

Sermon Notes



Title: "The Eighth Commandment: Trying to Take What Belongs to God"

Text: Exodus 20:15

Theme: The Eighth Commandment sums up another important perspective about our condition before God and our propensity to sin. We take what doesn't belong to us, and we act as though it is ours. Realize that your life is not your own.

I. Exposition of Exodus 20:15

A. The Eighth Commandment assumes respect for

_____.

B. A corollary supposition of the Eighth Commandment is a

_____.

C. The Bible often speaks of theft

_____.

II. The Westminster Larger Catechism and the Eighth Commandment

A. Question _____ of the *Catechism* says the basic duty of the Eighth Commandment is "_____, faithfulness, and justice in _____ and

_____ between man and man."

B. Promoting the truth by being _____ is a main duty of the Eighth Commandment.

III. Applications

A. You steal from God when you fail to give Him His _____ when you _____ Him.

B. You steal from God when you _____ support for His Kingdom.

C. When you _____ to give God your _____ because you consider it your _____, you "_____ " from God.

Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group:

1. What is the Eighth Commandment (Exodus 20:15; Deuteronomy 5:19)?
2. What does it mean to “steal”?
3. The Eighth Commandment assumes respect and protection for what?
4. Who owns everything?
5. Are riches and possessions evil? How do we know?
6. What is a corollary supposition of the Eighth Commandment?
7. What are some other ways the Bible speaks about theft in a non-literal sense?
8. In the Bible, when a person who stole something was caught, what did he have to do?
9. In Scripture, if a thief could not repay what he stole, what happened?
10. According to the *Westminster Larger Catechism*, what is the basic duty of the Eighth Commandment?
11. In what sense is it true that “all sin is theft”?
12. In what ways do people fail to “give” (offer, present) their lives to God? In what ways have you failed to give God your life?
13. Is it possible to “rob” God when we worship Him? How?
14. How do we often “rob” God in a material (or, monetary) sense?
15. Are there gifts, talents, abilities, or opportunities you have that should be offered to God for the advancement of His Kingdom but that you are withholding?