

October 23, 2022

Commandment 8

Large Group 6th – 12th grade

Ice breaker 10 min

Worship 15 min

Lesson 15 min

Review

- What commandments have we done so far?
 - Have no other God's before me
 - Do not have idols
 - Do not use the Lord's name in vain
 - Sabbath
 - Honor your father and mother
 - Do not murder
 - Do not commit adultery

Commandment 8

- Exodus 20:15 You shall not steal.
- What we think of as stealing
 - Take a car
 - Walk out of a store with a candy bar
- Greed and theft
 - [Luke 12:15](#) Guard against greed
 - [1 Timothy 6:6-10](#)
 - If we have enough food and clothes, we can be content
 - Failure to be content will lead to other sins
 - Do not steal time from your employer
 - [Colossians 3:22-23](#)
 - Do all things as if you are doing them for the lord
 - Subtle items, like plagiarism?
 - What about failure to give?
 - [Malachi 3:8](#)
- If we cheat a little, what is the harm?
 - [The Bus Driver and the Priest](#)

- A story to illustrate consequences of stealing, even if it seems like it does not matter

- What is the solution?
 - Be content (Return to 1 Timothy 6:6-10)
 - [Matthew 6:9-13](#) - Pray for our needs
 - [Ephesians 4:28](#) - work hard, give often

Small Group Questions

**Based on the topic, this week's small group discussion could be a little light. We can plan on a couple other areas being longer, but if the discussion is quick, it is OK to spend extra time catching up or doing some prayer, etc.

Have you ever had a time like that in the bus driver story? Did it have an obvious positive or negative end?

Have you ever been the victim of theft? How did it make you feel?

Are there any examples of stealing you have encountered that were maybe not as obvious as taking an item from a store?

[Take credit for someone else's work (plagiarism, or letting someone think you did something you did not do), not working hard for a paycheck, overcharging someone, sell a cheap product for more than it is worth, 2 movies for 1 at the theater]

Is it possible to steal someone's reputation? How?

[Slander, gossip, or otherwise will cause damage to another person's reputation while seeking gain for one's self]

Do you regard stealing as a major or minor sin? How do you decide?

Are there any business practices that are forms of stealing?

Case Study: Recently a teenager was discovered to have made thousands of dollars by investing in \$2 stocks. After purchasing the stocks, the teenager, using many different names, would enter many "chat rooms" on the Internet and encourage others to buy the same stocks. He would assert (without any

knowledge of the companies' financial state, nor the quality of their product or service) the stocks were sure to increase greatly in value quickly. The teen would then sell his stock shortly thereafter when others, following his advice, bought stock thus raising the value of it. Do you think that the teen was guilty of breaking the 8th commandment? Why or why not?