

12. Love for Neighbor (2)

The Seventh Commandment

You shall not steal.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we do not take our neighbor's money or property, or get it by dishonest dealing, but help him to improve his property and means of income.

Make sure none of you suffers as a murderer, a thief, a criminal, or as a meddler. (1 Peter 4:15)

You shall not use dishonest measurements of weight or volume. Instead you must use an honest scale, honest weights, an honest dry measure, and an honest liquid measure. (Leviticus 19:35)

In fact, when we were with you, this was our command to you: If anyone does not want to work, he should not eat. Indeed, we hear that some among you are idle, not busy working, but being busybodies. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we command and urge these people to work quietly and eat their own bread. (2 Thessalonians 3:10-12)

Then [Jesus] said to them, "Watch out and be on guard against all greed, because a man's life is not measured by how many possessions he has." (Luke 12:15)

Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and many foolish and harmful desires, which plunge them into complete destruction and utter ruin. For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evils. By striving for money, some have wandered away from the faith and have pierced themselves with many pains. (1 Timothy 6:9-10)

Every good act of giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the lights, who does not change or shift like a shadow. (James 1:17)

The earth is the LORD's and everything that fills it, the world and all who live in it. (Psalm 24:1)

It is wrong to take things from other people either by _____ or by _____.

We should _____ for what we have and not take _____ of other people.

_____ is sinful and can lead to many other _____.

All that we have comes from _____ and really still belongs to _____.

You see, the kingdom of heaven is like a man going on a journey. He called his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two talents, and to still another one talent, each according to his own ability. Then he went on his journey. The servant who had received the five talents immediately put them to work and gained five more talents. In the same way, the servant who had received the two talents gained two more. But the servant who had received one talent went away, dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master's money.

After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. The servant who received the five talents came and brought five more talents. He said, "Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents."

His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master."

The servant who received the two talents came and said, "Master, you entrusted me with two talents. See, I have gained two more talents."

His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master."

Then the servant who received one talent came and said, "Master, I knew that you are a hard man, reaping where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter seed. Since I was afraid, I went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours."

His master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! You knew that I reap where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter seed? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers so that when I came I would get my money back with interest."
(Matthew 25:14-27)

But if anyone does not provide for his own family, and especially for his own household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. (1 Timothy 5:8)

Whoever has worldly wealth and sees his brother in need but closes his heart against him—how can God's love remain in him? (1 John 3:7)

For this reason you also pay taxes, because the authorities are God's ministers, who are employed to do this very thing. (Romans 13:6)

Sacrifice a thank offering to God, and fulfill your vows to the Most High. (Psalm 50:14)

We, then, are

of what he has given us. This includes our . . .

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

So we call the way we use these gifts

_____.
God wants us to use these gifts to _____ him.

We serve God with our possessions by using them for . . .

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that although he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that through his poverty you might become rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9)

Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:7)

On the first day of every week, each of you is to set something aside in keeping with whatever he gains, saving it up at home, so that when I come, no collections will need to be carried out. When I arrive, those whom you approve will be provided with letters, and I will send these representatives to deliver your gracious gift to Jerusalem. (1 Corinthians 16:2-3)

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. (Malachi 3:10)

They went out for the sake of the Name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. Therefore, we have an obligation to support such men, so that we may be coworkers for the truth. (3 John 7-8)

We give offerings to God . . .

1. *Out of _____
for the spiritual
_____ we have
in _____.*
2. *_____ and
_____.*
3. *On a _____
basis.*
4. *_____ ahead
of _____,
not just what is
_____.*
5. *In _____
with _____ our
_____.*
6. *_____
God to take care of us.*
7. *To _____
the proclamation of the
_____.*

In the Seventh Commandment I remember:



Those who are dishonest with _____ tend to lose the things they have.



Too often I do commit the sin of not treating God's gift of _____ properly.



Jesus acted perfectly with regards to all possessions in _____ place.



On the cross, Jesus paid for all of my _____ against the Seventh Commandment.



Now out of thankfulness I want to serve God with the things he has _____ to me.

The Eighth Commandment

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, or give him a bad name, but defend him, speak well of him, and take his words and actions in the kindest possible way.

A good name is worth more than great wealth.
Respect is worth more than silver and gold.
(Proverbs 22:1)

The tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider how a little flame can set a large forest on fire! And the tongue is a fire. It is set among the parts of our body as a world of unrighteousness that stains the whole body, sets the whole course of life on fire, and is set on fire by hell. Indeed, every kind of animal, bird, reptile, and sea creature is being tamed and has been tamed by mankind. But no one is able to tame the human tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.
(James 3:3-8)

Our _____ is a gift from God, which we want both to _____ and _____.

We are not to _____ our neighbor through _____ or _____, but _____ him up through _____ words to him and about him.

Words may seem _____, but they can do a lot of _____.

Is there such a thing as a little white lie? _____

In the Eighth Commandment I remember:



False or unkind _____ can do much damage and cannot be taken back.



Too often I do commit the sin of speaking false or unkind _____.



Jesus perfectly kept from ever speaking a false or unkind word in _____ place.



On the cross, Jesus paid for all of my _____ against the Eighth Commandment.



Now out of thankfulness I want to _____ only things which are true and kind.

The Ninth Commandment

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or obtain it by a show of right, but do all we can to help him keep it.

The Tenth Commandment

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, workers, animals, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we do not force or entice away our neighbor's spouse, workers, or animals, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

Keep your life free from the love of money, and be content with what you have. For God has said, "I will never leave you, and I will never forsake you." (Hebrews 13:5)

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," because God cannot be tempted by evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is dragged away and enticed by his own desire. Then when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin. And sin, when it is full grown, gives birth to death. (James 1:13-15)

Coveting is when you _____ something God has not given you, and so you are not _____ with what God has given you.

Coveting is a problem because . . .

1. *It is _____.*
2. *It leads to more _____.*

The Ninth and Tenth Commandments remind us that not just _____ and _____ can be sinful, but also _____.

In the Ninth and Tenth Commandment I remember:



_____ keeps me from being happy.



Too often I do commit the sin of _____ what God has not given me.



Jesus was perfectly content with what God gave him, in _____ place.



On the cross, Jesus paid for all of my _____ against the Ninth and Tenth Commandments.



Now out of thankfulness I want to be _____ with God's blessings to me.

The Conclusion to the Ten Commandments

What does God say about all these commandments?

He says, "I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments."

What does this mean?

God threatens to punish all who transgress these commandments. Therefore we should fear his anger and not disobey what he commands. But he promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore we should love and trust in him and gladly obey what he commands.