

# **Bible Study Discussion**

**2014-2015**

**Exodus 20:1-3**



## **Lesson 1: The One and Only**



# **Memory Verses**



**For the law was given through  
Moses; grace and truth came  
through Jesus Christ.**

**John 1:17**

**You shall have no other  
gods before Me.**

**Exodus 20:3**





**Building  
Blocks**



**Who?  
Why?  
What?**



**Heart  
Smart**





**Building Blocks**

# Building Blocks

God knew we needed a strong foundation.



God's Motivation: Out of God's great love and amazing grace, God provides for God's creation.

God's Intention for us: Our Lord wants us to live lives worthy of our calling, a life set apart.

***Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and love your neighbor as yourself.***

***Luke 10:27 NRSV***

# Building Blocks

The Israelites were sandwiched between Egypt and Canaan.

Both were polytheistic lands.



How did the worship of many gods start?

- Make sense of the laws of nature
- Created gods that controlled things they couldn't
- To get favors, the worshippers tried to appease the self-centered gods.

***Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one!***



**Who? Why? What?**



# Who? Why? What?



I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

## Announcement of the Author's ID!

1. **Lord:** The one speaking has authority, power, and control over another.
2. **Your:** God is claiming us by showing that God wants and has a relationship with God's people.
3. **God:** Author is the Supreme Being, Creator, and Sovereign Ruler.

# Who? Why? What?



I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

## Reasons for the Upcoming Statements

1. This is tangible evidence rooted in their experience.
2. God is a provider who acts on our behalf. God is the giver of gifts.
3. God listens to God's people.
4. God turns the societal norms upside down.

# Who? Why? What?



I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

*This statement is the **starting point** for all of the other commandments!*

God demands:

Absolute Exclusivity

Undivided Loyalty

Complete Commitment

Total Trust

Discipleship



# Who? Why? What?



I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

*What does this imply?*

1. No other gods **in front** of the Lord your God.
2. No other gods walking **side by side** of the Lord.
3. No other gods **replacing** the Lord your God.
4. No other gods **above or below** the Lord.

No acquisition of or devotion to others gods!!!



# Who? Why? What?

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

*Ours is the God of revelation, who commands: “Don’t insult me by bringing all the other gods alongside me, and don’t dare insult me by putting them ahead of me.”*

*Stuart Briscoe*



**Heart Smart**



# 8 Steps to a Heart Healthy Spiritual Life



1. Acknowledge that other gods exist. Paul Tillich says, “Whatever is one’s **‘ultimate concern’** is in reality one’s god.”
2. Recognize that gods are alluring and tempting.
3. Be obedient to scripture. In the wilderness, Jesus quoted scripture to Satan. Luke 4:1-13

# Heart Smart



4. Believe that Jesus is the one who paid the price for our sins.
5. Trust in forgiveness that Jesus offers repentant sinners.
6. Practice humility and focus on gratitude.

# Heart Smart



7. Live a changed life.
8. Nurture a God honoring heart  
where we love God and neighbor.



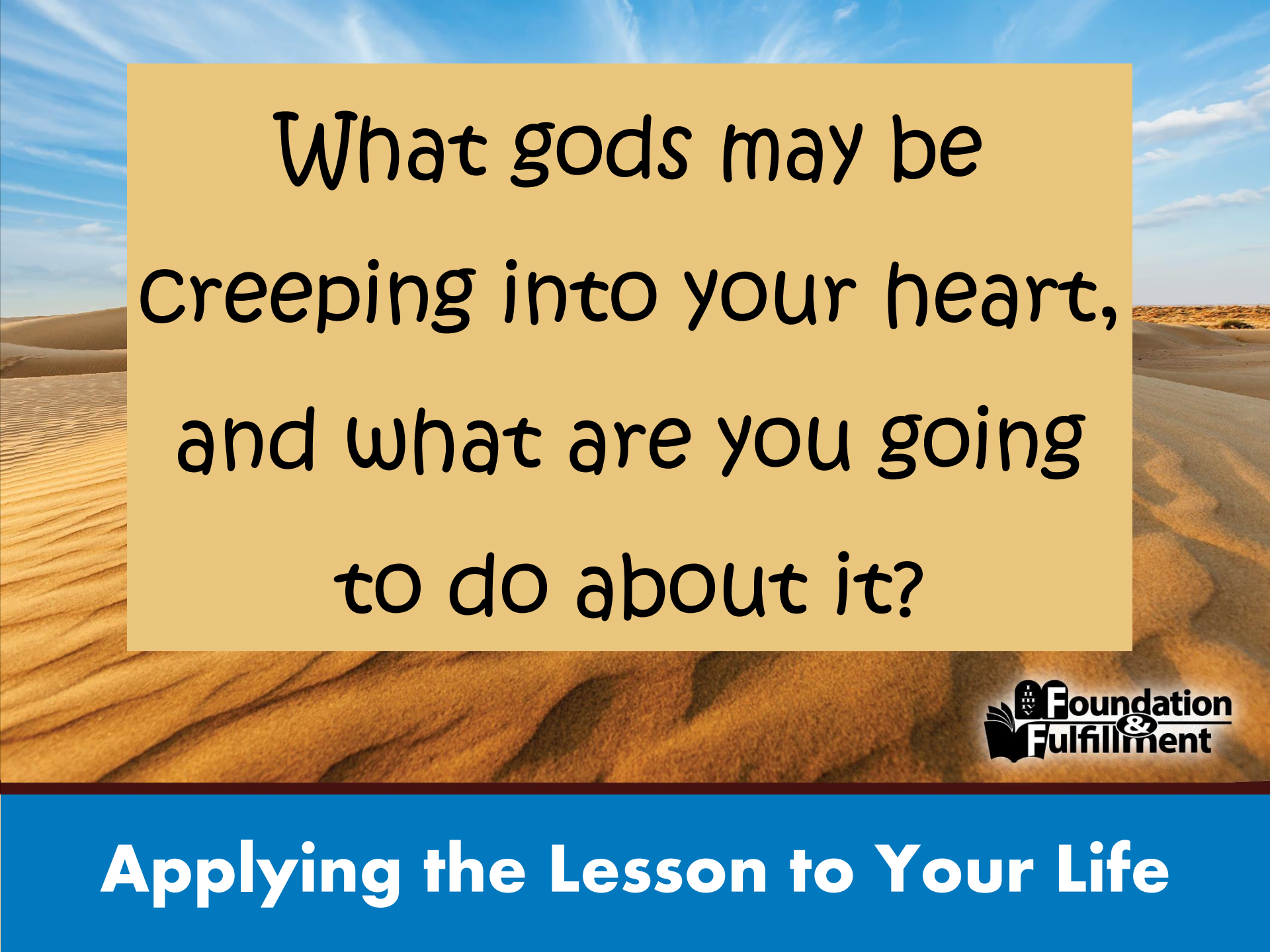
# Heart Smart



*Yet I have been the LORD your God  
ever since the land of Egypt;  
you know no God but me,  
and besides me there is no savior.  
It was I who fed you in the wilderness,  
in the land of drought.  
When I fed them, they were satisfied;  
they were satisfied, and their heart was proud;  
therefore they forgot me.*

Hosea 13:4-6 NRSV

**Are you heart healthy?**



What gods may be  
creeping into your heart,  
and what are you going  
to do about it?



**Applying the Lesson to Your Life**





# Closing Prayer