



The 9th 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 9th 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).
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The 10th 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 10th 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 10th 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.
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How to remember the Ten Commandments in order

- ▶ First Commandment – You shall have no other gods before me. Memory aide: Hold up one finger, remember “one God.”
- ▶ Second Commandment – You shall not take the Lord’s name in vain. Memory aide – Hold up two fingers, you get the letter “V”, remember vain.
- ▶ Third Commandment – Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Memory aide – three letters in the word day.



How to remember the Ten Commandments in order

- ▶ Fourth Commandment – Honor your father and mother. Memory aide – your parents are your forebears (4-bears)
- ▶ Fifth Commandment – You shall not kill. Memory aide – Hold up all five fingers, pull in the middle, ring and pinkie finger and then point your hand like a gun, for killing.
- ▶ Sixth Commandment – You shall not commit adultery. Memory aide – Six to sex.



How to remember the Ten Commandments in order

- ▶ Seventh Commandment – You shall not steal. Memory aide – Seven and steal both begin with “s”.
- ▶ Eighth Commandment – You shall not bear false witness. Memory aide – Picture the number “8” in your head, give it ears, eyes and a nose, and you have a bear. Bear=bear.



How to remember the Ten Commandments in order

- ▶ Ninth Commandment – You shall not covet your neighbor's wife. Memory aide – Picture the number “9”, turn it upside down – related to the sixth.
 - ▶ Tenth Commandment – You shall not covet your neighbor's property. Too many things (largest number)
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