The commands of Jesus are universal and apply to all His Followers. His atoning grace has set us free from many of the Jewish ceremonial laws found in the Old Testament. However, Jesus said that He didn’t come to abolish the Law, but to fulfill it. Jesus had a high view of His Father’s moral commands, and He paid the price to set us free from the penalty of having broken them in the past. Now, His life and words affirm that as His Disciples, we do have commands to observe.

Read the introduction to the subject and the scriptures. Consider the primary emphasis and the context in which it is presented. Then, answer the questions.

1) The Ten Commandments came directly from God to Moses and were often quoted by Jesus. The issues they address are foundational to our faith.

***Deuteronomy 5:1-22***

 a) Which of the Ten Commandments is a struggle for me to observe?

b) Describe how you feel about a statement where God says “Do not”--even though He is really saying, “Do not hurt yourself!”

c) As I consider God’s rules for living, do I feel they are helpful toward an abundant life for me, or that they limit my freedom?

2) Jesus had much to say about our attitudes and actions when relating to each other. In Matthew Chapter 5, He teaches about God’s desired responses in specific situations.

 ***Matthew 5:17-48***

 a) Write the main point in each of the verses below

 **v. 17-18** Jesus commitment to the commands

**v. 19-20** – obedience to the commandments

**v. 21-26** – anger at and reconciliation with a person

**v. 27-30** – adultery and the serious consequences of sinful actions

**v. 31-37** – divorce and making vows

**v. 38-42**– abuse and yielding your rights and possessions

**v. 43-47** – loving your enemies

**v.48** – being perfect (mature)

 b) In my own life, in which situation am I most likely to respond wrongly?

 c) How can I develop proper responses in my most difficult situations?

3) Since we are made in the image of a lavishly generous God, we are called to be generous. Money and possessions are usually the major competition for Lordship in our lives to Jesus.

***Matt 6:19-21, Luke 6:38, 14:33, 16:9-13, Acts 20:33-35***

 a) What do these scriptures tell us re: our use of money and possessions?

 b) What attitudes or beliefs do I hold to that make it hard for me to give?

c) God’s promises of His blessing upon the generous are very specific and appealing. What steps can I take now to start giving more?

4) Jesus tells His Disciples to observe the Lord’s Supper in remembrance of His sacrifice.

***Luke 22:14-20, John 6:47-63***

a) During Communion do I focus on Jesus laying down His life for me, or is it an empty ritual?

 b) Why did Jesus command us to “Do this in remembrance of Me”?

5) To become more obedient to His commands, what should I ask the Holy Spirit to change in me this week?