

# COMMANDMENTS 1-4: NAILED IT!

Exodus 20:1-11

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- I. God starts with HIS LOVE before He gives HIS LAW.
  
- II. You want to love God with all your heart, soul, mind?
  - a. Be FAITHFUL in your RELATIONSHIP to Him.
  - b. WORSHIP HIM alone.
  - c. REPRESENT HIM PROPERLY to the world.
  - d. Trust in HIS PROVISION and REST.
  
- III. God finishes with HIS LOVE, fulfilling the LAW.

# FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. As you contemplate these four commandments, given in Exodus 20:2-8, which is the easiest to follow? Which are harder? How does that play out in your life? Do you ever find you have a “Nailed it!” attitude about God’s commandments?
2. “You shall have no other gods before me.” In what way do “other gods” get between you and your relationship with God? How is faithfulness in marriage, similar to fulfilling this commandment?
3. “You shall not make for yourself a carved image”. Carved images were a portable, personal power source for “divine manipulation”, an attempt to control. How do we try to control or reduce God, putting Him “in a box”?
4. In Exodus 20:5, Deuteronomy 4:23, and other places in Scripture, God describes Himself as a “jealous God”. What is your reaction as you read about this part of God’s character? What is God jealous for? Do you find that encouraging?
5. “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain”. In what ways do we find ourselves misrepresenting God to those around us? How is this the opposite of “worship”?
6. “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.” What does it mean to “remember the Sabbath”? How do you succeed or fall short of this command? Are you good at “resting”?
7. Read I John 4:9-11, Philippians 2:5-8, Matthew 5:17. What do you think Jesus means when He says He came not to abolish but to fulfill the Law?

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“I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now. . . . Come further up, come further in!” — C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle