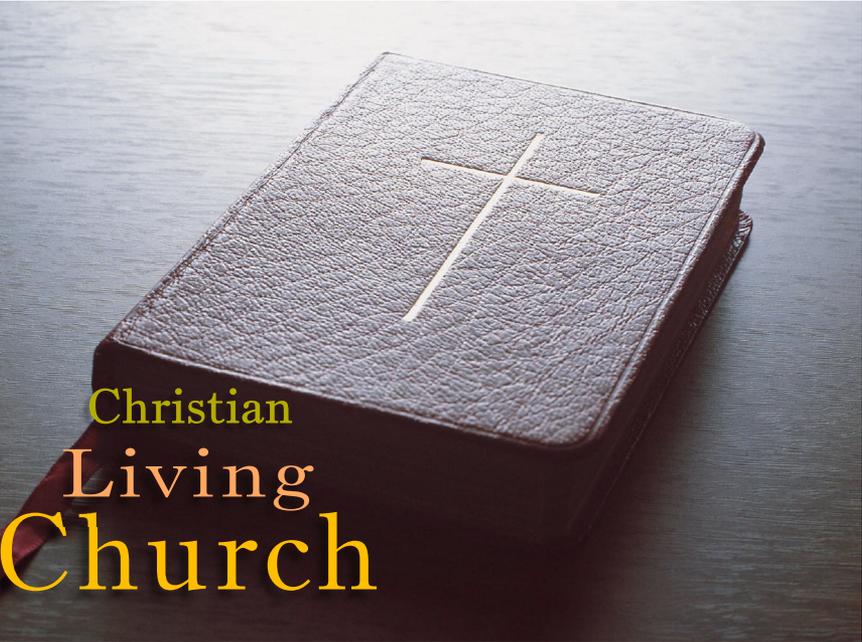


LESSON 6

Beyond the Ten Commandments

“And Moses gathered all the congregation of the children of Israel together, and said unto them, These are the words which the LORD hath commanded, that ye should do them.”



Christian
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Beyond the Ten Commandments



This series of lessons has been designed for private study or classroom presentation. The purpose of this foreword is to explain certain conventions utilized throughout the program. The overall concept is to begin with the basic concepts necessary for the new convert to understand and progress toward more complex doctrine. The lessons are numbered in order to maintain the proper sequence of study.

When Scripture references are encountered in the text, various actions are recommended. When in parenthetical bold (**Genesis 1:1**) the verse is to be looked up and read right away. Frequently, the next textual statement will comment on that verse. Reading verse and text in proper order will enhance one's understanding of the verse. Direct quotes from Scripture will be "*bold italicized and contained in quotation marks*" and, unless otherwise noted, will be from the King James Bible. When the reference is in parenthetical non-bold (Genesis 1:1) it is to provide the Scriptural basis for the statement if confirmation is desired. References in blue [Genesis 1:1](#) will be listed in the lesson section entitled **FURTHER STUDY**.

FURTHER STUDY is the "homework" section. Its purpose is to encourage Bible study at home. The referenced verses have a short summation to assist the student desiring more knowledge about a subject to find what they are looking for.

The **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS** section is primarily for classroom use. Open discussion with the exchange of ideas produces growth for all involved. Most of the time the answer is contained in the referenced Scripture but sometimes the question is offered for open discussion. Even in private Bible study, analysis of the question and the search for its answer can be rewarding.

This work is offered to anyone with a desire to better understand God's Word. It is our hope and prayer that the person studying these lessons will come away with a better understanding of God's will and a closer walk with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

With Loving Concern for all those seeking God's Message
The Church of God Rocky Mount
Rocky Mount, Virginia

Key Verse: Exodus 35:1



“And Moses gathered all the congregation of the children of Israel together, and said unto them, These are the words which the LORD hath commanded, that ye should do them.”

Discussion Question: What does this Key Verse mean to you?

Beyond the foundational Ten Commandments, God gave us other commandments that help us become more like Christ. By carefully reading and studying the Word of God, one can quite easily find these instructions for living the Way, the Truth, and the Life (**John 14:6**). Jesus gave two principles upon which all the law and the prophets are based (**Matthew 22:37-40**). These two principles of love are the foundation upon which the Ten Commandments and all of the numerous commands in the Bible are built.

If you have ever played games of treasure hunting to find a hidden prize you know that the map you use is not what is buried or hidden, it's the vehicle for finding the item. The concept of uncovering bits and pieces of information, deciphering the clues and reaching the logical conclusion that leads to the goal being sought is the same as understanding the message contained in the Bible. Although not laid out in a simple, obvious sequence, each verse is supported by other verses when found and related to each other (**Isaiah 28:10**).

As one reads through the Bible, commandments are found that apply to a person's life that develop character so that they may find joy in life, bear spiritual fruit, and store

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treasure in the Kingdom of Heaven (**Matthew 6:19-21**), but most importantly to glorify and please our Savior. For example, we are told to choose whom we will serve (**Joshua 24:15**), to try the Lord's Way and discover that it is good (**Psalms 34:8**), and in the New Testament there are passages instructing us to be kind to one another (**Ephesians 4:32**), give thanks in everything (**1 Thesalonians 5:18**) and be angry but do not sin (**Ephesians 4:26**). These are all commands for us to obey. In three of the gospels the Biblical command to "Repent and be baptized" is the first example of obedience (**Matthew 3:2, 6; Mark 1:4-9; Luke 3:3**). This command presumes that we have disobeyed at least one of God's commandments and therefore are sinners in need of salvation.

On the surface, many commandments do not appear to be relevant to everyone. The first command to Adam and mankind was to be fruitful and multiply (**Genesis 1:28**). This would not seem to apply to the infertile or unmarried, but in the spiritual sense it does. We are commanded to repent and be baptized in order for God's Holy Spirit to dwell within us. By obeying this, we will be filled with the Spirit of God and be fruitful by bearing the fruit of the Spirit (**Galatians 5:22-23**). In the practice of witnessing to unbelievers and leading them to Christ, we have introduced another saint into God's Kingdom and have, therefore, multiplied. In accomplishing these two things, even the infertile and unmarried can "be fruitful and multiply."

Trying to know and obey every one of the over 600 laws

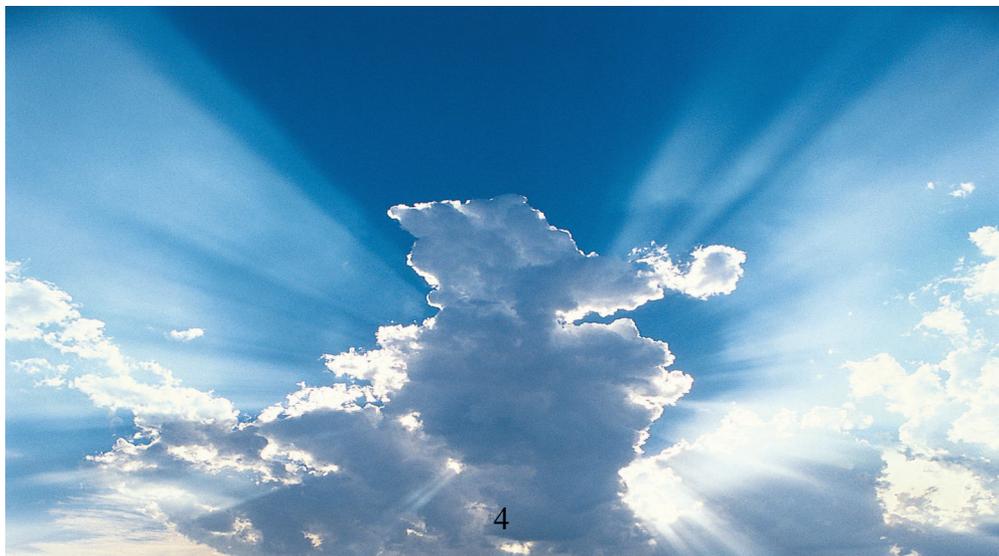
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and commandments in the Bible may seem like an intimidating task, but try to put things into perspective. In this great nation of ours, at the local, state and federal government levels there are thousands of laws and regulations. Those that apply to corporations, building contractors, retailers or hazardous material handlers do not have to be actively obeyed by all citizens, they just simply must not be violated. With application of the common sense rule of prudent behavior, breaking laws of which one is unaware should not be a problem. The

same is true of the Biblical Law. Knowledge of each and every one is not necessary if the child of God lives by the two foundational principles espoused by Jesus, to love God and to love your neighbor.

During Bible study, take note of these commands and apply them to your life. They will allow you to lead a life of contentment and joy that will be fruitful and worth treasuring, giving our Heavenly Father reason to say, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant” (Matthew 25:21).



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Discussion Questions:

1. What was the first commandment to man? **Genesis 1:28**

2. What is the obvious benefit from obeying God's commandments? **James 3:17-18**

3. What is the usual result of not living by God's Way?
Galatians 5:19-21

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FURTHER STUDY:

1 Samuel 15:22 To obey is better than sacrifice.

2 Kings 5:1-14 Obedience is as important in minor things as well as in great things.

Hebrews 5:8 Even Jesus learned obedience by the things which he suffered.

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