



Outward Group Discussion Guide

January 18, 2026 (Silverton)

SUMMARY

This sermon explores the first two of the Ten Commandments from Exodus, emphasizing that these are not meaningless rules but divine instructions for living in freedom and flourishing. The first commandment addresses whom we worship (no other gods), while the second addresses how we worship (not worshiping God falsely). The pastor explains how modern idols—money, power, sex, approval, health, and success—enslave us when we elevate created things above the Creator. Using Solomon's life as a cautionary tale, the message shows how even strong believers can drift into idolatry. However, while the consequences of sin extend to the third and fourth generation, God's steadfast love reaches to a thousand generations—essentially eternal. The sermon culminates in Jesus as the perfect image of God and the reversal of the curse, offering freedom through His sacrificial love on the cross.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What false gods or created things have you allowed to rule over you instead of exercising the authority God intended you to have over creation?
2. How might you be worshiping God falsely by creating an imaginary version of Him that fits your preferences rather than accepting who He truly is?
3. In what ways have you seen the sins and worship patterns of previous generations affect your own life, and how are you actively working to break those cycles?
4. When you examine your daily priorities and anxieties, what do they reveal about which gods (money, power, approval, health, etc.) you might be serving alongside or instead of the one true God?
5. How does understanding that God's steadfast love extends to a thousand generations change your perspective on the consequences of sin lasting three or four generations?
6. What practical steps can you take this week to worship the one true God in ways that make it difficult to simultaneously worship false gods?

7. How does Solomon's gradual drift from worshiping God to worshiping wealth, power, and pleasure mirror patterns you've observed in your own spiritual journey?
8. In what areas of your life are you looking for salvation, security, or satisfaction in created things rather than in the Creator?
9. How does seeing Jesus as the perfect image of God and the reversal of the curse help you repent of worshiping false gods or worshiping God falsely?
10. What would it look like for you to actively praise Jesus for His steadfast love in a way that transforms which gods you serve in your everyday decisions?