

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: To win, build and send Department of Defense leaders to live for Jesus Christ

Ten Commandments for the 21st Century

March 2013

LESSON # 12 – DO NOTS AND SHALL NOTS REVISITED

INTRODUCTION

How have your views of “rules” changed from the time that you were a child to the time that you became a parent?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Note: Deuteronomy 10:12, 13 set the stage for our appreciation and application of the Ten Commandments. "And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you? He requires you to fear him, to live according to his will, to love and worship him with all your heart and soul, and to obey the LORD's commands and laws that I am giving you today for your own good." As we consider a summary of our observations, interpretations and applications, our lives should not be the same after studying these life changing principles. We validated that they are as Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever. Jesus said, "Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them, but to fulfill them." (Matt 5:17)

Read Exodus 20:1-8 & Deuteronomy 5:6-15

1. Why do you think it is significant that God would focus on the importance of the vertical relationship with Him in these verses?
2. What emphasis does God place on worship? What emphasis should we place?
3. What is God's perspective on love? How do we demonstrate love to God? Jn 14:21
4. What importance does he place on His name and the Sabbath? Why?
5. The first four commandments concern our relationship with God. What does each of these say about the kind of relationship God wants with us?

Read Exodus 20:12-17

6. These verses focus on the importance of behavior. Which one of the “Do nots” or the “Shall nots” is most difficult for you to apply? Why?
7. Although many of these commandments are written in “Do nots” and “Shall nots”, they imply a positive behavior and a divine freedom. How and why?
8. The final six commandments concern human relationships. What do each of these say about the kinds of relationships God desires for us and for His creation?

APPLICATION

- Living the Ten Commandments is to have the character of Christ (Gal 4:19). How might our relationship with God and others change if each of us lived out the Ten Commandments?
- How will you start applying these principles so that your life will become a more effective testimony than any tablet of stone, no matter where it is located?

Religion and morality of a country are inseparably connected to its preservation and welfare; its tendency to prosper or decay.

William Wilberforce