**WOODLANDS CHURCH**

**November 19th 2017. Testament. Ten Commandments**

**Discussion notes: Love God. Matthew 22:36-40, Exodus 20:1-11.**

Jesus knew and loved the Old Testament. Its books were his scriptures. When asked about the greatest commandments he quoted from Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18 (Love God, and Love your neighbour) and said the whole of the Law and Prophets (i.e. the Bible as he knew it) hung on these two sayings. The ten commandments are in many ways an articulation of these two principles.

1. The ten commandments don’t explicitly say ‘Love the Lord your God’ as Deuteronomy 6 does. In what ways do the first four commands point to a love relationship with God as key to faith?
2. What relevance to your faith is the command ‘don’t make idols’?
3. What is significant about the name of God? What would misuse of His name look like?
4. What is Sabbath for? What relationship does Sabbath have with loving God?
5. How easy is it for you to recognise ‘the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ’ in these commandments?

Can you command anyone to ‘love’? If you can choose to obey a command to love, what does that tell us about the nature of Love itself? How true would it be for you to say that the Old Testament reveals God as a God of Love?