY STORY

- 2) From last week, were you able to figure out the four elements of your "How?" If so, please share them with your group in two minutes or less. (There is no pressure to share.)
- 3) When thinking about the 10 Commandments, what do most people unusually associate them with?
- 4) What was your take away from last week's study?

### DIGGING DEEPER

#### *Exodus 20:1-7 (ESV)*

*And God spoke all these words, saying, <sup>2</sup>"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. <sup>3</sup>"You shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup>"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. <sup>7</sup>"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.*

- 5) From the passage above, what is the first commandment God gives the Israelites? Why do you think it is first?
- 6) When most of us hear you shall not make or bow down to an Idol, it would be easy to think we've got that covered, Exodus 20:5. Yet, many of us are unaware that an Idol, or another god, can be anything in life that we've made more important than God. With that in mind, what are some potential idols for us?

The following are some possible modern idols:

*This is not a complete list.*

- Possessions: 1 John 2:15–16 (NLT) <sup>15</sup>Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. <sup>16</sup>For the world offers only a craving for

physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world.

- Relationships: Galatians 5:13 (NLT) <sup>13</sup>For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.
  - Perfectionism: Romans 3:23 (NLT) <sup>23</sup>For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.
  - Work: Luke 10:40–42 (NLT) <sup>40</sup>But Martha was distracted by the big dinner she was preparing. She came to Jesus and said, "Lord, doesn't it seem unfair to you that my sister just sits here while I do all the work? Tell her to come and help me." <sup>41</sup>But the Lord said to her, "My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details! <sup>42</sup>There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her."
- 7) How should we determine the fine line between a priority and something being an Idol?
  - 8) If we find that we are worshiping idols, what practical steps can we take to change?
  - 9) What is the third commandment spoken to the people in Exodus 20, and what is its significance today?
  - 10) What does taking the Lord's name in vain mean to you? What do you think that most people take it to mean?

### TAKING IT HOME

In addition to the prohibition of perjury and any general misuse of God's name, the third commandment also refers to the people of God's call to carry God's name well. For example, the original Greek meaning of the words *nasa'*, *nacah*, and, *naw:saw*, mean to carry.

Of course, we should not be abusing God's name and this commandment **does** speak to that. But, a more Jewish rendering of this verse brings out further meaning, flavor and application of this commandment. The original Hebrew word for this clearly speaks to the fact that one is "**carrying God's name**" and in light of the fact that the people of God are called to bear His name and be **THE** witness to the world, the idea of **doing things in God's name that do not speak well or authentically of God is a major meaning to this commandment. The people of God are to think clearly about how they conduct themselves in light of who they speak FOR as they carry God's name.**

- 11) What does it mean for us to carry God's name?

## Exodus: Journey of Revelation “The Ten Commandments”

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**Text: Exodus 20:1-7**

**Revelation: These matter to God ---- they should matter to me.**

You can't understand or appreciate the Second Covenant unless you understand the First Covenant.

### 3 Misunderstandings of the 10 Commandments:

1. \_\_\_\_\_: This is the view that we are somehow saved by our actions and good deeds. (Romans 3:19-20)
2. \_\_\_\_\_: The opposite of legalism; this is the sense that because I have prayed a prayer of receiving Christ, I can live as I please. (James 2:20-24)
3. \_\_\_\_\_: Believing that we are saved by God's grace; but are then able to grow and be mature Christians through keeping the Law. (Galatians 2:20-3:5)

Romans 8:1-4

### Why are the 10 Commandments important?

- They reveal \_\_\_\_\_. (Romans 3:20, Matt. 5:17-18)
- They reveal our \_\_\_\_\_. (Galatians 3:10, 23-24, Romans 3:23)

**First Commandment:** \_\_\_\_\_ **in Everything** (Exodus 20:2-3, see also Isaiah 48:11, Matthew 6:33, 22:36-38)

**Second Commandment:** \_\_\_\_\_ **False Gods** (Exodus 20:4-6, Colossians 1:15-17)

**Third Commandment:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Exodus 3:13-15, Matthew 6:9-10, Leviticus 19:12)

### Three Ways We Misuse God's Name:

1. Profanity: Proverbs 18:21, 12:18, Matthew 12:34-37, Leviticus 24:10-16 & 23, Ephesians 5:4
2. Trivializing God Talk: Jeremiah 7:1-11, Isaiah 1:10-20
3. Hypocrisy: Matthew 7:21-23, Jeremiah 4:2, Matthew 15:7-8

### So...what do these first 3 Commandments mean to us:

1. There is only one God and He invites you to intimacy with Him.
2. God wants all of your heart and for you to have Him alone.
3. How you relate to God is the single most important aspect of your life.

### Deuteronomy 6:1-9 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup>These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, <sup>2</sup>so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. <sup>3</sup>Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, promised you. <sup>4</sup>Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. <sup>5</sup>Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup>These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. <sup>8</sup>Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. <sup>9</sup>Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

- 12) As we grow more in our faith and understanding of the Word of God, how does Deuteronomy 6:1-9, which follows immediately after the 10 Commandments listed in Deuteronomy 5, inform our understanding of how to apply the principles of the 10 Commandments in our lives?
- 13) In the above passage from Deuteronomy, what actions does God want the people to take? How do they still apply to us today?

### CHAIR TIME TOOLS

Often people view the Ten commandments as restrictive or confining to their lifestyle. In verse 2 God reminds them He has delivered them from slavery, then the start of the Ten Commandments. What is interesting here, is God is giving instructions to deliver them (us) from slavery to sin, an umpire life. If we stop and think about the Ten Commandments and we follow them, they free us from bad decisions, consequences that cause difficult times in our lives, or complicate our lives, or can cause worry. Do you find these instructions confining or liberating? Do you find the them bringing you closer to Christ? Hebrews 2:1-4 (NLT)

#### *A Warning against Drifting Away*

So we must listen very carefully to the truth we have heard, or we may drift away from it. <sup>2</sup>For the message God delivered through angels has always stood firm, and every violation of the law and every act of disobedience was punished. <sup>3</sup>So what makes us think we can escape if we ignore this great salvation that was first announced by the Lord Jesus himself and then delivered to us by those who heard him speak? <sup>4</sup>And God confirmed the message by giving signs and wonders and various miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit whenever he chose.

- 1) Taking into consideration everything we learned in our study this week, how does this passage in Hebrews speak to you?

Review Deuteronomy 6:1-9 again and think about how to apply it in your daily lives.