



Growth Group discussion questions for Exodus 20:12-21
Week of June 3-6, 2018

1. NCC Q39: With what attitude should we pray?
A: With love, perseverance, and gratefulness; in humble submission to God's will, knowing that, for the sake of Christ, he always hears our prayers.
Memorize, meditate on and be ready to recite **Philippians 4:6**.

2. What principles or thoughts had the most impact on you from the message on this passage on June 3rd? How were you specifically challenged? What points of application did you take away from the message?

3. Read Exodus 20:12-21 carefully at least twice.

4. The first 4 of the Ten Commandments have to do with our relationship with God. The next 6 have to do with our relationships with others.
 - a) The 5th commandment is to honor your father and your mother (v. 12). In what ways can and should you honor your parents? What about older parents? (Eph. 6:1-3, 1 Tim. 5:3-8)

 - b) In what ways can we dishonor our parents? (e.g. Ex. 21:15, 17; Mark 7:9-13)

 - c) This is the only commandment of the 10 with a promise attached (see also Deut. 5:16, 29, 33). What do you think is the meaning and extent of that promise? How might this apply to us today?

5. The 6th commandment is "You shall not murder" (v. 13). What is murder? While we might never imagine ourselves actually murdering someone, how else can we "murder" someone? What is the intended depth of this command? (see Matt. 5:21-22). How are we to handle murderous thoughts when they arise?

6. The 7th commandment is “You shall not commit adultery” (v. 14). What is adultery? What is the intended depth of this command? (see Matt. 5:27-30). How should you deal with lustful, adulterous thoughts and sins? (Job 31:1, 1 Thess. 4:3-7, Col. 3:1-6, 1 John 1:9, others?)

7. The 8th commandment is “You shall not steal” (v. 15). What are some obvious ways, and subtle ways, you can steal? What are you to do instead? (see Eph. 4:28, Ps. 37:21, Ps. 112:5, 2 Cor. 8:1-7)

8. The 9th commandment is “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor” (v. 16). How can you violate this commandment? What would motivate such a violation? (see Ex. 23:1-3; Prov. 6:16-19, 12:22; Eph. 4:25)

9. The 10th commandment is “You shall not covet...anything that is your neighbor’s” (v. 17). How can violations of this command harm relationships? How is coveting a form of idolatry (Col. 3:5)? What should rule our hearts instead? (See Phil. 4:11-13, 1 Tim. 6:6-10, Heb. 13:5)

10. God has given us some helpful big-picture clarification concerning obedience to the law. Read Matt. 22:34-40 and Rom. 13:8-10. Explain Jesus’ statement in Matt. 22:40 and Paul’s statement in Rom. 13:10b.

11. The only one who obeyed God’s law perfectly was Jesus Christ; the rest of us fail. Often. Only one violation is enough to condemn us (James 2:10). What is the good news we cling to in the face of such high expectations of holiness? (Matt. 5:17-18, Heb. 4:14-16, Rom. 8:1, 2 Cor. 5:21, 1 John 1:9)

PRAY IN THE GROUP

Vacation Bible School starts June 11. Pray that God would draw many children to faith in Christ. Pray that God would bless and encourage all of the many volunteers. Pray for the safety of all who come to VBS this year.