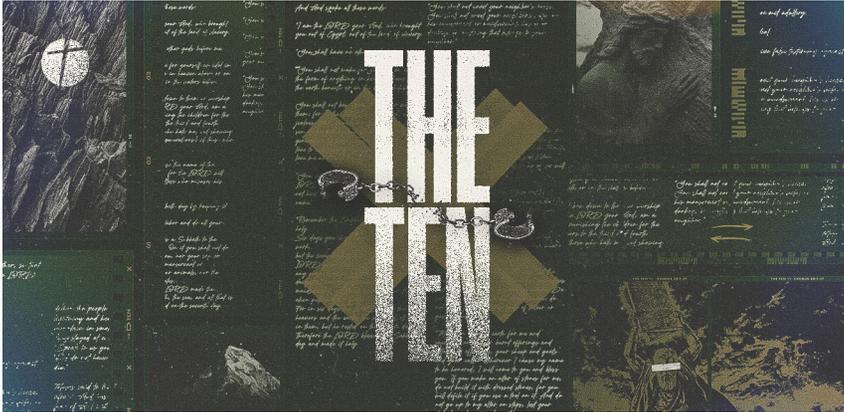


October 7 & 10, 2021



Freedom Rules!!

Exodus 20:1-3 (NIV)

And God spoke all these words: ²“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.” ³“You shall have no other gods before me.

First commandment: You shall have no other gods before me.

Exodus 20:4-6 (NIV)

You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁵You 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 parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Second commandment: Don't make for yourself an idol.

I. Rules are the guardrails to freedom.

- The Ten Commandments were never intended to make bad people good, but free people free. (Galatians 2:16b; John 14:21)

- Rules empower relationships.
- Relationship without rules equals chaos.

2. Undivided worship of God is the foundation of true freedom.

- The first commandment is the starting place for anybody who wants to experience the freedom of God!
- God clearly explains that He will not put up with anything that competes with Him.
- The opposite of Christianity is not atheism; the opposite of Christianity is idolatry. (Exodus 20:4-5a)
- An idol is anything we love more than God.
- An idol is anything we trust more than God.
- An idol is anything that we bow down to.

3. Awe of God brings freedom from God!

Exodus 20:18-20 (NIV)

When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with fear. They stayed at a distance ¹⁹and said to Moses, “Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die.” ²⁰Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning.”

- Without awe, there will always be competition!
- Without awe, there will always be fear.