

God Delivers



DailyLife
Five Oaks Church

Week 6: February 4–10, 2017

Day 1

February 6



Pray / Pray for your parents and the obstacles in your relationship.

WE HONOR GOD by honoring our parents. God created family as the center of human relationships. How we relate to our parents provides a foundation for all our relationships.

For many people, a good relationship with a parents is one of the joys of life, and obeying this commandment is easy. Many of us, however, do not have good relationships with our parents, may not even like them, and often find it burdensome to be with them. Family is a lifetime commitment, and even those who find it difficult to get along with their parents are still commanded to have respect for and honor them.



Read / Exodus 20:12



Reflect / Choose one or more of the following for reflection.

We are not to judge the worthiness of our parents. Instead, we are honor them as a way to honor God. Do you have a parent who has hurt you? Is there forgiveness that needs to happen? What could that look like?

Ultimately, only God deserves to be the object of our honor, but God wants us to give honor to others on his behalf. How does your relationship with your parents impact how you view God?

Honoring our parents displays Christlike humility and love. What is one step you could take this week to honor your parents? If you have children, what's one way you can be a more honorable parent this week?

Day 2

February 7



Pray / Ask for help in loving your most difficult neighbor.

DO NOT MURDER. This commandment is clear. Murder is a sin because it disregards the value of human life that God created. When we judge people's worth by our own assessment of their intellect or lack of ability, we judge them by what they are worth to us instead of to our Creator.

The prohibition of adultery is rooted in God's original design for sexual expression within the confines of marriage. The marriage covenant is sacred and is an earthly picture of Jesus' relationship to his church. Adultery severs the marriage bond, damages the family, and destroys the refuge God intends our homes to be.



Read / Exodus 20:13–14



Reflect / Choose one or more of the following for reflection.

In Matthew 5:27–28, Jesus connects adultery to lustful hearts and not just the act of sexual immorality. There are many elements of temptation that can lead a person into sexual immorality. In what ways can you guard against potentially compromising situations?

In Matthew 5:21–22 Jesus connects murder with having a hateful heart. He is concerned about how we feel about others. When we harbor hatred in our hearts, we discredit the created worth of others and write them off, just like we killed them. Matthew 5:44 tells us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. If you have a hateful heart towards someone, how can you work to change that hatred to love?

What are some ways you are currently expressing hatefulness with your tongue or “committing murder” in other ways?

Day 3

February 8



Pray / Ask God to help you be honest in all of your actions.

WE ARE OFTEN prone to dishonesty, cheating, stealing, and deception when we do not trust the plans and provisions of God and when we find our security and identity in material possessions. These two commandments, more than the others, get down to very basic and difficult issues that usually involve greed and finding our image and contentment in material things.

We are called to be honest all of the time, in our private interactions as well as in our public statements. We can find ourselves bearing false witness against another in order to make ourselves look better or because we want things for ourselves that we are not entitled to have. Because of Jesus, who was falsely accused for our sake, we can be forgiven for our sins when we repent and turn our lives to God.



Read / Exodus 20:15–16



Reflect / Choose one or more of the following for reflection.

In what situations have you been tempted not to be fully honest or tempted to steal from another? Would you have felt this temptations if you had your full trust in God?

Why do you think that many in our culture today don't really believe they are stealing but instead think they are simply gaining what they deserve? Have you seen those tendencies anywhere in your own heart?

Are you focused on something in your life right now that you feel just needs to be accomplished no matter what lies you tell or whom you hurt or deceive along the way? How can you change your focus to God and his provisions and plans?

Day 4
February 9



Pray / Ask for help in finding your contentment only in God.

WE LIVE IN a society in which we are often “keeping up with the Joneses” and finding ourselves believing that “the grass is always greener.” The tenth commandment gets right to the heart of our chase for satisfaction.

Coveting is not just an obsessive desire to have something; it is being convinced that we can truly find happiness and fulfillment in someone or something more than God. Left to our own devices, we most often will choose to fulfill our desires with earthly items instead of trusting God to fulfill us. Finding contentment takes work, and we need to focus our energy on finding our happiness in God and his plans for us.



Read / Exodus 20:17



Reflect / Choose one or more of the following for reflection.

In a materialistic society such as ours, God often is given little priority in our daily lives. What lessons have you learned during times when you placed material possessions or other relationships before God

God knows that possessions never make anyone happy for long. Only God can supply all of our needs, and true contentment is found only in him. How can you change your focus from earthly, materialistic, contentment to contentment in God's provisions this week?

This commandment applies to the heart; it's a matter of your attitude. How does your attitude show your contentment and trust in the provisions of God?

Day 5

February 10



Pray / Commit yourself to keeping all of God's commandments.

THE SIX COMMANDMENTS we read this week focus on honoring God in our relationships.

We see that God calls us to honor him by honoring our father and mother, by loving our neighbors as ourselves, and by cultivating a heart of contentment. One of the primary ways we show our love for God is by loving others who are made in his image. Because we have experienced God's great love toward us, we are called to love and seek the good of our neighbors.

How we live with others is a direct reflection of God's presence in our lives. The Ten Commandments are not merely a list of don'ts; they are an expressions of how Christ transforms us to live in his kingdom. Through all of our relationships, we have an opportunity to live for the glory of God.



Read / Exodus 20:12–17



Reflect / Choose one or more of the following for reflection.

How can you change the desires of your heart from worldly items, relationships, and the approval of others to wanting and desiring God's plan for you, no matter what you would have to give up or do because God commands you to?

Obedience to God's Word reflects Christ's presence in our lives and gives us an opportunity to point others to Jesus. What changes can you make today to become more obedient? Are you willing to commit yourself fully to living your life obediently for God? Spend a few minutes in prayer asking God for forgiveness, committing to living your life obediently for him, and accepting Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

How you honor your parents, love your neighbors, and cultivate your heart with contentment brings glory to God. How are your actions glorifying God and showing others the priority and presence of him in your life?

Portions of this study were adapted from Ed Stetzer and Trevin Wax, eds., The Gospel Project Chronological: God Delivers, Vol. 2, Adult Personal Study Guide ESV (Nashville, TN: LifeWay Christian Resources, 2015). Used by permission.

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