



10 commandments: Commandments 1 and 2

"You may worship no other god than me. Do not make idols of any kind, whether in the shape of birds or animals or fish. 5You must never worship or bow down to them, for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God who will not share your affection with any other god!" (Exodus 20:3-5 NLT).

Ten Commandments

Commandments 1 and 2

What's on the Menu?

Follow the Leader. Not only is this one of the most popular childhood games, but it's also one of the easiest. The rules are in the title: Follow the Leader. In this game, everyone knows who the leader is and everyone knows that his or her role is to do what the leader does . . . simple! What would happen, though, if you added a second leader, or a third? Suddenly the game wouldn't be so simple. Who do I follow? Which leader is the true leader? Can I follow both leaders at the same time? Suddenly a simple game of follow the leader turns into a confusing mess!

The first two commandments tell us to follow the leader – the ONLY leader! God commands us to follow Him and Him alone. He knows that following anyone else will lead us down the wrong path. He knows that trying to follow both Him and others will lead to a confusing mess! Make no mistake about it, God expects to be number one in our lives! He commands that nobody or nothing else takes His place.

Appetizer:

- Read **Exodus 20:3-5**
- What are some ways we can “worship” God?
- Why do you think God wants to be first in our lives?
- How easy is it for you to keep God first in your life?
- As a group, discuss the meaning of an “idol” then look up the definition in a dictionary.

Main Course:

The ability to follow God and keep Him first in our lives is the key to fulfillment and happiness. The reason these first two commandments are so important is because our ability to follow the other eight depend on our ability to follow these first two!

1. Read **1 Kings 18:16-39**. In this passage, God uses Elijah to prove that He is the true God.

- Why do you think Israel was worshipping other gods?
- Why do you think Elijah was willing to take such a risk?
- On a scale of 1 to 10, how much faith do you have that God is, in fact, the “one true God”?
- What are some ways God has proven His power to you?

Ten Commandments

Commandments 1 and 2

2. The dictionary defines an idol as: a false god, an object, or person worshipped.

- Make a list of “idols” students tend to worship.
- From your list, pick the top three and discuss the dangers of putting that person or thing above God.
- Why do you think it’s so hard for people to keep God number one?

3. Read **Exodus 20:5**.

- Why do you think God uses the words “jealous” or “possessive” to describe Himself?
- In what ways do we benefit from God’s “Possessiveness”?

4. Read **Matthew 6:31-33**.

- According to this passage, what should we seek first in our lives?
- In this passage, what is God’s promise to us?
- Take another look at the list of “idols” your group created. Do any of these fulfill all of a person’s needs?
- What is the only way to guarantee all our needs will be met?



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Something to Chew On:

1. What are some “idols” in your own life?
2. If an invisible person followed you around for a week, what would he or she say is first in your life?
3. What are some things we can do to show God that He is the “true God” in our lives?

What would you say to someone who said: “The only reason God wants to be number one is to keep us from having any fun.”?

Prayer Requests:

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Taking it "To Go"

Memory Verse

"You may worship no other god than me. Do not make idols of any kind, whether in the shape of birds or animals or fish. 5You must never worship or bow down to them, for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God who will not share your affection with any other god!" (Exodus 20:3-5 NLT).

How can I apply this lesson to my life?

What is one thing I will commit to the Lord this week?

The "To Go" Box

1. Is there a promise for me to claim?
2. Is there a command for me to obey?
3. Is there a sin for me to confess?
4. Is there a lesson for me to learn?

Questions about this study I need answered...

