

EXODUS

COVENANT PRESENCE & PURPOSE

July 9, 2023 | David Liauw

WARM UP QUESTIONS: How would you react to a sports game where there were no rules or referees?

READ: Exodus 20:1-17

FOCUS: The Ten Commandments, and any other commands God gives, are not to keep us in bondage but to make us truly free.

OBSERVE:

- These commands reflect God's character and nature, and when we keep them we express God's nature to those around us,
- One thing most agree on at sports games is that there are rules and usually some sort of a referee to enforce these rules. Games without rules remove the fun and enjoyment. In our society, we also have rules and these are usually enforced by law enforcement officials. A society without rules is chaotic.
- However, people get upset when they hear about God's rules. They do not want anything to do with these rules. They get offended. Yet these are the most important rules of all. Today's culture emphasizes doing what individuals deem right for themselves and people making their own rules. We see the impact of unbridled sexual freedom leading to self-destruction, depression, disease, suicide and death.
- God's Word advises us to trust in the Lord and not be wise in our own eyes. We are reassured in this by the simple fact that God is wiser than we could ever hope to be. He knows what is best for our lives and He has offered us guidance. We walk in more of the fullness of how God made us when we follow His advice which enables us to be free and live worthwhile lives.
- The beautiful thing is that He didn't give us rules that we can't keep or guidance that we could not follow, He gave us unconditional love. It's His love that motivates us to follow Him.

TAKING ACTION:

- Take time this week to make an account of areas that you haven't made Jesus Lord over. Make a conscious effort daily, to give God full control of your affairs, not holding back anything.
- Look at your upcoming schedule and decide if a Discipleship class could be incorporated this fall to help you grow in your faith and community.

REFLECT:

- Are you truly following God's guidance in your day-to-day life or are you leaning on your own understanding?
- Are there areas you need to relinquish to the Loving Master? What it would like to have those areas in submission to God?

PRAY: *Lord, help us to keep Your face ever before our eyes. Jesus, reveal any secret idols in our hearts and help us to relinquish them. In Jesus' name we pray, amen!*