

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

A Jealous God

Getting Started

When is jealousy a good thing?

Digging In

1. **Read Exodus 20:1-6.** Write a brief paraphrase of the 1st and 2nd Commandments (vv. 3-6).
2. Why did God command the Israelites to not have any idols?
3. **Read Exodus 34:14.** What do you think it means that God is a jealous God? (cf. Deuteronomy 4:24)
4. How does God's jealousy differ from ours? How is it the same?
5. **Read Isaiah 43:1.** Did God have a right to demand the devotion of Israel? Explain.
6. **Read Deuteronomy 6:14-15.** What did the Israelites often do that aroused God's anger and jealousy?
7. How is this problem illustrated in **1 Kings 14:21-25**?

Getting Personal

- **Read Matthew 16:24-26.** What does it mean to take up our cross and follow Christ?
- How do these verses relate to the jealousy of God?
- **Read Matthew 22:37-38.** How do these verses connect with the 1st and 2nd Commandments in Exodus 20:3-6?
- **Read 1 John 5:21.** We can think of an idol as anything that competes with wholehearted devotion to the Lord. List some things that can be idols for us today?
- Is there anything in your life that is in danger of becoming an idol – anything that would give God cause to be jealous?
- What would have to change in your life in order for you to give God your full devotion?

