

- *“If the clouds are full of rain, they empty themselves on the earth, and if a tree falls to the south or to the north, in the place where the tree falls, there it will lie.” - Ecclesiastes 11:3*

### *Stealing From God*

- Give God the day that He has set apart for Himself. (Isaiah 58:13-14)

### **How Do We Avoid Stealing?**

- *Live like a Christian*
  - *“Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.” - Ephesians 4:28*
- *Be Content*
  - *“Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” - Hebrews 13:5*

## **How do People Steal?**

### *Stealing from Others*

- *"You shall not oppress a hired worker who is poor and needy, whether he is one of your brothers or one of the sojourners who are in your land within your towns. You shall give him his wages on the same day, before the sun sets (for he is poor and counts on it), lest he cry against you to the Lord, and you be guilty of sin. - Deuteronomy 24:14-15*
- *"A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is his delight." - Proverbs 11:1*
- *"Unequal weights and unequal measures are both alike an abomination to the Lord." Proverbs 20:1*
- *"Unequal weights are an abomination to the Lord, and false scales are not good." - Proverbs 20:23*
- *"You shall do no wrong in judgment, in measures of length or weight or quantity. You shall have just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt." - Leviticus 19:35-36*

### *Stealing From Ourselves*

- Enjoy the gifts God has given you!
  - *"Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, for it is made holy by the word of God and prayer." - 1 Timothy 4:1-5*
- Take advantage of the time God has given you.

## **The Eighth Commandment**

### **Motives/Causes**

#### Internal Causes/Motives – Unbelief & Covetousness

##### **Unbelief**

- *Psalm 78:19-22 - They spoke against God, saying, “Can God spread a table in the wilderness? 20He struck the rock so that water gushed out and streams overflowed. Can he also give bread or provide meat for his people?” 21Therefore, when the LORD heard, he was full of wrath; a fire was kindled against Jacob; his anger rose against Israel, 22because they did not believe in God and did not trust his saving power.*
- *Matthew 6:31-33 - 31Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ 32For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. 33But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

##### **Covetousness**

- Be content with what you have!
- Trust that God withholds no good thing from His people.

#### External Causes/Motives – Satan

- “Great master Thief”
- Robber of our coat of innocence”
- It is his nature to steal and destroy and it is his work to convince the child of God to do the same.