

THE SINAI CODE

Sinai Code 2 - *The One and Only* {Andy Stanley}

INTRODUCTION

When they are asked about the Ten Commandments, most people focus on the last five. But it's the first two that are key to understanding the rest (Exodus 20:3-6). God wants to be front and center in your life, and He will not be downsized or marginalized. Once you understand this, you will begin to see that God didn't give the law to make bad people good, but to keep freed people free.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In the past, have you felt like following God caused you to miss out on some good things? What were those things?

2. Why would God forbid you from doing certain things?

“You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand [generations] of those who love me and keep my commandments.”
Exodus 20:3-6

3. Why did God command the Israelites to worship Him exclusively? Why couldn't they simply add Him to the list along with the gods and goddesses of their neighbors?

4. Why did God warn the Israelites not to make an image of Him?

5. How is God's jealousy different from ours? How is it similar?

6. How can the mistakes of one generation spill over into the following generations?

7. How can the wise choices of one generation spill over into the following generations?

8. When are you guilty of shrinking God down (into an idol)?

9. What are the other gods that you place before or alongside the One and Only God?

10. What are the consequences of shrinking God down and assigning him a minor role in your life? When have you experienced these consequences?

11. What are the benefits of giving God center stage? When have you experienced these benefits in your life?

12. How can you begin to make God the center of your life?

THINK ABOUT IT

Pull out your checkbook and your day planner. What are the things that dominate how you spend your time and how you spend your money? Progress, success, money, sexual expression, your company, your stuff, your house, and even your family can vie for prominence in your life. What are the things that you are putting before God? How can you begin to place God over the things you have listed?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

How have you compartmentalized God? Are there certain places, activities or relationships where you shut out God? Why? How can you begin to allow God to impact these areas?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

“You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.” Exodus 20:4

