

Discussion Questions 4/30/23

Commandment #8 - Do Not Steal

Intro: Am I guilty of stealing? Many of us think we have a pretty clear cut idea whether we steal. You may be surprised how vast of an idea this is for God. When God called his people not to steal he had more in mind than simply taking objects that do not belong to you.

Story: Has there been a time in your life that you had something stolen from you? How has God helped you to form a forgiving heart?

Read: Exodus 20:15

- 1. God gave the 10 commandments in an effort to create an ordered society. How does stealing undermine the ability of a society to remain ordered? Why does that matter to God?
- 2. Read John 12:3-6. John noted that Judas had been skimming money off the top of the moneybags. Jesus must have known this, and yet he still allowed Judas to be a part of the 12. Judas literally stole from the money that was funding Jesus' ministry. What does this teach us about Jesus?
- 3. Read Joshua 7:1-12. God gave strict commands against plundering but Achan thought he could still get away with that. The result was God turning his back on the whole community. Often times some of us are stealing time or effort from our employers. What are the implications that you are bringing on your whole business in these moments?
- 4. Has anyone ever stolen your peace? You may not realize it, but you've probably stolen someone else's peace. How does the gospel help you to generously give peace rather than stealing it?
- 5. God blesses us to be a blessing to others. Many of us have been stolen from and our gut tells us to lash out and get even. How might we forgive the way that Jesus has forgiven us?

Pray for:

- Forgiveness for the ways we've stolen without even realizing it.
- God to forgive those who have stolen from you.

• The prayer requests in your group.