

# Questions for Discussion

1. Try to describe, in your own words, the main point of this sermon.
2. Religious and secular people can sometimes have very similar views about the pros and cons of religion. How do *you* tend to think of the pros and cons of religion? Is Christianity too rule-based? Not rule-based enough? Is Christianity too “spiritual”? Not “spiritual” enough? What does Pastor Andy mean when he suggests that, whether you are religious or secular, there will be something about our study of the Ten Commandments that annoys you?
3. *Why* the ‘Word before the Words’? *What* is the ‘Word before the Words’? *Who* is the Word before the Words?
4. Dutch New Testament scholar Herman Ridderbos said that “the imperative rests on the indicative and that this order is not reversible.” What does he mean? (Grammar people may have an easy time with this than theological people.) Once you’ve figured out this riddle, can you describe how it relates to the sermon and the series?
5. Do you think you/we are as forgetful as Israel was as it emerged from slavery? Do we really need to be reminded of the good news of our deliverance so often? Are we really “forgetting” it?
6. Andy didn’t get very deep into this, but maybe you can anticipate him. Why do you think he called a sermon series on the Ten Commandments “The Father’s Ten Good Words”? Why is it so crucial that we read the Ten Commandments as “ten good words” from a good Heavenly Father? What does Jesus have to do with this?
7. What is God saying to you? What are you going to do about it? Who is going to help you?