

Jealous God?
The First Commandment
Exodus 20:3-18

3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. **5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;**

6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

7 Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

13 Thou shalt not kill. 14 Thou shalt not commit adultery. 15 Thou shalt not steal.

16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

18 And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off.

God is a jealous God.

*Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them:
for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God (20:5a)*

*Do not worship any other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.
Exodus 34:14*

Does that make you uncomfortable?

Being jealous can be a sin - being envious of someone
who has something we do not have.

Galatians 5:19-20

*The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry
and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy...*

So... What makes God jealous?

****God is jealous** when someone worships or serve anything other than God.

Idol - anything that takes God's right place in your life (first place).

Why don't we put God first in our lives?

Because.... we don't want to.

Introduce Prayer Time

Music

Sermon Part 2

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Identifying Your Idol

****Good things can become bad things** if they take God's place in your heart.

1. Does this thing make me closer to God or further away.
2. Would you give 'it' up without hesitation if you knew God was asking.

- It's what is keeping you away from church.
- It's what is keeping you away from spending alone time with God.
- It's what is keeping you from investing time with your spouse.
- It's what is keeping you from really knowing and enjoying your kids.
- It's what is keeping you from serving other people.
- It's what is keeping you from sharing your money with God and his family.

If you find yourself defending and rationalizing your thing - remember...

****What we resist the hardest often controls us the most.**

F.A.L.L.

Forget yesterday.

Ask God to work.

Lease some margin.

Live intentionally.

Is God trying to show you something?

Is he nudging?