



10 COMMANDMENTS

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Grace and the Law

(Deuteronomy 7.6-11)

The week of September 9th, 2018

OPENING EXERCISES

Since it's the first week, spend some time having everyone introduce themselves. Go around the room and have everyone share their name, where they live, what they do during the day, etc.

Then take some time to share your group schedule and format, and a little of how your meetings will go.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Share the following things coming up in the life of the church:

- **Free Sale | Saturday, September 22, 9-12p, Church Lower Level**

Please join us for a great opportunity to declutter and give outgrown women, children, and baby clothes, toys, shoes and accessories and bless others/all in the community. Everything is FREE! **NEW DROPOFF LOCATION:** Please bring all donations to 4414 Floral Ave. during Sunday services. Check The City for more information: <https://goo.gl/f12geX>

- **New City Guys' Burger Triathlon | Saturday, September 29th 8am, noon, and 7p**

Guys...join us for a burger, TWO burgers, or THREE, that's right THREE, burgers in one day during our New City Guys' Burger Triathlon on Saturday, August 29th. (There'll be ample time in between stops to head home to do chores and/or watch college football and/or nap). Visit the City for a full listing of locations and times: <https://goo.gl/V7uxvT>

- **New City Women's Retreat | October 5-6**

Women of New City! Join us for the annual fall retreat October 5-6 at the Athletes in Action Retreat Center in Xenia! This year, our retreat speaker will be Beth Guckenberger of Back2Back Ministries and author of a new book, "Start with Amen". For additional details and registration, please visit <https://newcitycincy.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/153273>

ICEBREAKER

Since we're getting into Fall, people start eating special foods this time of year (often pumpkin or apple- infused stuff, it seems). If you were planning your last ever meal, what would it be?

PRAYER

Open your group in prayer. Pray extemporaneously, or use this prayer:

Lord, be with us tonight as we meet. Help us to get to know each other better. Help us to get to know you better as we discuss your Word. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

STUDY/DISCUSSION

We believe that people experience and grow in their faith when they get to spend time reflecting on God's Word, and also hearing from other Christians. That's what we're hoping for tonight. As an introduction to our series on the Ten Commandments, tonight we're going to look at Deuteronomy 7.

1. Read **Deuteronomy 7.6-11**. What stands out to you as important, challenging or confusing from the text?
2. What are some of the words used to describe God's people and the way he views them/us?
3. Verse 7-8: For what reason does God love his people? What are the implications of this? (Read Ephesians 2:8-10. How does this passage help shed some light on this passage?)
4. Do you ever think that there are things you've done that cause God to love you? What are some of those things that you are tempted to think pad your spiritual resume?
5. Pastor Josh said on Sunday that these verses are both deeply humbling and deeply assuring. Do you agree? Why or why not?
6. What would be different in your life if you really believed that you were God's "treasured possession"?
7. Verses 9-11 talk about the responsibility of God's redeemed people. What is God calling us to do? How do you square the giving of God's law with the concept of God's grace?
8. Eugene Peterson writes: "*Getting saved is easy; becoming a community is difficult — damnably difficult.*" How is God's law a gift in helping to shape us into a community?
9. Read Deuteronomy 4:6-7. How are a people shaped by God's law a gift to the world? to our city?

PRAY

Take some time to pray together. This can be done together as a whole group, or in smaller groups. Exchange prayer requests. (And leaders, follow up with a post on the City or as a "Resource" in Planning Center with a list of prayer requests as a reminder to be praying for one another).