

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

How to Love God and Neighbor

Wednesdays | 7:15 pm
May 28 through August 13
Pastor Kevin Timmons
Elder Scott Sears

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart... You shall love your neighbor as yourself
Matthew 22:37-39



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What is the Greatest Commandment?

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.



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What commandments has God given to teach us how to Love God and Neighbor?

1. You shall have no other gods
2. You shall not make a carved image
3. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain
4. Remember the Sabbath day
5. Honor your father and mother
6. You shall not murder
7. You shall not commit adultery
8. You shall not steal
9. You shall not bear false witness
10. You shall not covet



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Housekeeping...



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Last Time...



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The 8th Commandment:

You Shall Not Steal

Stealing | Working | Giving



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The 8th Commandment

Stealing



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Ephesians 4:28 | 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.

Exodus 20:15 | You shall not steal.



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Exodus 21:16 | Whoever steals a man and sells him,
and anyone found in possession of him, shall be put
to death.



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Exodus 22:1 | If a man steals an ox or a sheep, and kills it or sells it, he shall repay five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep.

Exodus 22:2-3 | If a thief is found breaking in and is struck so that he dies, there shall be no bloodguilt for him, but if the sun has risen on him, there shall be bloodguilt for him. He shall surely pay. If he has nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft.

Exodus 22:4 | If the stolen beast is found alive in his possession, whether it is an ox or a donkey or a sheep, he shall pay double.



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Leviticus 19:35-36 | 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.

Deuteronomy 25:15 | A full and fair weight you shall have, a full and fair measure you shall have, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.



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Jeremiah 22:13 | Woe to him who builds his house by unrighteousness, and his upper rooms by injustice, who makes his neighbor serve him for nothing and does not give him his wages.

James 5:4 | Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.



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Romans 1:21 | For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or **give thanks** to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.



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Tim Keller in Prayer | Think about plagiarism for a moment. Why is plagiarism taken so seriously? It is claiming that you came up with an idea yourself when you did not. It is not acknowledging dependence, that you got the idea from someone else. Plagiarism is a refusal to give thanks and give credit and is, therefore, **a form of theft**. It is not only wrongs the author of the idea – it puts you in a vulnerable position, because you are not capable of producing such ideas yourself in the future. Do you see, then, why God takes this seriously? Cosmic ingratitude is living in the illusion that you are spiritual self-sufficient. It is **taking credit for something that was a gift**.



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Matthew 22:21 | Then he said to them,
"Therefore render to Caesar the things that are
Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."



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1. No other Gods = **Stealing God's status**
2. No idols = **Stealing God's worship**
3. God's name in vain = **Stealing God's honor**
4. Remember the Sabbath = **Stealing God's day**
5. Honor Father and Mother = **Stealing neighbor's honor**
6. Do not Murder = **Stealing neighbor's life**
7. Do not commit adultery = **Stealing neighbor's spouse**
8. Do not steal = **Stealing neighbor's property**
9. Do not bear false witness = **Stealing truth from neighbor**
10. Do not covet = **Stealing in Your Heart**



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Discussion

1. Have you ever had something stolen from you? What impact did it have?
2. What is something that you don't give God enough credit and thanksgiving for?



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The 8th Commandment

Working



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Ephesians 4:28 | 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.



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Genesis 1:28 | And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 2:15 | The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.



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Tim Keller in Every Good Endeavor | [Work] is rearranging the raw material of God's creation in such a way that it helps the world in general, and people in particular, thrive and flourish.



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2 Thessalonians 3:10 | If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.



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Fall Facing Work = Pushing back against the effects of the Fall

New Creation Facing Work = Work we were created to do and will do forever



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Discussion

1. What is, or has been, your attitude toward work?
2. How do you see the work you currently do - or did in the past - pushing back the fall of creation or bringing instances of the new creation into the present day?



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The 8th Commandment

Giving



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Leviticus 27:30-32 | Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, **is the Lord's; it is holy to the Lord.** If a man wishes to redeem some of his tithe, he shall add a fifth to it. And **every tithe** of herds and flocks, **every tenth animal** of all that pass under the herdsman's staff, **shall be holy to the Lord.**



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Deuteronomy 26:1-4 | When you come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, **you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground**, which you harvest from your land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the Lord your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our fathers to give us.' Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God.



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2 Corinthians 8:1-4 | We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in **the relief of the saints.**



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1 Corinthians 9:13-14 | Do you not know that **those who are employed in the temple service** get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? **In the same way**, the Lord commanded that **those who proclaim the gospel** should get their living by the gospel.



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Matthew 23:23 | Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For **you tithe** mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. **These you ought to have done**, without neglecting the others.



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Numbers 18:26 | Moreover, you shall speak and say to the Levites, 'When you take from the people of Israel the tithe that I have given you from them for your inheritance, then you shall present a contribution from it to the Lord, **a tithe of the tithe.**



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What Kevin and Holly Do (descriptive, not prescriptive)

- 9.4% of our gross income - Goal: 12%
- 7.7% to Canyon Creek (82 % of giving) - Goal 10%
- 1.7% to missionaries (18% of giving) - Goal 2%
- Give on 1st of the month (first-fruits)
- Saved money dog-eared for gifts/charity
- Received modest inheritance and gave 5% to church.



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Greed



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1 Corinthians 9:6-7 | The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must **give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion**, for God loves a cheerful giver.



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1 Timothy 6:10 | For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

Matthew 19:23-24 | And Jesus said to his disciples, "Truly, I say to you, only with difficulty will a rich person enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.



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Hosea 6:6 | For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.



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Generosity



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2 Corinthians 8:1-3 | We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, **their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity** on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and **beyond their means, of their own accord.**



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2 Samuel 2:24 | But the king said to Araunah, "No, but I will buy it from you for a price. **I will not offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God that cost me nothing.**"



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CS Lewis in Mere Christianity | I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. In other words, if our expenditure on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc, is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little. If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditure excludes them.



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Loving God through the 7th Commandment

Action

Negative: Do not steal, do not be idle

Positive: Work productively, give generously

Allegiance:

To God - Tithe - commitment to give to Christ and his church

To Neighbor - Offerings - meet needs as able

Affection:

Jesus became poor, Jesus emptied himself



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2 Corinthians 8:8-9 | I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that **though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor**, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

Philippians 2:6-8 | Though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but **emptied himself**, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.



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Assurance of Grace | Ephesians 2:4-7

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.



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Next Week:

The 9th Commandment: You Shall Not Bear False Witness



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