



## YOUTH INSTRUCTION CLASS

### LESSON 6: THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

#### PART TWO

#### Review

Write down *Martin Luther's explanation* to the First Commandment:

### What God Requires In the First Commandment

- Having “no other gods” means that we consider the true God as “number one” in our lives. We give Him complete respect, complete love, and complete trust.

**(Respect) Psalm 33:8** Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him.

**(Love) Matthew 10:37** "Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me."

**(Trust) Proverbs 3:5** Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

This commandment "requires that man's whole heart and confidence be placed in God alone, and in no one else. To have God, you see, does not mean to lay hands upon Him, or put Him into a purse, or shut Him up in a chest. We 'have' Him when our heart embraces Him and clings to Him."

- Martin Luther  
*Large Catechism*

## Fear God Above All Things

When Martin Luther writes that we should "fear God," he doesn't mean we should "be afraid" of Him. To *fear* someone in the Bible sense means to *have respect for him*.

Psalm 33:8 (90)

- The Bible gives examples of people who feared God.

Daniel 3:1-18 (88)      Three Men in the Furnace

Genesis 39:9 (92)      Joseph

We *fear* God  
above  
everything  
else when  
we give all  
glory to  
Him and  
respect  
Him.

- *Small  
Catechism*,  
p. 46

- Is there a wrong way to *fear God*?

Genesis 3:8-10      Adam

- The right fear of God is called *filial fear*: a child's fear (respect) of his dear father whom he loves.
- The wrong fear of God is called *servile fear*: a slave's fear of his hated master and his punishment.

## Love God Above All Things

What do you think it means to *love* God?

Psalm 73:25-26 (95)

Deuteronomy 10:12

Matthew 10:37

- It is good to remember that love is not simply an emotion. The First Commandment does not only tell us to have "good feelings" about God, but we are to *do loving things* for Him.

We love God  
above  
everything  
else when He  
is more  
precious to us  
than any thing  
or person in  
our lives . . .

- *Small  
Catechism*,  
p. 46

## Trust God Above All Things

What do you think it means to *trust* God?

- Here are some examples of trust in God:

1 Samuel 17:32-50 (97)      David and Goliath

Daniel 6:1-23 (98)      Daniel in the Lion's Den

- Psalm 118:8 (103)  
Psalm 124:8 (104)  
Psalm 31:1-6

- When we do not fully put our trust in the LORD, we commit the sin of \_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 6:31-34)

We *trust* in God above everything else when we rely on Him alone and put our entire confidence in Him.

- *Small Catechism*,  
p. 47

## Conclusion

Who is there *among us* who has kept the First Commandment perfectly?

Romans 3:23 (432)

Who *has* kept this commandment perfectly?

1 John 3:5

What does this commandment show us about ourselves?

Romans 3:20 (44)

How then can we be saved?

Romans 5:19 (128)

Can we make a beginning of keeping this commandment?

1 John 4:19 (65)

## **Assignment**

- Bible Reading Schedule 5 from the book of Luke (Mon-Fri)