

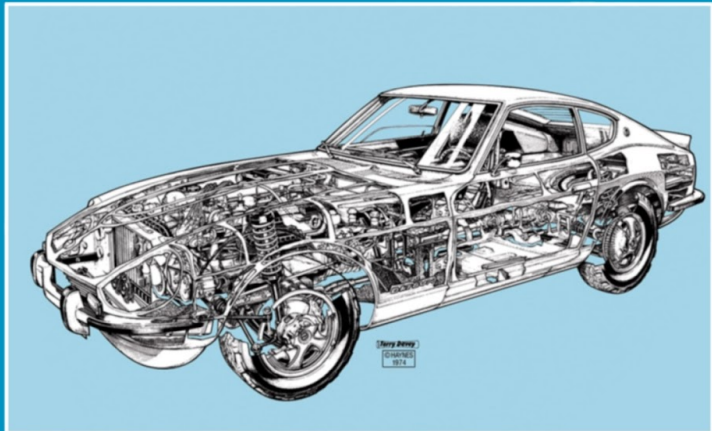
THE WAY IT WORKS

10C, 26V & 20EX



Ultimate Life Guide/Manual

20:02 thru 20:17 Commandments
1 - 10, no other, no idols, not in vain, 6-day & 1, honor, not kill, loyal, not steal, not lie, not covet



The Way it Works — No other gods Sermon Discussion Questions – August 27, 2023

Scripture Passages:

John 14:15 (NLT) ¹⁵ “If you love me, obey my commandments.

Matthew 22:37–40 (NLT) ³⁷ Jesus replied, “ ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

Romans 2:15 (NLT) ¹⁵ They demonstrate that God’s law is written in their hearts, for their own conscience and thoughts either accuse them or tell them they are doing right.

Psalms 40:8 (NLT) ⁸ I take joy in doing your will, my God, for your instructions are written on my heart.”

Psalms 119:72 (NLT) ⁷² Your instructions are more valuable to me than millions in gold and silver.

Exodus 20:1–3 (NLT) Then God gave the people all these instructions: ² “I am the **Lord your God**, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery. ³ “You must not have any other god but me.

Psalms 19:1 (NLT) ¹ The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship.

Psalms 100:3 (NIV84) ³ Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Deuteronomy 4:39–40 (NLT) ³⁹ “So remember this and keep it firmly in mind: The Lord is God both in heaven and on earth, and there is no other. ⁴⁰ If you obey all the decrees and commands I am giving you today, all will be well with you and your children. I am giving you these instructions so you will enjoy a long life in the land the Lord your God is giving you for all time.”

Exodus 20:1–3 (NLT) Then God gave the people all these instructions: ² “I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery. ³ “You must not have any other god but me.

Joshua 24:14–15 (NIV84) ¹⁴ “Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. ¹⁵ But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

Warm Up:

Pastor Tom started his message by explaining the law in Graceland of “no licking Elvis’s boots.” What is the strangest law you have heard of?

Discussion:

1. As we start our new series on the Ten Commandments, what is something you are hoping to learn from it?
2. Read John 14:15. Why do you think Jesus linked obedience to him and love of him?
3. Read Matthew 22:37-40. What does it mean to love God with all of your heart, soul, and mind? What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself? Why do you think Jesus said this was the greatest commandment?
4. How do you see these commandments from Jesus in Matthew 22:37-40 answered in the Ten Commandments?
5. Pastor Tom gave us this as the chewy, chocolate center of our entire series on the Ten Commandments: The law of God shows me I’m a sinner, and sends me to Jesus for salvation. Jesus returns me to the law, in order to show me the way life works. What does this statement mean to you? How does this impact the way you view the Ten Commandments?
6. Read Exodus 20:1-3 and Deuteronomy 4:39-40. Excerpt from Pastor Tom’s message:
In other words, “I’m God. I thought it all up. This is the way it works. Do this and it’s really good.” I am not saying it is easy, of course, life hurts, and of course, we have trials and pain. Please do not hear me insulting those seasons of our lives, as they do not exist for believers. What I am saying is even in those times, God is the way we get through and there is no other god to follow. It is the created order, it is the way life works.
Have you had times when you looked for other gods to get you through tough times? What was that like? How have you seen God be the reason you get through the tough times? How did that differ from the times you look to other gods?

Next Steps:

Pastor Tom ended his message with this:

Because the fact of the matter is, we'll serve something, or we'll serve someone. And every one of us, when we walk out these doors this morning, we go out to serve and worship. We worship at all kinds of shrines and in all kinds of ways. And the question is, are you going to worship the living God, or are you going to serve these other gods? Choose whether you will serve God or "whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you[re] living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

What god dethrones God in your life? Which god are you going to choose to serve? What steps can you take this week to place God back where He belongs in your life?