

Week 2- February 6<sup>th</sup> First Commandment “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt out of the land of slavery, You shall have no other gods before me”.

- Who is the only true God? One scripture verse we might consider is: Matthew 3:16-17. It is Jesus’ Baptism in the Jordan and the Father speaks from heaven, and the Spirit of God descends upon Jesus in the form of a dove. The perfect picture of the triune GOD, three distinct persons in one divine being.
- What does God forbid in the First Commandment? Dear children, keep yourselves from idols!  
Idol-n 1. An image or statue worshiped as a god. 2. Someone whom people love and admire, as in a pop idol.  
Make an honest list of what matters most to you; your priorities.  
Consider;  
What you love,  
What you spend the most time doing  
Who you spend the most time with, etc.

We tend not to put God first in our day. We need to make a conscious effort to put God first in the day and the rest will fall into place. Yes, this works!

What does God require of us in the First Commandment? This should be familiar: we fear, love and trust Him above all things. Luther writes: We fear God above all things when we revere Him alone as the highest being, honor Him with our lives, and avoid what displeases Him. Read Psalm 33:8 and Psalm 96:4,

Consider Daniel 3 when the 3 men in the fiery furnace feared God more than the King!

The First Commandment then lays down the authority of the one GOD. Without this authority then the commandments are just suggestions or folkways of how to live, rather than commandments.

Prayer:

Lord God, you rule over all creation. We thank you for establishing law and order among us, and for revealing to us your will in our lives. Help us to obey your Commandments. Show us those places in our lives where we fall short of your glory, and lead us to repentance and faith. We ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.