

Ten Commandments

You must not have any other god before me.



IN:
Think of people that you would consider acquaintances, or simply colleagues, what characterises these relationships? Now ponder those who are good friends or family, what characterises these relationships?

Whats the difference and why?

UP:
The 2nd commandment dealt with those things that replace God in our lives, this first commandment gets to the heart of the matter - its about knowing the God we worship. In fact all the commandments enabled God's people to be in a place to grow in relationship with him.

Read: Exodus 19:1-6

- What do these passages say about the nature of God?
- What do they say about the nature & purpose of relationship with Him?
- What phrase do you find especially significant?

Read: Exodus 20:1-3

From these few verses we see that God is... God is...
1 ...the one who **CREATES & SUSTAINS** ('God spoke').

2. ...the one who **REVEALS** himself - God said his NAME '*the LORD*'. He wants us to know him.

3. ...the one who **RULES** Humanity & History ('*your God*') - he is king, he is sovereign.

4. ...the one who **SAVES - REDEEMER** ('*brought you out*') - from slavery to freedom.

Which of these characteristics of God speaks most to your current situation?

OUT:

- In smaller groups pray for the characteristic of God that we most need to hold onto today.
 - *Then...* are there people you know that need God to break through in their lives on one of these areas? Pray for them

BIBLE READING:

Exodus 20:3

'You must not have any other god before me'

Exodus 19:1-6

19 On the first day of the third month after the Israelites left Egypt—on that very day—they came to the Desert of Sinai. 2 After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain.

3 Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain and said, "This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: 4 'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. 5 Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, 6 you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."

Exodus 20:1-3

And God spoke all these words:

2 "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 3 "You shall have no other gods before me.