

All Out Week

Intro

What's up LSM!?! How we doing tonight!?! Who got a paper airplane into one of the hoops? Who missed the mark? I feel for you guys. I was at a conference at a beach in Florida last week, and I know you're all probably feeling very sorry for me right now but I want you guys to know, that God got me through the pain of being on a Florida beach, I somehow survived. One of the things I did when I was down there was go mini-golfing. Does anyone here love to go mini-golfing? You people infuriate me. You see the problem is, I'm terrible at golfing of any sort. But because I can be cocky I always go into mini-golfing somehow expecting to win, but I also end up losing....badly. When it comes to getting the ball in a hole, I always seem to miss the mark. You know who doesn't miss the mark? Dude Perfect!! You guys heard of them? Well they did a crazy golf shot off an aircraft carrier, and you need to see this video, take a look.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVuOwzFGaj8> 1:54-3:02

Does anyone in here think they could pull off what these guys just did? These guys hit the mark for sure. Unlike me in mini golf and many of you with this game. And like how many of you just did with the paper airplane game, and how I seem to constantly do with mini-golf, we miss the mark at a lot of things in life. But there's one mark that on our own we will always miss all miss in life, and that's God's perfect standard.

Recap

Chip prepared us to talk about this last week by teaching us about God's holiness in Exodus 19, and our need to prepare ourselves to be in His presence. One of the key phrases from that sermon was "We are constantly consecrating ourselves because we're always in contact with him." God decided to come down to His people speak with them and Moses so they would continue to believe Moses was sent by God. However because God is so perfect, He commanded that His people had to prepare themselves and wash their clothes 2 days before He came to to them. On the third day He came down in a cloud and covered the mountain, and there was incredible lightning, thunder, and a massive trumpet blast to signal that God had arrived. God presence was so holy that if anyone or anything touched the mountain, they would have to be killed. Moses was the only one allowed up the mountain. Jesus however came and died for our sins and rose again from the dead so we CAN meet with God personally. The Israelites did end up obeying God and Moses (one of the very few times) and prepared themselves for when God showed up.

And this brings us to where we are today in Exodus 20-24, where God is about to speak to Moses on the mountain and the Israelites are ready to hear. Now there are a ton of different things we could learn from these chapters, but for today I believe that God wants us to focus on the 10 Commandments in chapter 20. Anyone in here heard of the 10 Commandments? It's ok if you haven't. One of the problems is that the 10 Commandments are mentioned so much and talked about so much that many of us forget how incredible they are. Remember that statement that I made, that there's one mark that we all miss in life, and that's God's perfect standard. The

Ten Commandments show what's God's expectation is for how His people are to live. But when reading these we need to know that God's people LOVED the commandments. The commandments weren't given to hurt us, but to help us by showing us more of who God is and how to live for Him. Living for God will bless and complete your life unlike anything else we could possibly live for. However, these commandments are the standard of our holy God, meaning that anyone who falls short of passing all of these commandments perfectly, sins against God and is completely cut off from Him and will spend forever in hell unless someone is able to save them. Missing the mark on at least one of these means you have fallen short of being good enough to work your way into heaven. No pressure or anything, but lets read.

Bible

1. **And God spoke all these words, saying, ²“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ³“You shall have no other gods before^(a) me.**
 - God reminds Israel that He is their God who rescued them, and in light of this they must not worship any other gods. The point God is making is that If you have ever desired anything more than God, and have ever put something before God in your life like your girlfriend/boyfriend, grades, sports, popularity, friends, family, etc, you have missed the mark on this commandment.
 - God's supremacy
2. **⁴“You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them, **for I the LORD your God am a jealous God**, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to thousands^(b) of those who love me and keep my commandments.**
 - God here is telling the Israelites that they can't make any false gods out of anything and worship them. God says that He is a jealous God, and that's fine, because He has a right to be because He created everything and anyone who doesn't worship Him is in fact rebelling against Him. If any of us have ever loved something more than God, we have missed the mark.
3. **⁷“You shall not take the name of the LORD your God **in vain**, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.**

- God is to be highly valued, and is worthy of all our praise. Any of God's names, such as Jesus, Lord, God, etc. are precious to God because they represent Him. Taking the name of the LORD in vain is to say or use God's name without actually talking to Him or talking about Him. It is using any of His names without much of a thought. For example whenever we say "Oh my God" when something happens, or when we sing songs about God using His name without actually thinking of Him. If any of us have ever misused His name like this, we have missed the mark.

4. ⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath **to the LORD your God**. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

- The Sabbath Day was a day God set aside for His people to rest from their work and focus on Him. They weren't allowed to busy themselves with the daily grind of work and responsibilities. This helped them focus on the Lord and how He is more important than what is happening in their daily lives. We must take a day each week to rest before the Lord. If we do not take time to rest during the week before the Lord. We have missed the mark.

5. ¹² "**Honor your father and your mother**, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

- God values families so much guys. And here He is telling us that if we have ever disrespected, argued, or even thought bad thoughts about our parents, we have missed the mark. I'm sure this is hard for many of us in here today, but I want you to know that regardless of what your parents have done, you are still called to honor them. If we have ever disobeyed our parents or thought badly about them, we have missed the mark.

6. ¹³“You shall not murder.”
 - Jesus in Matthew 5 says about this commandment that anyone who has hateful anger towards anyone in life, and anyone who hatefully insults another person, has broken this commandment and missed the mark.
7. ¹⁴“You shall not commit adultery.”
 - Jesus in Matthew 5 says about this commandment that anyone who has looked lustfully at another person, meaning anyone who has looked at someone and wanted that person sexually, has broken this commandment and missed the mark.
8. ¹⁵“You shall not steal.”
 - If we have ever stolen anything in our life, or decided in our hearts to steal, we have missed this mark.
9. ¹⁶“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.”
 - If we have ever lied about someone we know so they would get in trouble, we have missed the mark.
10. ¹⁷“You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or **anything that is your neighbor's.**”
 - If we have ever been jealous over something someone else has and we envied them, we have missed the mark.

Bottom Line

That is the 10 commandments, and I hope you guys can see now that each commandment is good and has a good purpose for us. We all need to understand that the 10 commandments isn't just a rule list, it's most concerned about our hearts. Jesus says this about the law. ““You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

So the 10 commandments are really about how we need to love God with everything we have, and also to love those around you as yourself.

But the only problem is, we have already seen how we keep failing in our ability to keep the 10 Commandments. We often seem to fall short of what God has called us to. Because of this, there is nothing we could ever do in our own power to save ourselves. And this leads me to the most important thing I want you to understand tonight. If there is anything you get out of tonight, I want it to be this.

Whiteboard

What we could not do, Jesus has done.

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What we could not do, Jesus has done.

We could not completely obey God's commands all on our own. We could never measure up to God's holiness.

Guys, I often struggle with this. I often struggle with trying to be **good enough** for God. It would not matter how often I would try to earn God's favor by living right, I would always end up breaking one of his commandments. I always missed the mark. There are so many religions and beliefs out there that say "to get to God, try harder", to go to heaven and be saved "live well", "be a good person" but according to God's standard no one can be a good person and no one can live well enough to save themselves and be with God in heaven because at some point in our lives we missed the mark, and when we miss the mark we can't try to backpeddle and do better next time because God is perfect and we have already sinned. The 10 commandments show us that on our own, we can't save ourselves.

But **circle Jesus has done** that's where this comes in. What we could not do in trying to be good enough to save ourselves, Jesus has done but living a perfect life, perfectly obeying every law since He was born and died for all of our sins (missing the mark) and rose again to conquer our sin so we can be forgiven and be with God forever. Jesus lived the perfect life so we didn't have to. So because of this, we don't have to strive to keep trying to be perfect to earn God's love for us. It's free!

Romans 8:1-4 says:

Romans 8:1-4. There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.^[a] For the law of the Spirit of life has set you^[a] free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin,^[a] he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

- Because Jesus perfectly followed the laws for us, and died and rose again for us, we who have put our faith and our trust in Jesus instead of ourselves are now declared righteous. **RIGHTEOUS! GOD SEES US AS BEING PERFECT** because of Jesus. God knows that we sin and still mess up, but now God sees us as though we had never sinned against Him.

DO

1. **Stop exhausting yourself trying to be good enough for God and for others.**
 - Jesus has already done everything needed for you to come to Him freely.
 - If you can have God, you don't need to bother with anything else because only God will give you the meaning and acceptance you are looking for.
2. **Spend time alone with God everyday in His Word.**
 - Read Romans 8 this week and ask God to show you more and more how He has already done everything for you to be forgiven and live successfully for him.
3. **Join a Connect Group**