

For Further Study February 5-11



Consider the following statement and comment on how you see this take shape in people's lives.

People want a concrete point of contact with God

The Second Commandment

Exodus 20:4-6

4 "You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them;

for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God,

punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me,

6 but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Why does forbid "making an image/idol"?

What does it mean that God is a "jealous God"?

Explore the following Q&A from the Heidelberg Catechism. How do these statements clarify, support, or expand upon the second commandment?

96.

Q. What does God require in the second commandment?

A. We are not to make an image of God in any way, nor to worship him in any other manner than he has commanded in his Word.

97.

Q. May we then not make any image at all?

A. God cannot and may not be visibly portrayed in any way. Creatures may be portrayed, but God forbids us to make or have any images of them in order to worship them or to serve God through them.

Worship means: to adore, pay homage, respect, show reverence toward God,
Why does God forbid “worship” of idols?

What idols does our society have today that draws our worship away from God?

Read John 4:1-26 What does this passage have to say about the kind of worship that God desires?

What is the concrete point of contact with God that people experience through authentic worship?