1. Ten Commandments: Love Manual for the Redeemed

Exodus 20:1–21

Introduction: The Need for Rules

- The unspoken rules of the washroom.

"We all know every relationship needs rules to flourish . . . We might not discover any particular 'rule' until we break it and see the person's reaction, which clearly reveals we have transgressed some type of personal boundary. In the healthiest of relationships, these rules aren't burdensome or unnecessarily restrictive. Rather, the goal is always to bring life and health to the relationship." — Chris Price, *That you may live*

What is the Ten Commandments?

- Ten Commandments: aka "Decalogue" or "Ten Words."

1. No other gods before Me.
2. No idols.
3. Do not take the LORD's name in vain.
4. Keep the Sabbath holy.
5. Honor your father and mother.
6. Do not murder.
7. Do not commit adultery.
8. Do not steal.
9. Do not bear false witness.
10. Do not covet.

"God's commandments are spoken after God's work of redemption. That is, the Law comes after grace. The Law is given in the context of grace. . . . Which means, keeping the Law is not the means for 'getting saved.'" — Darrell Johnson, *That you may live*

Thesis: In light of who God is, and who we are, the Ten Commandments teach us how to love God and others well as the redeemed people of God.

Who is it for?

- It's for the _____.
- Jesus' command to the disciples (church) - John 13:34-35
- Impose vs Expose
- Not exhaustive, but expansive

Why is it necessary?

- "Imagine a world where everyone keeps the Ten Commandments..."
- Example: CNN's "Atheist's New Ten Commandments"
- The Ten Commandments are God's wish for our _____.

How is it relevant to us?

- Post-modernistic society: no absolute truths
- Post-post-modernistic society: the keyword is _____.
- The Bible's answer to the world's demand for authenticity: _____.
- "Lawfulness is Christlikeness. To obey the Law is to look like Jesus Christ."
  — Jen Wilkin, *Ten Words to live by*

Reflection questions:

1. Think about the necessity of rules in relationships. How is your relationship with God in terms of keeping His rules?
2. What does "grace before law" mean to you? How does it enrich your relationship with God?
3. How can we, as the church, love God and our neighbours well? What is something that you can start doing?