

# The 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment

## You shall not commit adultery

- In Matthew 5:27-28 Jesus teaches us about sexual morality: that sexuality is not only a matter of our bodies, but of our souls, of our very personhood.
- Sexuality is a part of who we are – of our identity, of our self.

# The 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment

- Physical intimacy is a way we live out our interior identity as a man or a woman, and physical intimacy is a very special gift from God: a way He enables us to give the gift of our self to someone else most closely.

# The 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment

- When we are called to the vocation of marriage, God gives us only one special and significant partner to whom we give ourselves intimately. To all others we express our fidelity through chaste relationships.

# The 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment

- ▶ Marriage gives rise to family life, which is precious to God. Jesus Christ Himself entered into our world through a family; that of Mary and Joseph.
- ▶ Intimacy in marriage implies responsibility because it is that capacity to create powerful relationships and to generate human life.
- ▶ The following are virtues which bring honor to God:
  - ▶ chastity = remaining full of virtue and pure with self-control
  - ▶ modesty = respect for God, self and others
  - ▶ celibacy = perpetual chastity

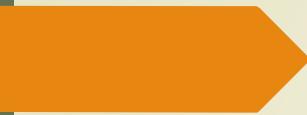
# The 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment

## You shall not steal

- God gives creation for the good and use of all His= people. Therefore, every person has the right to= adequate food, clothing, shelter and whatever else is= necessary for life.
- To deprive a person of these rights is an offense against= their dignity as a person, and against God.

# The 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment

- ▶ This Commandment not only forbids stealing and greed, but also directs us to implement fair economic standards: a just wage and fair prices.
- ▶ When people work to earn a living, they are putting themselves into whatever they earn. They have a right to the fruits of their labor. Therefore, workers can expect to earn a fair wage, and employers deserve an honest day's work in return.



# The 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment

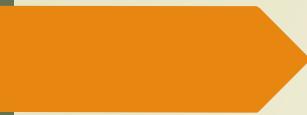
- ▶ Governments should function so as to create an environment where all may earn a living and be rewarded in a way equal to their work.
- ▶ Jesus had great love and concern for the poor, for those who could not provide for themselves. Our Lord entrusts the care of the poor to us, and to withhold help from them is to steal from them.



# The 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment

**You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor**

- ▶ This Commandment teaches us to keep holy the name of our neighbor.
- ▶ Because we are created with dignity in God's image, and Christ has exalted that dignity through the shedding of His blood for each person, so each person has the right to a good reputation.
- ▶ Each person has the right to the truth. Jesus came into our world to bear witness to the truth.



# The 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment

- ▶ In Scripture, lies and deception are equated with darkness and death, while truth and honesty are equated with light and life. Jesus says, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not work in darkness, but will have the light of life” (John 8:12).
- ▶ Jesus calls the devil the father of lies, as He says, “(the devil) was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in truth, because there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he speaks in character, because he is a liar and the father of lies” (John 8:44).

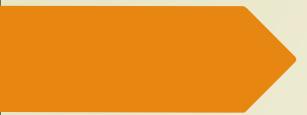
# The 9<sup>th</sup> Commandment

**You shall not covet your neighbor's wife**

- ▶ The Ninth and Tenth Commandments prohibit “coveting.”
- ▶ The definition of covet is:  
*yearn to possess (all consuming desire) or have (something); to want to have something very much, especially something that belongs to someone else. It can also mean to resent the good fortune of someone else.*

# The 9<sup>th</sup> Commandment

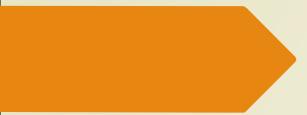
- ▶ Coveting may lead to the cursing of someone more fortunate than oneself, or to the desire to gain for oneself what belongs to someone else by immoral or illicit ways.
- ▶ Coveting may lead to the breaking of the Seventh Commandment, and is also linked to envy, one of the seven deadly sins.
- ▶ The Ninth Commandment specifically forbids coveting someone else's spouse.
- ▶ As we discussed in the lesson on the Sixth Commandment, marriage is sacred to God. To desire the spouse of another is to break the Sixth Commandment, even if the desire remains hidden in one's heart (see Matthew 5:27-28).



# The 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment

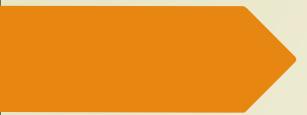
**You shall not covet your neighbor's property**

- ▶ In our material world there is always the temptation toward greed, one of the seven deadly sins.
- ▶ As we discussed in the lesson on the Seventh Commandment, everyone has a right to private property. Not only is it our duty not to steal, it is also our duty to help our neighbor retain his property (see Deuteronomy 22:1-4).



# The 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment

- ▶ But is it wrong to admire someone's property?
  - ▶ No. To admire a possession of someone else, and to aspire to attain something similar for oneself by legal and moral means, is perfectly acceptable, and does not break this Commandment.
  - ▶ An offense against someone's property is an offense against the dignity of the person to whom the property belongs, and therefore a sin against charity.



# The 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment

- It is important to note that this Commandment applies not only to the coveting of material possessions, but also to personal qualities and talents; for example, someone's natural beauty, or their singing voice or athletic ability.