



The Fourth Commandment—Honoring God’s Representatives

TWO TABLES

We often divide the Ten Commandments into two parts, or *tables*. Jesus summarized the First Table in **Matthew 22:37–38**, “**Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment.**” Jesus summarized the Second Table in **Matthew 22:39**, “**And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”**

1. Which commandments speak of love for God?

2. Which commandments speak of love for our neighbors?

3. Read the story of the Good Samaritan in **Luke 10:29–37**. Who is your neighbor?

SHOWING LOVE TO THOSE IN AUTHORITY

In the last seven commandments God gives us some guidelines for showing love to others. He begins, in the Fourth Commandment, with those He has placed in authority over us.

Picture yourself taking a plane trip across the country. You’re flying at 35,000 feet (about six miles up) at 550 miles per hour. The plane is full, so nobody has much room. The stewardess has just brought soda for everyone. You’re looking out the window through a cloudless sky at a miniature world below. For obvious reasons, the person in charge of the flight is the captain. What he says, goes. His purpose, however, is not to give himself a thrill by using his authority. He wants to make sure that you and the other passengers reach your destination safely and, insofar as possible, have a pleasant flight.

During the flight, your captain gives a number of messages to the passengers. After each message, circle the words that would complete the sentence, **I would . . .**

1. If you look out the left side, you’ll see the whole Grand Canyon.

Willingly Reluctantly Trust Respect
obey obey

2. We are coming into rough weather. Please remain seated with your seatbelts on.

Willingly Reluctantly Trust Respect
obey obey

3. We’ve lost power in the number 3 engine. Nothing serious, but we ask you to remain seated just in case.

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