

The Ten Commandments
Applying the Law to Our Daily Circumstances

Introduction

Passages:

Matthew 22:37-40

1 Timothy 1:8

1 John 5:3

Agree/Disagree. It is easier to give an example of breaking the Commandments from our own life than that of our neighbor.

Passage:

Luke 18:9-14

Purpose of the Law discussion is what exactly?

First Commandment

“You shall have no other gods.”

WDTM?

“We should fear, love and trust in God above all things.”

What is the chief purpose of the Law?

Romans 3:19,20

How are we under the Law?

We chafe at being accountable to anyone, however, we want to hold others accountable. Can we explain the double standard.

How is a mirror a good teaching tool when talking about the Law?

What is the ‘Adam and Eve’ syndrome?

Without the Law we cannot appreciate the _____.

List five subtle ways we misuse the Law on a daily basis.

Passage:

Genesis 3:1-7

What are some excuses we use to justify our breaking of the Law?

What role does peer pressure have in our life?

Situation ethics: permissible for a person to change moral behavior because of extenuating circumstances. (mother steals so child doesn't starve)

Passage:

1 Samuel 15: 1-35

What was Saul instructed to do even before the battle began?

Why such totality?

What did Saul end up doing with God's command?

How did Saul practice situation ethics?

The Lord responded how to Saul's disobedience?

What might be a situation ethics dilemma for us?

Genesis 22:1-14

How does Abraham show respect for God's commands?

How does Abraham show love for God's commands?

How did Abraham show trust in God's commands? (Hebrews 11:17-19 for assistance)

Proverbs 8:10-13

How is understanding to be shown?

Give an example of how we at times fail to 'fear' God due to our family comes first.

Give an example of how concern for our family may result in a lack of trust in God.

Give an example of how personal relationships may come between us and God.

When things are lacking...How does complaining show a lack of respect for God?
(Look at Numbers 11:1-6 before answering)

What are some of our most common complaints? (in general)

When things are abundant... What point was Jesus making with this parable,
Luke 12:13-21?

How do we sometimes reflect this same ungodly attitude?

Passage:

Numbers 20:1-13

What do you think motivated Moses to such action?

Why did Moses' position make this sin all the more serious?

1 Corinthians 10:11-13

Name three things that God wants us to be confident about.

How does our self-confidence undermine the confidence we might otherwise have in God?

In Summary

Name three specific instances in which Jesus kept the First Commandment for us.

Other ways the First Commandment is broken...

Idols – Exodus 20:4,5
Romans 1:22,23

Christless – John 5:22,23
gods John 8:42

Evolutionary – Hebrews 11:3
Theory

We Elevate Ourselves ABOVE GOD

We Put People Or Things BEFORE GOD

We Rob God Of The GLORY DUE GOD

The Ten Commandments - 2 *Applying the Law to Our Daily Circumstances*

Introduction

Simplest Summary of God's Law:

Purpose of the Law discussion is what exactly?

Without the Law we cannot appreciate the _____.

The 1st Commandments zeroes in _____.

When you hear a particular person's name, what comes to mind?

Second Commandment

“You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God.”

WDTM?

**“We should fear and love God that we do not use His name to curse,
swear, lie or deceive, or use it superstitiously (or use witchcraft),
but call upon God's name in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.”**

What is the difference between the ‘spirit of the law’ and the ‘letter of the law’?

Boy writing with stick in cement ... I didn't touch it the stick did

Adam and Eve Syndrome: look for a way to get around following the command

Which question is better to proceed with...

What can I do and get away with it?

What can I do to be the kind of person God wants me to be?

Comment:

Too often we look at the Law and think of what “I can't do” rather than look at it and say “This is what I get to do.” Why is this? (1/2 full/empty)

Passages:

Exodus 3:1-15

What caught Moses' attention?

What is the significance of the words in verse 6?

How was Moses to answer the possible questions of the Israelites regarding who sent him?

Yahweh ... The LORD ... God of the covenant

What, then, was God revealing about Himself to the Israelites?

Exodus 34:5-7

What words describe God's justice?

What words describe that God is gracious?

Do we struggle with how God can be perfectly both just and gracious because we cannot be?

John 8:48-59

Describe the problem the Jews had with Jesus.

What points does Jesus make concerning His identity?

The Names of God:

God – divine goodness, power

Lord – emphasizes grace and faithfulness to His promises

Jesus – savior

Savior – to save/rescue

Christ – anointed one, referring to His office (prophet, priest, king) [Messiah]

With said definitions above, signifying important aspects of God, give example of how we often use God's name in a careless or thoughtless manner.

Passages:

1 Samuel 4:3-11

How did Israel misuse the ark, which was a symbol of God's mercy?

1 Samuel 6:19,20

What was the sin for which God punished these men?

The cross is used as a symbol of God's mercy. How do we sometimes use the cross in an unholy or superstitious manner?

The Use of God's Name:

Curse = Pronounce a punishment of God upon someone.

Swear = Asking God to be a witness to what we are saying.

Passages:

1 Corinthians 5:1-5

Are we ever allowed to pronounce God's curse on someone?

What do we call the process described here?

Numbers 22:15-20

Matthew 5:33-37

Matthew 26:69-75

Judges 11:29-39

Malachi 2:13-16

Would our Confirmation Vow be a questionable oath since we may not live up to it? Why/Why not?

Passages:

Psalm 145:1-12

What is a proper use of God's name mentioned here?

How might we misrepresent God to our world?

1 Samuel 28:7-25

Think of some examples we might be tempted to seek help from some source other than God.

Acts 8:9-25

How potent is superstition in our world today? Explain your answer.

Revelation 5:8

List four items you want to pray for today:

CALL UPON

PRAY REGULARLY

PRAISE HIM TO OTHERS

GIVE HIM THANKS

The Ten Commandments - 3 *Applying the Law to Our Daily Circumstances*

Introduction

Simplest Summary of God's Law:

Purpose of the Law discussion is what exactly?

Without the Law we cannot appreciate the _____.

The 1st Commandment zeroes in on _____.

The 2nd Commandment has God's _____ as the focus.

Recall the three laws which governed Israel during and after Moses' leadership.

Why does one follow a recipe when they cook? Why do people eat, sleep, work, etc.?

Third Commandment

“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.”

WDTM?

**“We should fear and love God that we do not despise preaching and His Word,
but regard it as holy and gladly hear and learn it.”**

What was/is the purpose of the Sabbath – rest?

Matthew 11:28-29

Feast of Unleavened Bread ... 1st month (March/April), connected with the Passover

Feast of Harvest ... 3rd month (May/June), Pentecost, first-fruits of wheat

Ingathering ... 7th month (September/October), celebration of harvest, live in booths

(See Exodus 23 & Leviticus 24 for more information)

Is the law a burden or a blessing?

See again 1 John 5:3

See also Psalm 119:33-40 & 122:1

What is the attitude in these passages and why is that?

What is the immediate danger that comes when we fail to follow this particular Commandment?

Passages:

Luke 8:4-15

How do we sometimes act like the ground along the path?

How do we sometimes act like the rock? (Luke 10:16)

How do we sometimes act like the soil that produced weeds to choke out the seed? (James 1:22-24)

How do we sometimes act like the good soil?

Luke 10:38-42

When do 'I' act like Martha?

Mary did the 'superior' thing at this point in time, how so?

Acts 2:42-47

What makes studying the Bible so important in the life and fellowship of a Christian congregation?

What can we do locally to get more involved in Bible Study?

Acts 17:10-12

What is the encouragement from this section of Scripture?

How does one from the pew carry through on this encouragement?

"We preach the true word of God" is a boast our church often makes. Why might people regard this an empty boast?

Something to think about:

List as many reasons as you can why hearing God's Word is vital to our personal lives and to our church.

List excuses we often give for neglecting God's Word. How are such invalid?

Passages:

Hebrews 10:19-25

What is the 'new and living' way to approach worship?

What are the 'actions' we are to do, stated in verses 23-25?

Colossians 2:13-17

Why did Paul urge the Colossians to assert their rights to choose their forms of worship?

Romans 14:15-18

Under what circumstances is our freedom to choose any form restricted by love for our *brother*?

1 Corinthians 14:40

What general guideline should be observed as we choose our form of worship?

The Church Year:

Festival – Life of Christ

Advent ... Coming, 4 weeks

Christmas ... Birth

Epiphany ... Appearing, 4-9 weeks

Lent ... Suffering, 6 weeks

Easter ... Resurrection, 7 weeks

Ascension ... to Heaven, 40 days after Easter

Pentecost ... Holy Spirit, 50 days after Easter

Trinity ... Triune God

In Conclusion:

1 Peter 2:2

Prayer versus Worship

Psalm 145:3-5

Refuse to Hear It
Crowd It Out
Listen but not Obey It

Hear & Learn It
Believe & Obey It
Share It with Others

The Ten Commandments - 4 & 5 *Applying the Law to Our Daily Circumstances*

Introduction

Simplest Summary of God's Law:

How do the Law and the Gospel work together?

1st Commandment: God's _____ 2nd Commandment: God's _____

3rd Commandment: God's _____

What are some of the earthly blessings we are able to enjoy in connection with the Commandments, in particular the 4th and 5th?

Fourth Commandment

**"Honor your father and mother, that it may go well
with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."
WDTM?**

**"We should fear and love God that we do not dishonor or
anger our parents and others in authority,
but honor, serve, and obey them, and give them love and respect."**

Comment: The real basis of the law is love.

Passage:

Luke 11:42

What is the issue Jesus has with the Pharisees?

Comment: Real love in the Bible sense is the unselfish activity of giving ourselves in service to others. How does this play itself out even with our 'enemies'?

Those who have authority over us...

Ephesians 6:1-4

What do the words 'obey' and 'honor' mean to you?

Is the promise with this Commandment still valid? Explain.

Is the behavior of children worse, better, or the same as when you grew up?

Explain the use of the word "exasperate".

Explain the role of discipline to a child.

2 Timothy 3:1-5

Other than the sinful nature, how do 'we' end up at this point?

Hebrews 13:7-17

What is the pastor's role and how can you assist him in that role?

Romans 13:1-7

What are the key words when it comes to what we owe governing leaders?

Explain the role of government.
Explain the role of the people.

How does God fit into this mix of government and people?

How can an ungodly government still be an agent of God?

Ephesians 6:5-9

What are the roles of employers and employees to one another and why?

Church
soul

Home
soul & body

Government
body

Fifth Commandment

"You shall not murder."

WDTM?

**"We should fear and love God that we do not hurt or harm
our neighbor in his body,
but help and befriend him in every bodily need."**

What is one's "Time of Grace"?

Genesis 9:5,6; Isaiah 55:6

Passage:

Luke 10:25-37

Who is your neighbor?

Who might we exclude on occasion and why is this?

What though can I do to be of help to them?

What are some of the ways this Commandment is broken?

A/D. All suicides go to hell.

Passages:

Romans 12:9-21

List the loving and unloving attitudes mentioned here in these verses...

How are such Christ-like or un-Christ-like?

List the actions based on a loving or unloving attitude...

Can you give any everyday examples of such?

Note Paul's qualifier..."as far as it depends on you"? Is this an excuse not to act?

What is the purpose of 'heaping burning coals of fire on the head'?

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Is it overstating the fact that love is the essential ingredient in a Christian's life?

With the examples mentioned, man looks at.... while God looks at...

What do we learn from these words about how one gets to heaven?

Can you come up with an everyday example for the following...

patient
kind
does not envy
does not boast
not proud
not rude
not self-seeking
not easily angered
keeps no record of wrongs
does not delight in evil
protects
rejoices with the truth
trusts
hopes
perseveres

Matthew 5:21-26

When is anger justified?

When reconciliation is called for, who has the responsibility of seeking it out?

Why the urgency noted by Jesus?

Matthew 5:38-48

Turn the other cheek...What is your take on these words?

The goal of this and other actions in line with the Law is what?

Matthew 7:1-5

Is it wrong to pass judgment on anyone? Explain.

What role does television and music and video games have in regard to this Commandment?

What about...Organ Donations...Blood Transfusions...War...Life Support...Legal Drugs...

LIFE: God's Gift.

The Ten Commandments - 6 thru 10 *Applying the Law to Our Daily Circumstances*

Introduction

The law in general (society point of view), what is its purpose?

Look at 1 Timothy 1:8-11.

The points of the Natural Law and the Written Law...without excuse!

Commandments 1 to 3 oversee our relationship with God Himself...Place in our lives, the use of His name, the Worship He is worthy to receive from us.

Commandments 4 & 6 oversee the family and relationships.

Commandments 5 & 7 oversee the body of an individual and one's possessions.

Commandment 8 oversees the reputation of an individual

Commandments 9 & 10 oversee the inner workings/attitudes/thoughts of an individual.

Sixth Commandment

"You shall not commit adultery."

WDTM?

**"We should fear and love God that we lead a pure and decent life in words and actions,
and that husband and wife love and honor each other."**

A/D. If Satan can breakdown the family, he has broken down society.

Where did 'marriage' come from?

Genesis 2:18-25

List several reasons why it is not good for the 'man' to be alone.

List several ways men and women complement each other.

Summarize Adam's reaction of Eve (pre-sin).

What would you say is the primary function of sex in marriage?

Passage:

Matthew 5:27-32

What does lust have to do with divorce?

What are some other factors that can lead to the breakdown of the marriage?

What is the exception Jesus states here for divorce?

What about the couple who 'falls out of love' or 'made a mistake when they got married' or 'decide to divorce with no Biblical grounds'?

Comment: Marriage provides the opportunity to reflect love for God by expressing love to one's spouse.

A/D. It is better to expect words of appreciation from the spouse than to simply act as God wants you to act in your particular vocation.

Comment: Love is more of an emotion than an action.

What about someone who is ...

Single

In an unnatural relationship

In an abusive relationship

What about that word 'submit' in Ephesians 5 causes the snickers to come out?

Passage:

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Seventh Commandment

"You shall not steal."

WDTM?

"We should fear and love God that we do not take our neighbor's money or property or get it by dishonest dealing, but help him to improve and protect his property and business."

Passages:

Romans 13:8-10

On the way to church, come across accident, what is the priority?

Luke 13:10-17

Will there be times when one commandment gets 'overruled' by another Commandment?

What is the Lord's word of caution with these words?

Recall the story of Abraham and Lot. What did Abraham do for Lot, though he did not have to do this? How did the 'looks' of Lot decision almost cost him everything?

Think of an example of us doing what Abraham did with Lot and the land.

Recall Leah and Rebekah. What were they fighting over and to what lengths were they willing to go for personal gain?

Recall how Jacob received the birthright from Esau.

We are never guilty of scheming ourselves, correct, especially once a Christian?

Quick look and comment on these Proverb references:

10:4

11:1,25

12:11

13:11

16:8

20:14

22:22,29

Matthew 25:14-30

A 'talent' in this case represents what?

How do we at times limit the scope of our stewardship/life management?

In what way is our giving through offerings a test of our love for God? (see 2 Corinthians 8 for more on this)

Eighth Commandment

"You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor."

WDTM?

"We should fear and love God that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him or give him a bad name, but defend him and take his words and actions in the kindest possible way."

How does one break wrong/sinful habits?

Ephesians 4:22-24

Passages:

James 3:1-12

What makes the tongue so hard to tame?

What is the secret formula on how the tongue can be tamed?

Proverbs 16:28 & 17:9

What is the damage gossip can cause and who hopes to benefit from it?

If one tells us something about others, what is to prevent them from saying something about us to another?

1 Corinthians 13:5-7

What seven things will Christian love do that will avoid gossip?

Matthew 18:15-20

How is gossip and other sins to be dealt with in a beneficial manner?

Recall the perfect tongue of Jesus. List some examples of this.

Ninth Commandment

"You shall not covet your neighbor's house."

WDTM?

"We should fear and love God that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house or obtain it by false claims, but do all we can to help him keep it."

Tenth Commandment

"You shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his workers or his animals or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

WDTM?

**"We should fear and love God that we do not force or entice
away from our neighbor his wife, workers or animals,
but urge them to stay and do their duty."**

Passages:

Hebrews 4:12,13

Note how the Word of God is described.

As such, the Word is able to do what with us?

Nobody got hurt, so what is the problem. Comment.

Romans 7:7

Not just the action, but the what is wrong from God's point of view?

1 Timothy 6:6-11

How do these words play themselves out in our life?

Recall how King David got into trouble.

Recall King Ahab's internal ordeal and what that led to...think grapes.

God wants our _____ more than anything. And if He has our _____, what will naturally follow?

Real quick: what thoughts/attitudes correspond with the first eight Commandments?

Passages:

Hebrews 13:5

What is the advice which can be of help to us?

Philippians 4:4-13

The 'secret to success' in this matter as you are handing out advice would be...

Romans 7:18-25

We must all confess and therefore give thanks where thanks is do!

Wrap Up

1 John 5:3

The Conclusion

What does God say about all these Commandments?
**He says, "I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God,
punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and
fourth generation of those who hate Me,
but showing love to a thousand generations of those who
love Me and keep My Commandments."**

What does this mean?

**God threatens to punish all who transgress these Commandments.
Therefore we should fear His anger and not disobey what He commands.
But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep
these Commandments.
Therefore we should love and trust in Him
and gladly obey what He commands.**

Also see Christian Worship, page 156 ... Personal Preparation For Holy Communion.

Christian Worship Hymns 280 - 293.

Comment:

Real love in the Bible sense
is the unselfish activity of giving ourselves in service to others.
How does this play itself out even with our 'enemies'?



