

# The Message



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CHURCH CRAWLEY

~~RULES~~  
RELATIONSHIP  
~~RELIGION~~



*"But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees with his reply, they met together to question him again. One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question: "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?"*

**RELATIONSHIP NOT RULES**



*...Jesus replied, "'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments."*

*Matthew 22:34-40 NLT*

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# THE COMMANDMENTS ARE FRAMED IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

In the Old Testament the Ten Commandments were a covenant of love given by a personal God for the people of Israel.

*"Now therefore, O our God, the great, mighty and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love..." (Neh. 9:32).*

**RELATIONSHIP NOT RULES**





# The whole law hung on these two commandments:

- Love the Lord (RELATIONSHIP)
- Love your neighbour (RELATIONSHIP).

***RELATIONSHIP NOT RULES***



# COMMANDMENTS ADDRESSING RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

1. No other gods
2. No idols
3. No taking God's name in vain
4. Keep Sabbath holy

***RELATIONSHIP NOT RULES***



Most, if not all, of the areas listed below are not evil in themselves; they become idols when they usurp God's rightful place as Lord of our lives.

- ☐ Ambition
- ☐ Food or any substance
- ☐ Money/possessions
- ☐ Computers/games/software
- ☐ Financial security
- ☐ Rock stars/media celebrities/thieves
- ☐ Church activities
- ☐ TV/movies/music/other media
- ☐ Sports or physical fitness
- ☐ Fun/pleasure
- ☐ Ministry
- ☐ Appearance/image
- ☐ Work
- ☐ Busyness/activity
- ☐ Friends
- ☐ Power/control
- ☐ Boyfriend/girlfriend
- ☐ Popularity/opinion of others
- ☐ Spouse
- ☐ Knowledge/being right
- ☐ Children
- ☐ Hobbies
- ☐ Parents



# THE COMMANDMENTS REVEAL THE CHARACTER OF GOD

## God is HOLY.

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To have a relationship with God we must know the truth of who He is.

***"No one is holy like the Lord! There is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God"***

***(1 Samuel 2:2 NLT).***

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***“Who will not fear you, Lord, and glorify your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous deeds have been revealed.”  
(Revelation 15:4 NLT).***

***“And you will be my kingdom of priests, my holy nation” (Exodus 19:6 NLT)***

**RELATIONSHIP NOT RULES**



# THE COMMANDMENTS ARE FRAMED IN RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS.

## Commandments Addressing Relationship with Others

- 5. Honour parents
- 6. Do not murder
- 7. Do not commit adultery
- 8. Do not steal
- 9. Do not give false testimony
- 10. Do not covet

***RELATIONSHIP NOT RULES***



**Jesus showed it's not just outward observance  
he's interested in:**

**Matthew 5:21-22 The Message**

*"You're familiar with the command to the ancients, 'Do not murder.' I'm telling you that anyone who is so much as angry with a brother or sister is guilty of murder. Carelessly call a brother 'idiot!' and you just might find yourself hauled into court. Thoughtlessly yell 'stupid!' at a sister and you are on the brink of hellfire. The simple moral fact is that words kill."*

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## *Matthew 5:27-28 The Message*

*"You know the next commandment pretty well, too: 'Don't go to bed with another's spouse.' But don't think you've preserved your virtue simply by staying out of bed. Your heart can be corrupted by lust even quicker than your body. Those ogling looks you think nobody notices—they also corrupt."*

**RELATIONSHIP NOT RULES**



# CONCLUSION

- *Where do you need to reframe your understanding of the ten commandments in RELATIONSHIP with God and with others?*
- *Where do you need to apply them to your heart attitudes and motivations, not just actions?*

**RELATIONSHIP NOT RULES**



**S.in to confess?**

**P.romise to claim?**

**A.ttitude to change?**

**C.ommand to obey?**

**E.xample to follow?**

**S.omething to praise God for?**

**T.ruth to believe?**

**E.rror to avoid?**

**P.rayer to pray?**

**RELATIONSHIP NOT**