

The Tenth Commandment: Love People by Learning Contentment

Exodus 20:17

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The Lord's Day Morning

August 5, 2018

Meditation

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.*

–Exodus 20:17

*To passionately long for any person, possession, position, praise, or pleasure, that is not God's will for you.

Q113: What is the aim of the tenth commandment?

A113: That not even the slightest desire or thought contrary to any one of God's commandments should ever arise in our hearts. Rather, with all our hearts we should always hate sin and take pleasure in whatever is right.

–Heidelberg Catechism, 1563

How to Obey the Tenth Commandment

1. S _____ God's Word so you know what is "out-of-bounds."
2. A _____ God to make you happy for the success of other people.
3. L _____ to be content with the good gifts of God that are "inbounds."
4. T _____ God for the good gifts you enjoy "inbounds."

Conclusion

Q114: But can those converted to God obey these commandments perfectly?

A114: No. In this life even the holiest have only a small beginning of this obedience.

Nevertheless, with all seriousness of purpose, they do begin to live according to all, not only some, of God's commandments.

–Heidelberg Catechism, 1563