

Go Deeper . . .

Use these questions for further study individually or in a small group

The Ten Words:

What is your attitude toward laws and commands? Do you tend to view them as good or bad? Do you associate them with restriction or with freedom?

How does the “preamble” (Ex 20:2) affect how we understand the rest of the decalogue?

Why is it important to read the Ten Words in context and to remember that they are given only after the people have been saved from slavery in Egypt?

How does understanding the Ten Words as a covenantal agreement between YHWH and his people differ from reading them as generic universal principles?

Does this distinction matter? Why or why not?

What is significant about these words being spoken/written directly by God and not mediated through Moses or any other human?

Read: Ex 20:17; Luke 12:13-15; James 4:1-3; Eph 5:5

Define coveting in your own words.

Coveting is not commonly talked about in our society.

Why do you think this is?

In what ways do we as a society actively promote coveting?

In what ways do we reward coveting?

How does coveting lead to other sins and destructive behavior?

Where do you see this in your own life?

Why does Paul equate coveting and idolatry?

How can we foster contentment and escape the trap of covetousness?

What is one practical step you will take?

Learn More:

If you are unfamiliar with the story of Moses, the Exodus, and Mt Sinai you can check out these two short videos at the Bible Project (bibleproject.com/explore/video/exodus-1-18 bibleproject.com/explore/video/exodus-19-40). You could also have a family movie night and watch *The Prince of Egypt*.

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