

## **"THE SHEMA: THE LORD ALONE"**

1. Share personal examples of moments when you felt a strong sense of commitment and loyalty to God. How did these experiences impact your faith and actions?  

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2. What is the significance of the Shema in Jewish tradition, and how does Jesus reference it in Mark 12:28-31?  

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3. What is the significance of the word "hear" in the Shema and how does it relate to the concept of obedience to God's commands?  

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4. Explain the concept of "echad" and its potential interpretations in the Shema.  

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5. What is the difference between a creed and an oath of allegiance? What creeds have you said in your life? What oaths or vows of allegiance have you made? In which category would you place the Shema? Why?  

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6. Share examples of individuals who expressed their commitment to God even in the face of adversity.  

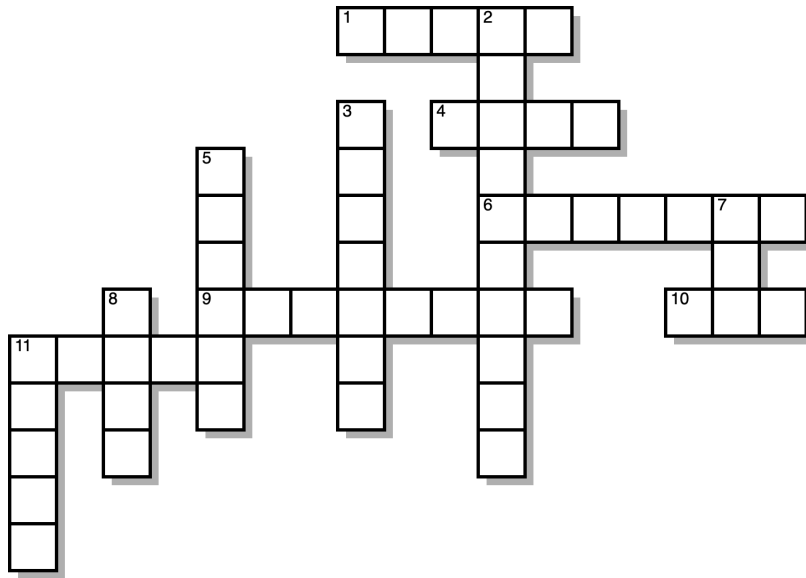
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7. Discuss the parallels between the Shema and the first of the Ten Commandments in Deuteronomy 5:6-7. How do these commandments reinforce the idea of worshiping God alone?  

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8. Explore the idea that faith moves from the head to the heart in Hebrew thinking. How does this concept influence our understanding of faith and works in Christianity?  

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9. How can individuals incorporate the practice of affirming their commitment to Jesus Christ into their daily routines?  

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10. In your opinion, what is the most important takeaway from the study of the Shema and its implications for Christian faith and practice?  

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**Across**

- 1 What Hebrew word means "hear" and implies taking action?
- 4 The Hebrew word "yada" means to "\_\_\_\_\_".
- 6 Jews will often use the word "echad" in the Shema as evidence against the Christian belief in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 9 The cupbearer failed to do this regarding Joseph.
- 10 "Elohenu" is Hebrew for "our\_\_\_\_\_".
- 11 The word "echad" can me "One" or (as it probably does in this passage) "\_\_\_\_\_".

**Down**

- 2 This is the branch of religion that holds to the belief that there is only one god.
- 3 I am Yahweh your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of \_\_\_\_\_. 'You shall have no other gods before Me. (Deut. 5:6-7)
- 5 This language is very word-poor (a much smaller vocabulary).
- 7 How many times a day do Jews recite the Shema?
- 8 "Adonai" means "the \_\_\_\_\_".
- 11 This rabbi was executed by Rome and died with the Shema on his lips.

**WORD SEARCH:**

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| Shema    | Oath         |
| School   | Allegiance   |
| Grammar  | Covenant     |
| English  | God          |
| Hebrew   | Deuteronomy  |
| Remember | Commitment   |
| Know     | Holiness     |
| Hear     | Ring         |
| Believe  | Exclusive    |
| Obey     | Relationship |
| Oneness  | Akiva        |

B S M T Q T D M X X A M J N Y K  
 M S Q J R R W N N X V L X N L G  
 R E L A T I O N S H I P G C G L  
 J N M E M R W O N K K Z O N P R  
 N I M R X J A E B Z A M X X I Q  
 R L R D Z C N M D P M M E Q R R  
 G O D W E G L B M I W C L N D H  
 Y H B R L U G U T A N P Y T T D  
 C N O I E B T M S A R L K A J J  
 O L S N Z M E E I I E G O B X G  
 V H O R E N E G R V V S H E M A  
 E E T O T N E M E O O E R A E H  
 N B X D H L E I B Q N B R L M M  
 A R N Z L C L S J E N O E T Y Q  
 N E B A T E S L S X R K M Y R J  
 T W N J B T W B T J R Z N Y M W