

# Discussion Guide

questions to help start or continue conversations about faith

*Discussion Guides accompany [the weekly message](#).*

**Passage: Exodus 20:1-21 (Key passages: 20:2, 24:3-4)**

## **Observation (look at the text):**

- What are some things you notice about these commandments that you haven't before?
- Why is it significant that God starts out the list of laws with identifying Himself and His relationship with, and authority over, his people?
- What's coveting? Is it possible to know/see if someone is doing it?

## **Interpretation (understand what it means):**

- We usually make #3 mean not to use bad language/curse words. Is this a good interpretation of this law? Why or why not? What are ways we "misuse" God's name?
- What's considered rest or "Sabbath" for you today? How do you observe it? On a scale of 1-10, how well do you observe this law?
- What do you think will happen if a person does not obey the 10 Commandments? Will they be saved? Are these more just suggestions for us to observe, since they're in the Old Testament?

## **Application (apply the Word of God to life):**

- If you were starting your own nation, which of these ten laws would be included in laws for your new country? Why or why not?
- Is a relationship important for you with someone you're in authority over? Someone you answer to? Why?
- Some of these laws may seem to not apply to us in our world today (e.g., male and female servants, livestock...). God's Word is timeless, so we know they do, but how? How can we apply these in 2023, still keeping them in context of Scripture?: making idols, male/female servants, livestock, foreigners living among you.

