

How should we then live?



#thePLEDGE is a series on the Ten Commandments to guide us through this season:

▪ **Read Exodus 20:1-17**

▪ **Today:**

Exodus 20:13 "You shall not murder."

1. The precise meaning of "murder" –
2. The positive & negative [implications](#) of this law –
3. We all have the [seed](#) of murder within us –
4. #thePLEDGE is the [solution](#).

Application In Community



Note: When I, as an individual, try to figure out how to apply this law to all aspects of my life (personal, moral, political, who I vote for, what companies I support, how I view TV or media or interpret current events), *if I do not have the perspective of multiple other people who are different from myself speaking into my life and challenging my presuppositions in a small group*, then I will exist in an echo chamber with blinders on, which will create (for me) some divisive walls within church community and between myself and our culture.

That's a fancy way of saying that you need to be in a small group: we have Home Communities, Alpha on Wednesday, Grief Share on Saturdays, and other Life Groups that are forming (see Pastor Ryan for details or to form your own Life Group).

Application Questions:

1. What is the distinction between justified killing and murder? Can you think of examples of killing of a human that is not murder? How would you justify your position?
 - How might you justify your position within Christian community vs. non-Christian community?¹

2. We are in the midst of a very divisive political season: how are our words on FB or Twitter or in gossip or slander considered murder?
 - What might potentially occur in our culture if we do not curtail our tongue? (cf. James 3)
 - Pray out loud together T.A.C.S related to James 3 –
 - T – Thanks
 - A – Adoration
 - C – Confession
 - S – Supplication²

¹ Our primary authority is the Bible. The following are scriptures related to topics that distinguish killing from murder: Abortion (Psalm 139:13-17; Jeremiah 1:5; Ex. 21:21-22); Death Penalty (Gen. 9:6; Rom. 13:1-6; for murder see Ex. 21:12; for adultery see Lev. 20:10 – there are 36 examples of capital punishment in the OT); Self Defense (Ex. 22:2); Accidental Killing (Det. 19:5); Just War (1 Sam. 15; Rom. 13:4).

² May we focus on our needs to be filled with the Spirit in such a time as this.