



Family Memory Verse

"And [Jesus] said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.'"

Matthew 22:37-40

Question & Answer

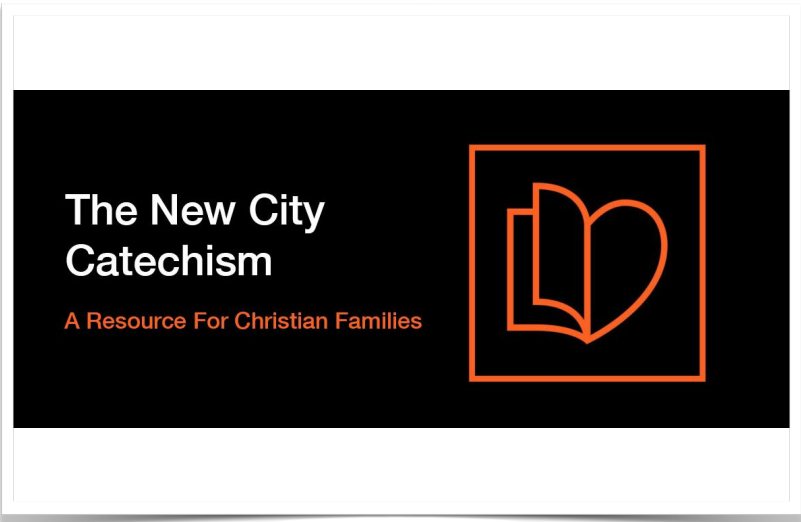
What does the law of God require?

"That we love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and love our neighbor as ourselves."

Pray Together

"Great Law-giver, you have spoken a perfect law, and you deserve perfect obedience. Let us not merely think that your law requires outward submission; it demands the full assent of our minds and our hearts. Who is equal to such a task? We confess that we fall far short of keeping your law.

Amen.



Family Discipleship

1. As a family, read Matthew 22:34-40
2. **Ask:** What would life be like if there were no laws? What if there was no punishment for breaking laws?
3. **Ask:** Do you have trouble obeying your parents? Have you ever been perfect in obeying? Why do you disobey?
4. **Explain:** Everyone is a law breaker even if you've never committed a crime. We have all broken God's law.
5. God's law is still the same today and God expects us to live according to His law. However, none of us are capable of perfectly obeying it. That's why Jesus came. He perfectly obeyed God's law in our place and died for our punishment so that He can offer forgiveness to us.
6. All of God's law can be summed up in these two command—Love God and Love One Another. How does obeying God's commands show our love for Him and for one another?
7. Does keeping God's law please God?
 1. Explain—yes, obedience is glorifying to God but God does not accept us because of our obedience. He accepts us because of Jesus' perfect obedience!



As A Group...

1. Spend time praying for one another.
2. Encourage and hold one another accountable in the area of having a personal quiet time.
3. Talk about each member's "one" friend or family member who doesn't know Christ. Pray for them by name and encourage and hold one another accountable to share the gospel or offer an invitation to the "one."
4. As a group, plan an activity that you can invite unchurched neighbors to so that you can get to know the people around your group.
5. As a group, encourage and hold each other accountable in the area of serving. Where is each member serving in the body of Christ and the kingdom?

Discussion Questions

1. As a group, read Mark 7:1-23 together.
2. How had the Pharisees and scribes "missed the point" of God's Law? What was the danger in their elevating tradition over God's Word?
3. Why do you think it is such a temptation—even much easier—to focus on behavior modification than heart transformation?
4. Is there much of a difference between the scribes and Pharisees and many Christians today?
5. Would Jesus have the same message today for cultural Christians and many in the Church as He did for the scribes and Pharisees? Why or why not?
6. Have you ever caught yourself pursuing a PURE lifestyle rather than a PURE heart?
7. Does the truth that purity of heart can't come from external acts mean we can justify sinful behavior or neglect holy living?
8. Read Matthew 5:8. What is the promise to those who have pure hearts? What is the danger of missing the point of a pure heart?
9. What was your biggest takeaway from the message this week?

