

WEEKLY GROUP GUIDE



Scripture: Exodus 20:1–6



Week of: September 8, 2025



Message Title: Worship the LORD Only & Worship Him Rightly



Speaker: Ps. Lenard Tavernelli

1. ICEBREAKER (5–10 MINS)

What is one “rule” or “instruction” (from a parent, teacher, coach, or workplace) that you didn’t understand at first but later realized was for your good or perhaps still doesn’t make sense to you?

2. READ TOGETHER

Read **Exodus 20:1–6** aloud as a group.

Ask: The first two commandments focus on worshipping God *only* and *rightly*. What initial questions or challenges come to your mind as you hear these commands today?

3. GROUP DISCUSSION (30–40 MINS)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: *You don’t need to go through all the questions with the group. Choose the most relevant ones.*

1. Ps. Lenard reminded us that the Ten Commandments are actually “Ten Words” given in the context of revelation, relationship, and redemption (vv.1–2). Which of these contexts most deepens your appreciation of God’s law?
2. God begins by saying, “*I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.*” How does remembering God’s redemption shape our obedience today?
3. The first commandment calls us to worship the LORD only (v.3). What are some “functional gods” that subtly compete for our allegiance? How do we discern when something good has become a god?

4. Ps. Lenard warned against “Sheilaism” and self-made religion—defining God however we like. What are some modern examples of this tendency, and how can we guard against it in our own faith?
5. The second commandment forbids making images of God (vv.4–6). Why is it dangerous to reduce God to something visible or manageable? How can even well-meaning attempts to picture God distort Him?
6. God describes Himself as a *jealous God* (v.5). How is God’s jealousy an expression of His holy love rather than petty envy?
7. Verse 5–6 speaks of God visiting iniquity to the third and fourth generation, but showing steadfast love to thousands. What does this teach us about the seriousness of idolatry and the abundance of God’s mercy?
8. Colossians 1:15 calls Jesus “the image of the invisible God.” How does fixing our eyes on Christ keep us from false images of God and anchor us in true worship?
9. Ps. Lenard reminded us that God begins the Ten Commandments with His redemption (v.2). How does remembering God’s redeeming work in Christ motivate us to worship Him only and to live out Bethel’s mission of proclaiming Jesus and growing mature disciples?
10. The first two commandments teach us to worship God exclusively and rightly. Which of Bethel’s core values (worship, Bible knowledge, fellowship, prayer, evangelism, service, giving, missions) do you see as a natural outflow of exclusive, God-centered worship? How might God be prompting you to realign your life or priorities with Him this week?

4. Prayer (10–15 mins)

Foster a spirit of honesty and dependence on the Lord.

Prompt:

Pray that we would be a church that worships God exclusively and rightly. Confess ways we’ve allowed rival gods or distorted images of God into our lives. Thank God for redeeming us in Christ, the true image of God, and ask for grace to live for His glory alone.