

## **The 10 Commandments: How Life Works**

### **Week 2- Exodus 20:3: Have no other gods**

#### **Ice Breaker Question:**

In Exodus 20:3 God says, "You shall have no other gods before me." The first commandment could not be simpler and humanity has found a million ways to break it. Almost anything can be a god. From your observation, what gods are the most popular today?

#### **Going Deeper from Sunday**

##### ***Sermon Synopsis***

The first commandment is to worship the Lord our God alone, and to have no other gods before him. This is the foundation of all of the commandments, and really, all of God's Word as well. Today, as in biblical times, there are many things competing for our worship and devotion. We must worship God alone.

##### ***Key Application***

We need to put God first in our lives, in our hearts and affections. We need to resist the temptation to look to other things (gods) to deliver, save and comfort us.

Share any reflections and/or questions that may have arisen from the sermon on Sunday?

##### **Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9**

What does it mean to love the Lord your God with all your heart, and all your soul and with all your strength?

What does that look like practically in our lives?

The phrase, "with all of your \_\_\_\_\_" is repeated three times in that verse. In what ways are you tempted to love God with less than your all?

Verse 7 speaks of the need to impress God's commandments on our children. Name some ways, as a church community, that we can teach our children to love God wholeheartedly. (This applies to all adults in the church--not just parents. All of

God's people need to think about the transmission of faith to the next generation.) If you do have children of your own, think of some practical ways to implement this in your home.

Verses 7-9 picture a life where God's commandments are seen and spoken about throughout your day and life. What would be the equivalent in our world today? What could this look like practically in our lives?

One of the key ideas of the 1st commandment is that God needs to be the central place of our affections. False gods or idols, are those things which compete for our affections, or places we go to other than God for comfort or security. Often, even very good things can end up becoming our idols. What are some examples of "good" things that can become idols in our lives?

Describe the process by which "good things" can subtly slide into becoming idols?

What false gods compete most for your loyalty and devotion?

*Close your time as a group together by praying for one another.*

(Note, some questions are taken from Rob Suggs IV guide: The 10 Commandments)