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Healing the 'sickness' of the Pharisees

[In English / Chr](#)



By the Metropolitan of Limassol,

Athanasios.

As promised I am going to resume what we were talking about yesterday ...

One may wonder what the purpose is of all the things we do as part of our worship, namely our visits to holy places, the lighting of candles, the all night vigils, the prayers, the fasting, alms giving etc. The response to this question is very significant since it will reveal whether or not we are leading a proper spiritual life.

Let me give you an example. I often ask the kids at the camps which is the most important commandment the Lord gave. And they all give me various answers: 'Do not steal', 'do not lie', 'do not harm other people', 'respect your parents' etc, yet no child ever suspects that none of these is the first command given by the Lord.

They often believe that the first commandment is 'love thy neighbor', yet when I told them that this is not it, one child once said: 'Yes, I know the first commandment. It is 'multiply and fill the earth'! Of course this isn't the first commandment either! [\(περισσότερα...\)](#)