

## Sermon Questions: No Other gods

### Exodus 20:1-18

1. Pastor Mark points out that this first commandment is really a warning about turning good things into the ultimate thing. God should always have the ultimate place on the throne of our heart. Why do you think this is difficult to keep God on the throne in our heart?
2. Pastor Mark compares Michael Jordan to David Robinson. Do you know people who seem very successful in one area of life, but seem to be restless and adrift? How does this first commandment help us avoid the danger of “gaining the world, but losing our soul?”
3. Pastor Mark mentions three false gods that many people worship today. First is the god of money and wealth. Why do you think it is easy to become focused on money and material possessions in our modern culture?
4. What is the difference between appreciate the good that money can do and making money/material possessions too important in life?
5. How does the spiritual practice of tithing (giving ten percent of our income back to God) help us avoid the trap of making money and wealth into a false god?
6. How can success in our job/career become a false god? What is the difference between wanting to do well in our job and turning career success into a false god?
7. How does the commandment to “honor the sabbath and keep it holy” help us avoid the danger of turning career success into a false god?
8. Why do you think our modern culture puts so much emphasis on sports and leisure today? In what ways can organized sports benefit children and adults? In what ways could organized sports become a “lesser thing” that gets elevated to an “ultimate thing?”
9. Why is it so important for us to engage in regular self-examination, prayer, and acts of spiritual devotion? How can these activities help us keep the one true God on the throne of our heart?
10. What are you doing these days to make sure that God remains on the throne of your heart?