

10 Commandments: A Life of Loyalty and Love

Text: Exodus 19:1-6

Breaking the Ice:

If you were to make a list of our culture's 10 Commandments, what would they be?

Discussion/Study:

1. Read Exodus 19:1-6. God gives his commands to his people as an act of grace! How does the context of Exodus 19, God's gracious acts of redemption and gracious covenanting of Himself to his people, teach us about God's heart in giving his people his law? Why is this important to understand and remember?
2. Michael gave an overview of the three uses of the law: (1) a fence that restrains our hearts from breaking the law even though we want to; (2) a hammer/teacher that convicts us of our failure to keep the law and teaches us of our need for Christ (Galatians 3:23-24); (3) a lamp that shows believers how to live for Christ as they follow the leading of God's Spirit (Ga. 5:16-23). Which use(s) of the law have you experienced in your own life? How do all three of these continue to function in the life of a believer?
3. Read Exodus 19:1-6. How does God's declaration of his love and redemption in Exodus 19 show us that grace enables and motivates the obedience of God's people? How do we see this same pattern of grace enabling and motivating obedience throughout God's unfolding of redemption, especially in Jesus (see Titus 2:11)?
4. Besides God's grace, what motives have you encountered for obeying God's commands? Are these Biblical or not? How do they compare to the grace of God as a motivator for God's people? Do motives like guilt, shame and fear work? How do they differ from the motive of God's grace in Jesus Christ?
5. Kevin DeYoung comments on the context in which the 10 Commandments were given this way: "The Ten Commandments are not instructions on how to get out of Egypt. They are rules for a free people to stay free." What do you think he means by that? Why does it matter?
6. God tells Moses that through their obedience His people will function as a "kingdom of priests" to the rest of the world. How does a Christian's obedience to the commands of God serve to put God's grace on display in the world [both to other Christians as encouragement and to non-believers as evangelism]?
7. Missional Living – How has the obedience of a Christian(s) pointed you to the grace of God, whether in your initial interest in Christianity or growth as a follower of Jesus? [Christian parents, friends, school mates, teammates, coworkers, etc].