

The 10 Commandments: How Life Works

VIII: Do not Commit Steal (Exodus 20:15)

Ice Breaker Question:

Describe an incident when you were the victim of theft. How did you feel, and what did you do as a result?

Going Deeper from Sunday

Sermon Synopsis

The eighth commandment tells us not to steal. The command not to steal is rooted in respect for each individual's property. It follows the progression of how we love our neighbor as ourselves in the 2nd five commandments. We do not violate his life, we do not violate his marriage, we do not violate his property. Each person's property has been given to them by God for their stewardship. There are ways we wrongfully take hold of others possessions that our civil laws may not define as stealing but that nevertheless break this commandment.

Share any reflections/questions that may have arisen from the sermon on Sunday.

Going Deeper

How many varieties of stealing can you name?

In what ways do you think our civil laws against stealing reflect God's laws against stealing? That is do you think there things that God may consider stealing, that are legal in our country for instance. (think about some aspects of capitalism, or poverty for example).

Read Acts 4:32-5:11

What was the importance and place of possessions in this early Christian community?

What is the relationship between sharing possessions and sharing the gospel (4:33)?

What actions of Ananias and Sapphira brought about Peter's (and God's) wrath?

Do you believe this passage negates the concept of personal ownership for Christians? Explain your response.

How would you describe your attitude toward your own possessions? (and how satisfied are you with your attitude?)

How does Peter show Ananias his sin in a different perspective (5:3-4)

What are some ways Christians might steal from the church today?

What are some ways we might be guilty of stealing from God?

(Note, some questions are taken from Rob Suggs IV guide: The 10 Commandments)