

# WHY THE BIG 10 / MARCH 30

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

### Read & Pray

The sermon passage was Exodus 19:4–20:20. Read Exodus 20:1–17, which captures some key themes. After reading, pray for God to open our hearts to discuss and apply these truths.

### Sermon Recap

Review the sermon with your group, highlighting the following:

- “The giving of the Ten Commandments was the climactic moment of the exodus journey—all their journeys led them here, to Mt. Sinai.”
- “These commandments come as authority from above, not wisdom from below... God did not offer these commandments as suggestions, but as commandments with authority.”
- “These commandments are an expression of freedom, not slavery.”
- “The commandments begin and end as a prohibition against idolatry. ... It’s idolatry that is at work in the breaking of any of the other eight.”
- “These commandments are not a list of requirements to be accepted by God, but the right response to having been accepted by God.”

### Group Discussion

1. How does Exodus teach that God’s grace is the foundation for obeying the Ten Commandments, and how does that shape your approach to obeying God?
2. What are your thoughts on the Ten Commandments coming as authority from above, rather than wisdom from within? In your view, where is the ultimate source of truth and morality?
3. Pastor J.D. linked idolatry to all ten commandments. How might coveting or other sins reveal misplaced worship in our lives?
4. What’s one way the Ten Commandments guide you as a map to love God and others, and how has that played out in your life recently?

#### DIG DEEPER

- Colossians 2:16–17 calls the Sabbath a “shadow” fulfilled in Christ, and Romans 14:5 leaves days to personal choice, suggesting Christians needn’t observe it. Yet Exodus 20:8–11 commands Sabbath rest as a covenant sign, and Isaiah 58:13–14 promises blessings for obedience. How do you reconcile these? Does the new covenant free us from the Sabbath, or does it uphold a principle like rest that we should keep?

#### PRAYER

- Praise God for his grace in Christ that saves us from the penalty and the power of sin.
- Ask God to help us trust the authority of his Word, even when it challenges our personal feelings or cultural/religious norms.
- Pray for God’s guidance to help us identify and remove idols in our life that lead us to disobedience.