

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

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

Ten Commandments for the 21st Century

Jan 2013

LESSON # 2 – THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD

INTRODUCTION

What and who are some of the gods we worship today.

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Note: The history of the human race is a history of worship, whether it is the various gods of Egypt and Canaan, or the mythological gods of the Greeks and Romans. In the ancient world, everything in life that was considered important had a god or goddess attached to it whether it was the weather, sex, the family, or whatever. In our post-modern culture, we do not call our gods by name anymore, but we idolize many of the same gods just without names. The French mathematician Pascal was right: there is a god shaped vacuum in the heart of every person. Americans worship their gods with the same zealous devotion as the Babylonian, Greeks and Romans did theirs. Only the names have disappeared.

Read Exodus 3:1-6 & 14-15

1. How did God get Moses' attention and make Himself know to Moses?
2. What instructions did God give to Moses? What was Moses' response?
3. What was the name that God for Himself?
4. How did God become personal to Moses?

Read Exodus 20:1-3

Note: Law is one of the most important biblical concepts. But its nature and purpose must be clearly grasped. Law reveals the character and the standards of God, and marks the way in which human beings can express love for God and for each other. But Law also condemns, for no human being except Jesus Christ has ever kept its requirements.¹ This, then, is a two-party covenant, linking Yahweh and his people in formal legal relationship. Israel is represented by singular pronouns, not only because "singularity" is typical in the direct address of ancient legal material but because the entire nation is viewed as an entity, a united people responding as one to God's commands.¹⁷²

5. Who spoke? What did He say?
6. What does it mean to "worship?"
7. Why did God begin His commandments with Himself as the focal point? (Isaiah 45:5)
8. Why do you think God meant by "no other gods besides Me"?
9. What does the first commandment tell you to do?
10. How does Jesus emphasize this truth in Matt 22:37-38? What was his source? Duet 6:4-6
11. How would you explain the meaning of the first commandment? (v. 3)

APPLICATION

- What has God impressed you to do today in light of this commandment to have no other god besides Him.
- The first commandment calls for an entire lifestyle dominated by a living relationship with God. How is your living relationship? How do you plan to build this commandment into you life?

¹ Richards, L., & Richards, L. O. (1987). *The teacher's commentary* (95). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

¹⁷ So with the concept of the body of Christ in the NT. A church is expected to function as a united people responding to the will of its head, not as a group of disparate individuals exercising their own personal preferences and governing themselves by mere human devices.

² Stuart, D. K. (2006). *Vol. 2: Exodus*. The New American Commentary (446). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.