
SERMON NOTES June 13, 2021

Today's notes also available at CCPL.life/Connect

Exodus 20:1-2 God's Foundational Truths Pastor Mike

I. God's foundational truths for _____

a. More than just _____, but _____

These truths are foundational to our _____

both _____ and as _____

b. The _____ of foundational building blocks

When you remove a foundational block, _____

II. The _____ to understanding God's truth

a. _____ truth comes only from God

God's law is _____ in an _____

b. God's Word gives us a guideline for _____

c. The commandments are _____ for _____

They are a _____ and not a _____ of God's relationship with us

d. Our response to the commandments reveals our _____

Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. In his message Pastor Mike argued that the Ten Commandments are more than just good rules to live by, but they are God's absolute foundational principles for our health and happiness, not only personally, but also as a culture.
 - a. What is the significance between seeing the Commandments as a set of rules to live by, and seeing them as absolute foundational principles?
 - b. If the Commandments are an absolute foundational principle for our personal health and happiness, what does that imply about their importance in your life? To what degree have you seen them this way?
 - c. What does it mean if the Commandments are an absolute foundational principle for the health and happiness of our culture?
 - d. Through the series Pastor Mike will look at how many of the problems in our current culture can be linked back to our abandoning the foundational principles in the Ten Commandments. As you think about it now, where do you see that link?
2. Surveys among evangelical Christians have shown that the average Christian can recite only 7 of the 10 commandments by memory. Does this reveal something that should concern us about the state of the church, and if so, what?
 - a. As a culture does our lack of knowledge of the Ten Commandments reflect a lack of commitment to keep them? Is this also true of us personally?
 - b. How well do you think the average person really understands the meaning of each Commandment? How well do you feel you really understand their meaning?
 - c. Which of the ten would you say is hardest for you to understand and/or apply to your life?
 - d. Which of the ten is the hardest for you to obey
3. In 1980 the Supreme Court forced the removal of the Ten Commandments from school buildings, and in 2005 they voted to remove any display of God's law from our nation's courtrooms. However, the very people who argued for the exclusion of the Ten Commandments from our culture then bemoan the violence in our schools, the corruption in business, and the moral decay in our culture.
 - a. Why do you think these people miss the fact that if you remove God and His law from society, the result will be moral decay and lawlessness?
 - b. As you have seen people try to struggle to find a moral foundation apart from God, what other sources of authority have you seen them turn to? Should we expect any of those other sources to work? Why or why not?
4. When most people think of the Ten Commandments they think of rules and restrictions that constrain our freedom. But the Bible calls God's commands "the perfect law that gives freedom" (James 1:25).
 - a. In your experience, how do most people see the Ten Commandments? Do you tend to see God's commands as rules and restrictions or as guidelines to freedom?
 - b. How does the way we see the Ten Commandments (rules that restrict or guidelines toward freedom) impact both the way we interpret and the way we apply their teaching?