



September 26, 2021
Sunday School

MAIN THOUGHT

Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight (Mark 10:11 KJV)

Lesson:

Praise For Salvation

Scripture:

Acts 2:32-33, 37-47

Unifying Topic

God's People Offer Praise



Weekly Compass



Greatness Through Servanthood

¹ 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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ You 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, ⁶ but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments."

Exodus 20:1-9 NIV



God's Place is First Place

Exodus 20 starts out with "The Ten Commandments." The first six verses are geared towards God being number one in our lives. For most, making, placing, and keeping God as number one is not an easy task and at some point we all have struggled to maintain that standard.

Verse three is clear, "You shall have no other gods before me." The term "god" (emphasis on the lower-case g) is synonymous for idols, things, or images. These gods can range from people, jobs, careers, money, cars, clothes, ideas, shoes, concepts, etc. the list can go on forever. Notice how these gods can be tangible or intangible. Verse four states that we should not make an image in the form of anything in heaven





Prayer

God, thank You for showing us grace and mercy everyday even though we do not deserve it. Lord give us the strength to place those things that are not You, secondary in our lives so we can place You first. Lord, thank You for giving us the free will to make this decision. Lord we know that with You all things are possible. Lord, we make the decision to make You number one in our hearts, minds, souls, and actions. We love and thank You, and will continue to give You praise through the good and bad times because You are with us through the good and bad times. In your Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ's name we pray, Amen.

above or on the earth or in the waters.

Whether we envision this idol mentally or physically create it, it is a big red flag to our faith especially in terms of our worship towards God.

Don't think that this means we can't like things such as cars, clothes, or people. It means don't let those things overshadow who God is and what He has done for us. It also means our wants and desires are not to turn into our idols and take first place in our thoughts and actions making God secondary. Doing so clearly goes against God's will causing us to sin. For example, the desire to live a fulfilling life and have a successful career is 100% okay until that desire causes a person to compromise their walk with the Lord. Compromising in the form of not studying their Bible as much, not attending church regularly, not praying, etc.

God tells us that placing Him other than first will have consequences, and the effects are long lasting and detrimental. Not only will it affect us now, in the present, but it will impact our lineage too. How unfortunate it is that we and future generations can be experiencing the wrath of God based on what our ancestors did. While that is a tough pill to swallow, there is

hope! There are opportunities every day to prevent us and future generations from encountering such punishment. We must keep God first in our lives and for the rest of our lives! The benefit is stated in verse six. He loves those who keep His commandments. Let us not delay and make the rest of our lives the best of our lives!

Talking Points

1. What idol(s)/thing(s) have you been putting first in your life?
2. Why were you putting the thing(s) first in your life?
3. How will you hold yourself accountable in keeping God first in your life?

