

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?<sup>1</sup>
  
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 – Supplication<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 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).

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