

10 *COMMANDMENTS*

Sunday June 23rd

LET'S TALK:

If you had the opportunity to interview a kleptomaniac, what questions would you ask?

We often think of stealing in terms of physical property. Has Jon's sermon changed how you think of stealing?

LET'S STUDY:

The 8th Commandment found in Exodus 20:15 says 'You shall not steal.'

What does this commandment imply about property ownership? How is stealing something from someone, also against God? What is stewardship and why is it important?

Read Exodus 20:16.

What does it mean? Why was this command important in the legal court in ancient Israel?

Read Proverbs 6:16-19.

This is a non-exhaustive list of things that God hates. What are the reasons why God would hate lying?

In Matthew 5:37 Jesus taught his disciples, let your yes be yes and no be no. He was saying speak truth because it exposes what is right. In John 14:6 Jesus says, I am... the Truth. Describe how you feel after reading that declaration.

Read Matthew 5:11-12.

Bearing false witness is a tactic for people who oppose God. What does Jesus reassure His people about this?

Ephesians 4:25 says, "Therefore each one of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbour, for we are all members of one body."

Harm to one part of a body does harm to the rest of it. How could a dishonest/stealing reputation within the church cause greater harm beyond the relationship between two church members?

How do you think that strife within the church impacts the church's ability to spread the Gospel?

LET'S APPLY:

Read Ephesians 4:28.

Paul instructs us not to steal, but to work hard so that we have extra to give to other people.

Does this challenge you to reconsider your work ethic? What about your motivation for working?

Would working hard to give extra to others, change your attitude towards those who have less than you?

Jon identifies envy as one of the prime motivators behind lying and slandering.

Have you seen envy creep into any relationships in your life, or in the lives of those close to you?

What harm did this create?

Are there any behaviours that you need to change as a result of new awareness from today's teaching?

LET'S PRAY:

Praise the Lord for being creator and for giving us the many blessings He has entrusted to us.

Confess to the One who owns everything ways you have stolen and the lies you realize you've been telling, spreading or living. Ask for God's wisdom and guidance as we steward life and truth.

BEFORE NEXT TIME, ON YOUR OWN:

Read Proverbs 8:13.

Do you hate what God hates? It is easier to hate the sins committed against us but how can you work to hate the sins you're most prone to commit?

Read Colossians 3:1-14.

Write in your words a summary of this passage. What does it mean to be 'raised up with Christ'?

What does this passage say you are to set your mind on? Why? How do you do this?