



GOD'S TOP TEN

You Shall Not Steal - Exodus 20:15

MAIN THING

You Don't Have A Right To The Possessions of Others

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 20:15, Genesis 25:29-34, 2 Samuel 11:1-4, Numbers 5:5-7

ICEBREAKER

When I was a child, we went to K-Mart to pick things up for the house. When we arrived home, my 6 year old sister reached in her pocket and pulled out a packet of stickers. My parents were horrified! When they asked her why she took them, she simply said, "I wanted them." My father immediately headed back to K-Mart to return the stolen stickers with my sister, and she apologized for her grand theft when they returned them. When you were a child, were you ever tempted to take something that wasn't yours? Did you follow through with it? As an adult?

OPENING THOUGHT

We all know that stealing is wrong, but many of us are guilty of it daily. We steal time from our employers looking at social media. As students, we cheat on tests and steal a good grade. We steal time from our families as we work overtime so much, that the money doesn't equal the time spent with our spouses and children. In our discussion, we'll take a look at the heart of stealing, and how it can eat away at us spiritually and numb us to our own sin.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was one thing that stood out to you from this weekend's message?
2. Have you ever had something stolen from you? What was it and how did that make you feel?
3. One of the drivers of theft is the concept of entitlement; the feeling that you are owed something or you deserve something simply for being you. Where does this pervasive sense of entitlement come from? How do you combat the sense of entitlement in your life?
4. In this week's message, David identified many types of "theft" that most people don't really think about. Some of them were: **1) borrowing something without returning it, 2) not paying a friend back when you borrow money, 3) leaving debts unsettled, 4) plagiarism (professionally or in school), 5) ordering water at a restaurant and getting a soft drink, 6) pens, stationery, 7) time from your employer.** Which one is a blind spot for you?

LIFE APPLICATION

5. Read Numbers 5:5-7. The Bible states clearly how theft is to be dealt with; pay it back and add a fifth of the value to it. How can this Biblical law be practiced this week by us? Do you owe money to someone? Do you have someone's ladder in your garage that has been sitting there for two years and you never returned it? Have you stolen time from your employer?

CHALLENGE

List some creative ways you can apply Numbers 5:5-7 in dealing with this. How can you apologize for wronging others in a way that is sincere?