

# 5 DEVELOPING VALUES: FOUNDATIONAL PILLARS

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## A. Introduction

Is it inevitable that corruption be ingrained in our society? A society built on Godly values is one where evil is hardly practiced because the people in such a society are driven by Godly values to shun evil and to seek what is good. Therefore, the best way to avoid nurturing or falling into corruption as individuals and as a society is to develop our value systems. In this area, God, who is the creator of man and society, has provided the starting point. The Ten Commandments were given to Moses to guide the Nation of Israel on how to relate with God and with each other as they formed a new community. The dictates of this law are relevant for any community, and living by them brings much good and many benefits to the individual and the society.

## B. My Duty to God: Exodus 20:1-11

1. What instructions were the people given about how they should relate with God?
2. Why do you think God warned them sternly against idolatry?
3.
  - a. How does idolatry translate into corrupting oneself?
  - b. Identify areas in your life where you may have corrupted yourself through idolatry?
  - c. What will you do to correct this situation?

### **C. My Duty to Others: Exodus 20:12-17**

1. Mention the different instructions given in this passage.
2. What would be the result of obeying these instructions on the lives of the individuals and their society?
3.
  - a. In what ways can failure to live up to this standard lead to corruption?
  - b. How does your life and that of your society compare to this standard? What can you do to improve?

### **D. Memory Verse: Exodus 20:3**

“You shall have no other gods before me.”

### **E. Point of Reflection**

Look again at the illustration above. Is it a true reflection of your life, with all the components in place? Thank God for those that are in place, and ask him to help you develop those that are missing. Look out for these in the rest of this section of the study guide.

### **Additional Passages**

Mark 12:28-34, Philippians 4:8-9, Ecclesiastes 12:13-14.