

May 8, 2022

Count to Ten

Important Info

Study Help

Along the way, you might consider these beneficial additional resources.

The first resource is Jen Wilkin's book "*Ten Words to Live By*." Copies of this book can be purchased before or after Sunday services at Connection Central.

The second resource is a free online commentary that can be found at <https://bit.ly/3slhfjx>



Friendly Reminder

Don't let your familiarity with the Ten Commandments prevent you from thinking deeply about what they mean in the life of the Church, and in your life specifically.

Important Dates

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| June 1-July 27 | Summer Reading Club |
| June 13-17 | Kids Virtual VBS |
| June 20-24 | Generate Summer Camp |
| June 27-July 1 | Connect Camp |

Additional information for these events and more can be found online at LegacyChurch.org

Scripture Memory (optional)

You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth. - Exodus 20:4 (NASB)

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Group Discussion / Exodus 20:4-6

Opening

When you think about the word "idol", what comes to mind? (At this point, answers can range from carved images, to American Idol, to a car idling, to Billy Idol. This is only a way to get the conversation started.)

Why do you think idol worship is attractive to humans?

Does the second commandment forbid all art used in worship or liturgical services? Why or why not? (FYI, some Christians in fact believe that all art and representations of Biblical scenes should not be allowed in a church building or worship service.)

Bible Study

What is the prohibition in the Second Commandment? Why does that prohibition exist? (Dr. Kevin Zuber mentions *"Idolatry is unacceptable because any attempt to depict or represent God [especially for the ostensible purpose of worship] not only falls short of the truth about God but inevitably distorts the worshipers' understanding of God."*) Does the second commandment forbid the use of iconography for New Testament believers? (Again, there is much debate over this topic. The images certainly should not be worshiped or thought to be a physical representation of God. Maintain charity and love when discussing this.)

What exactly is a carved (or graven [KJV]) image? If you are familiar with Old Testament stories of idols, who are some of the false gods that were represented? (Some of the false gods included Baal, Asherah, Dagon, and Molech. Not to mention statues and kings that people were wrongly told to worship.) What do you know about those stories?

Are idols a thing of the past, meaning do we have to worry about idols in 2022? Why or why not?

There is a progression in this commandment that the Israelites are not to carve, worship, or serve these idols. In what ways might the Israelites been tempted to do such a thing? In what ways are Christians tempted to create, worship, or serve idols of the heart?

Jen Wilkin states *"If there is to be whittling, let it be the whittling away of our sins of commission. If there is to be carving, let it be the carving out of our sins of omission."* (p. 43). What needs to be done to whittle and carve out sin in our lives? How do idols prevent us from doing such things?

Closing

What tangible step will you take to identify, confess, and break down idols in your life? Who will you tell for accountability?