

Welcome back to the Ten Commandments Series: “JUST DO IT!”
“Commandments #8 Do not Steal” 2-12-17

Please catch last week’s sermon “10 Do’s Part 1” www.ENJOYLWC.com
 Also find the “BEACON Devotional” at the website.

We like to start with something funny each week: I heard about this man who checked into a hotel in Miami, Florida. He had arrived from a business trip ahead of his wife who would fly to meet him the next day for their wedding Anniversary. There was a computer in the hectic lobby, so he decided to send an e-mail to his Bride. However, he accidentally left out a letter in her e-mail address without knowing it, and he hit “SEND!”

Meanwhile.....somewhere in New York, a widow had just returned home from her husband's funeral. Her husband was a Pastor of many years who died of a sudden heart attack. The widow decided to check her e-mail, expecting messages from relatives and friends. BUT After reading the first message, she fainted.

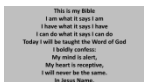
The widow's son rushed into the room, found his mother on the floor, and saw the computer screen which read:

To: My Loving Wife

Subject: “I have Arrived”

I know you're surprised to hear from me so soon. They have computers in the busy waiting area so I decided to share the news: I am officially checked in! I see that everything has been prepared for your arrival HERE tomorrow morning! Looking forward to seeing you SOON!

P.S. : IT Sure is hot down here!



We have a tradition: Grab your Bible and hold it up today:

“THIS IS MY BIBLE

I am what it says I am!

I HAVE what it says I Have!

I CAN DO what it says I can do!”

Today I WILL be taught the Word of God,


I boldly CONFESS: My Mind is Alert, my Heart is Receptive,


I will NEVER be the same, In Jesus name. (Pray)

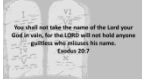



NIKE SPORTS has coined the slogan that says what?


“JUST _____” (DO IT!). In other words STOP MAKING EXCUSES - & GO FOR IT!”


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• **First command:** ²“I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of slavery.” **LIVE FREE! ~JUST DO IT!** Stay out of Egypt!!
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• **Second command:** Exodus 20: ³“You shall have no other gods before^{me} me. Stop making or seeking idols to replace ME!” ... **ENJOY GOD ALONE- JUST DO IT!**
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• **3rd:** ⁷“You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.” **BLESS GOD’S NAME- JUST DO IT!**
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• **4th:** ⁸“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.” Enjoy the Sabbath rest that God lovingly made for man. **JUST DO IT!** Can others tell we have BEEN TO CHURCH!?! (Attitude/ smile/ contagious Christian!?)
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• **5th:** “Honor your father and mother” – give their advice and wisdom weight. Comes with a promise of long life! 😊 Even after death Honor my dad-
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• **6th:** “Do not murder” - Yet Jesus takes it further to not get angry, or call names, or hate (All which in that order LEAD TO MURDER) **JUST DO IT!**
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• **7th:** “Do not commit adultery” (Sin starts with a “Glance”) We had 25 men out on Wednesday for Conquer Group! NICE! HOW many tonight at 6:30? 😊



Today I want to talk to you about: Commandment #8 “You Shall Not Steal”

We are ALL more paranoid of being stolen from than ever:

Let me illustrate our Paranoia with Stealing:

- How many locked your cars AT CHURCH TODAY? Good job!
- How many of you lock your car at the grocery store? (I do!)
- How many of you lock your house at night? (I do!)
- How many of you leave your car running at Springwater grocery store? (maybe)
 - In Rochester? (NEVER!)
- How many of us have video surveillance at your HOUSE?? (Yep!)
- **What’s red butn on your keyfob (Opportunity to PANIC!!!!)**

WE ARE PARANOID!!!!!! (we do NOT want to be taken advantage of!) We don’t want to be stolen from!

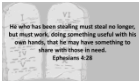
So why would we do it to others?

WHAT is Stealing?: (To KNOWINGLY take what does not belong to you; to borrow without permission; to Take Advantage of-theft)

Illustration: We went to Applebees for Ezra's bday! Was nice. I realized they didn't charge me for my rootbeer. In conversation we paid and left. Forgot about it.

Ez ran into walmart and realized that the clerk gave them a \$20 in change instead of the proper \$10! So Mom and boys went back in to return it (which was much longer than I expected!) BUT then I remembered the root beer! Now it's REALLY LATE, I gotta do the sermon for Sunday yet and it's late Thurs! So I told myself "I will do it later!" Well..... Anyone said that?? So then it was Thursday of this week and I'm on this sermon and YES! GOD BRINGS THIS UP! "What about the root beer?" I'm like "God, it's just a \$2 root beer! Really!?" YEP! So I called Geneseo Applebees and the gal said, "Wow sir (like what kind of awful person stole a root beer!)" I will have to get a manager. Mike the manager gets on and listens. We chat about it long enough till he finds the actual receipt. Then he said, "Sir, I have to say that you are a true rarity. To reward your integrity consider the rootbeer on the house and thank you for calling to make it right." COOL!

It was INCONVENIENT to make it right- At Walmart, then at Applebees! But it was RIGHT. It's a "TEST" that God wants to make into your "testimony!"



Ephesians 4:

28 "He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need."

SO! *How ARE WE the church guilty of Stealing? (Some of us are thinking "I'm NOT ever guilty of this- really?)"*

- *Have you ever had someone say "I have to get going, I am running late." But you take another 10 minutes to share one more thing? Then you are guilty of _____)*
 - Remember last week: IF we have been angry with a brother and called them names or graduated to hate then we have KILLED and STOLEN a piece of their self worth, their value! **Made in likeness of God like you!** Amen? Get this down in your spirit. All of us are made in God's likeness- treat each other likewise.
 - How are we doing with STEALING WORK PENS/ pencils from school / BOX BLADES from work: "Oh, they won't miss this, they have hundreds (Um, they used to. You now have 37 of them! ☺) You didn't mean to, but YOU STILL HAVE THEM, is that then stealing? (\$20 at the Walmart given back)
 - How about when you sell that used car and the buyer says "Can you say that I bought it for \$200 when it was actually \$2000." What then? Tax on \$200 @ 8% is \$16. Tax you should pay (whether you believe it's fair or not!- render to Caesar what is Caesars) is \$160. Difference is \$144. Sounds HUGE, but hey when that happened to me I said **"Hey, if it is that much of a deal I will come down in price \$150 in price and more than make it up to you so that I can sign my name to actual price with clear conscience."** Do NOT Cheapen your word by stealing, then lying to steal, goes from bad to worse!
 - **-How are we doing with Stealing from GOD? (can I steal from God?)**

Jesus says: "Render to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's."

Malachi 3:8 - Yes we can steal from God:

"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me." But you ask, "How do we rob you?" In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse--the whole nation of you--because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Malachi 3:8-10

8"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me.

"But you ask, 'How do we rob you?'

"In tithes and offerings. 9You are under a curse--the whole nation of you--because you are robbing me. 10Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house.

Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it." Malachi 3:10-11

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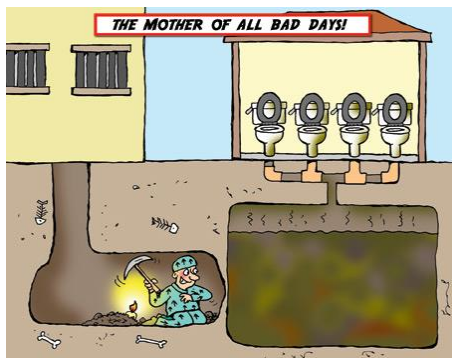
That's why PC and I auto give our tithe directly to the church each week out of our account - it comes out first and we live off the rest (and AUTO GIVE SO WE DON'T FORGET!-, so we don't steal from God). Robbye has a quick form for you to start auto giving now. (And some of us maybe need to adjust UPWARD our tithe to Honor God in giving back a portion which he has given us) – It comes with a HUGE PROMISE! Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.

SO, Review:

- Don't steal others time by not honoring their time.
- Don't steal from your neighbor's heart by words that wound . Don't"steal, kill, destroy"
- Don't steal from your neighbor's possessions (even if u think they owe you)
- And DON'T steal from God in tithes and offerings, thereby removing your own blessing.

Do SOMETHING useful with your hands, with your words....so that you may share! AMEN?!

JUST DO IT!



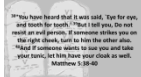
DON'T MAKE IT WORSE! MAKE IT RIGHT! Amen!?

- If you got a root beer at Applebees without pay~ Make it Right!
- If you called someone a name or belittled them ~ Make it Right!
- If you got \$10 too much back at Walmart, save their job (love) and Make it Right!
- If you took pens and box cutters from work, ~ Make it RIGHT!
- If..... (whatever God has on your heart right now).....
MAKE IT RIGHT! ☺

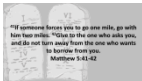
Let me balance this by saying “WE HAVE ALL HAD SOMETHING STOLEN” from us.
(SHOUT OUT SOMETHING STOLEN.....)

Let me remind you to Be a VICTOR and not a VICTIM! Physical things can be replaced – and yet somethings aren’t open for theft:

- “Dignity” is not stealable if your confidence is CHRIST. Amen? Don’t give it away!
- Confidence is under LOCK and KEY! It shouldn’t get rocked by careless words of others UNLESS YOU CHOOSE to have your confidence in the flesh. CHOOSE YE THIS DAY WHOM YOU WILL SERVE!
- Matthew 5:38



Jesus tells us how to respond to being stolen from: **38**“You have heard that it was said, ‘Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.’ **39**But I tell you, **Do not resist** an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, **turn to him** the other also. **40**And if someone wants to sue you and steal your tunic, **let him have your cloak as well.**



41If someone forces you to go one mile, **go** with him two miles. **42****Give** to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

SO - Even if you are being victimized by theft..... Jesus says how to spin it around and donate it, then you are no longer the victim, you are the VOLUNTARY GIVER!

Go figure! JESUS LIVED WHAT HE PREACHED! He knew how He would die and it was not going to be pretty. Jesus said “No one takes my life from me, **but I lay it down of my own accord.**” John 10:18.

-DO Something useful, not being stealing, but having something to Share

Prayer:

- Friend, today you may have an OPPORTUNITY TO “Make IT right” because you have STOLEN a piece from your neighbor,
- maybe a piece of his/her self worth, self confidence,
- Or maybe you borrowed something SO LONG that it is YOURS (like the rake from my Father in law last fall..... I didn’t mean to keep it, but I still had it till 2 weeks ago.)
- -Maybe we have property from work or school that doesn’t belong to us, or the gas mart gave you too much change back and you KEPT IT (that is “Stealing” – sorry ;-)
- Maybe you have been the VICTIM of stealing or abuse (you’ve been violated).
- Go the extra mile and give to your enemy, as the woman who was abducted in her home by the murderer and she shared with him from the Purpose Driven Life about God’s forgiveness and plans..... IT WORKS!!!

LOVE sums up the laws: Love the Lord your God with all your Heart, soul, mind, and strength. Love your neighbor as yourself. Love should keep your mouth from taking His name in vain and it should bring you & I to His house to gather regularly. HONORING. JUST DO IT!

Jesus has something to say about each of the 10 Commandments. Mt. 5:17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law (the 10 Do’s) but to fulfill them.”

Let’s all pray this out loud together repeat after me “*Lord Jesus* (repeat), *forgive me of my sins* (repeat), *come into my heart* (repeat), *I make you my Lord and Savior* (repeat).”

Romans 10:9 “If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

Thoughts from PC:

Ten is also viewed as a complete and perfect number

In Genesis 1 we find the phrase "God said" 10 times, which is a testimony of His creative power. God gave the 10 Commandments to man. Ten therefore represents man's responsibility to keep the commandments. A tithe is a 10th of our earnings and is a testimony of our faith in the Lord.

God gave us the 10 Commandments that were a reflection of His expectations of mankind and as a way to represent His holiness. The first four are vertical (towards God) and the last six are horizontal (human relations). Couldn't there have been more than 10 Commandments? Why not 15 or 20? The fact is that the 10 Commandments, if kept, would be all that society would require to live in peace and harmony with both God and mankind. The number 10 seems to reflect God's authority or God's governmental rule over the affairs of mankind. This is seen elsewhere as in the 10 elders that were placed in most of the city gates of Israel (Ruth 4:2) so the number 10 also seems to represent man's responsibility of obedience to God's law. Such a number seems to indicate the law, responsibility and a completeness of order in both divine and human structures of society. Some scholars see 10 as the number of divine perfection.

From <<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/christiancrier/2014/10/04/what-does-the-number-ten-10-mean-or-represent-in-the-bible/>>

Reminder: God gave the 10 commandments to guide us and to give us a glimpse of who he is.... All about Love....1st 4 - Love God.... Rest - love each other

YOU SHALL NOT STEAL

Not only about stealing things....stealing ideas, friendships, stealing glory from God, people's time,

When we steal we are saying we don't trust God to take care of our needs...or that he hasn't given us enough.

Greed

Hebrews 13:5 (NIV)

⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

“Never will I leave you;
never will I forsake you

We don't have to steal because God has promised to be our supply

Respecting peoples property

We understand the Torah commandment to mean not only stealing from others but stealing from ourselves by not practicing inner honesty. When we lie to ourselves, we steal from the truth, rationalize that is unjust and ultimately rob ourselves of the blessing of inner peace. The sages believed that every sin is stealing from God. (if you want more explanation on this go to: http://www.hebrew4christians.com/Scripture/Torah/Ten_Cmds/Eighth_Cmd/eighth_cmd.html)

Stealing is an act based on FEAR, since the attitude behind the action shows a lack of trust in God that He will provide for our needs.

Original language to steal, theft, carry away stealthily, to deceive (that inner disposition that carries out the action of theft)

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