



In Person & Zoom Community Group Lesson – November 6 & 9, 2022

Commandment #8 - Do not steal

Main Point

- You must not steal

Scripture

- “You shall not steal.” Exodus 20:15

Prayer Time

- Spend a couple of minutes in praise and prayer to God.

Praise and Worship

- Faithful Now – Vertical Worship
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cTrf5hwA5T0>

Memory Verse

- 1 John 5:3
 - “In fact, here is what it means to love God. We love Him by obeying His commands. And His commands are not hard to obey.”

Review of Last Week

- Last week we learned that God wants us to keep our promises to Him and to others.
- Did you keep a promise this week? Did you break a promise this week? What if you didn't feel like keeping a promise this week? What did you do?

Lesson

- We are going to learn about what God thinks about stealing by reading a story in the Bible about a man named Achan, found in Joshua 7.
- Achan and his family lived in a tent. Yes, that might sound strange to you, because your family and the people you know probably live in houses or apartment buildings. But living in tents was quite common for Achan and his friends.
- Achan had everything he needed.
He had his tent-home.
He had a flock of sheep for wool to make clothing.
He had herds of cattle for milk and meat.
He had a wife and children that loved him.

Achan should have been very happy.
But he wasn't.

- Achan wanted more.
- One day Achan saw some very lovely things. Here is what he saw a beautiful robe from Babylon, a piece of gold, and some silver coins
- As he looked at those items, he thought, "I sure would like to have all that. My clothes are made from sheep's wool. That robe from Babylon is much nicer than the clothing I have. It would look so good on me. And if I had that gold and those silver coins, why, I could buy anything I want."
- Achan thought it all over in his mind. The more he thought about it, the better it sounded. The new robe and all that money was just too good to pass up. He couldn't just leave it there. After all, if he didn't take it, someone else would come along and take it, right? He finally made his decision. Achan picked up the gold and the silver coins and put them in a safe place, then he carefully placed the expensive robe over his shoulder so it would not get dirty or wrinkled. Achan was so happy as he journeyed home. He almost couldn't believe his good fortune.
- After Achan got home with his treasures, he began to think more about what he had done. He thought, "None of my friends have a robe like this one. It is so special that if I wear it, they will wonder where I got it. I can't tell them I found it and stole it." Then he thought about the gold and the silver. "If I take this gold to the market and try to buy new things, people will wonder how I got the gold. Only the rich people have gold and I am not rich. I can't use the silver either, because it is not from my country, and they will know that I have stolen it. What can I do now?"
- Achan began to dig a hole. He dug a deep hole in the ground under his tent. In that hole, he buried the robe, the gold, and the silver. "Ah, that takes care of that!" he thought. "It is all under the ground, and no one will ever know what I have done."
- Problem is, Achan forgot about God. Achan forgot that God sees everything and knows what he did. In the end, Achan had to be punished for the sin he committed.
- God dealt with Achan severely because God hates dishonesty! But as much as God hates stealing, He will forgive you when you are truly sorry about what you have done.
- Others, like your mom, dad, friends, support workers will also forgive you when you repent of wrongdoing.

Application and Group Discussion

- Have you ever taken something that didn't belong to you?
- How did you feel?
- Did you give it back?
- What did Achan do?
- What happened to Achan?
- Even if you think no one is watching when you take something that does not belong to you, who always sees you?
- If you do steal something, what must you do?

Live it out Challenge

- Have you ever taken something that belongs to someone else without asking? Have you ever borrowed something without returning it? Have you taken something without paying for it? Ask God to forgive you and help you not to do it again.

Activity

X	O	H	L	D	J	R	O	H	D	K	L	D	Q	D	X
Z	O	N	X	H	S	C	J	R	M	E	E	I	T	N	
Q	E	J	D	P	V	T	E	Z	O	A	A	W	A	L	E
O	X	B	F	M	S	N	F	S	L	M	R	U	N	A	T
X	O	S	A	L	O	E	Z	T	O	J	S	W	I	H	H
T	D	G	B	A	N	M	T	E	R	C	I	B	S	S	Q
D	U	H	G	N	P	D	N	A	F	A	F	M	T	E	G
K	S	G	R	D	U	N	I	L	N	Q	O	O	N	M	I
U	Z	S	V	O	G	A	V	X	F	J	N	S	U	P	I
C	O	X	N	F	G	M	N	Y	H	M	K	E	O	P	L
X	:	E	G	E	M	M	K	O	T	Q	R	S	M	O	N
B	I	R	J	G	U	O	A	R	M	I	D	G	O	D	E
P	S	P	B	Y	O	C	U	F	G	K	L	J	T	Q	H
U	S	S	Y	P	H	M	S	X	N	G	I	D	R	F	L
F	R	R	A	T	T	B	O	F	Z	Z	H	L	P	Z	H
P	B	T	O	N	X	W	F	C	Q	R	C	C	K	E	Q

Find the hidden words and circle them.

Ten
Commandments
God
Lord
Moses
Children of Israel
Exodus 20:15

Thou
Shalt
Not
Steal

Land Of Egypt
Mount Sinai

3

eight

You shall not steal.

