

Lecture Notes: 1st Commandment

1. Who is God and what is He like?

2. How can we describe who God is?
 - a. Answer: By describing his a_____.
 - b. Name as many of these as you can think of:

3. If God is all of these things, how should we act towards Him? Make a list of ways:

4. What is the first commandment?

5. What does it mean?

6. What are “gods” or “idols”?

7. What are some things that people worship as “gods” or “idols”?

8. Go back to #7 and circle the items that can be good or harmless if they are treated as secondary. How can we be sure that we don’t start to worship items like these?

9. Why should we follow this commandment? Answer: According to our catechism, we should follow this commandment because we f_____ God.
 - a. How many types of f_____ are there? _____
 - b. According to your catechism, what are the two kinds of fear?
 - i. Slavish (slave-like)—fear of punishment
 - ii. _____-like—loving trust; respect and honor
 - c. Which kind of fear describes the correct motivation for obeying the commandments?

10. Why should we follow this commandment? Answer: According to our catechism, we should follow this commandment because we love _____ God.

- a. What does love _____ mean?
- b. Can we love stuff and God at the same time?

- c. Why do we love God? (1 John 4:19)

11. Why should we follow this commandment? Answer: According to our catechism, we should follow this commandment because we trust _____ God.

- a. What does it mean to trust _____ God?

Isaiah 44:14-17- What's different about the wood when you make it into an idol? Isn't the wood the same as the stuff you use for a fire to keep warm or cook a meal? Do you really expect an idol made of wood (or anything else) to save you?

Jeremiah 10:5- What's the difference between an idol and a scarecrow? Neither can speak; neither can walk. Neither can do any harm; neither can do any good.

