

A STUDY FROM THE BOOK OF EXODUS

THE  
**10**  
COMMANDMENTS

WITH  
PASTOR GARY HAMRICK

STUDY GUIDE



CORNERSTONE CHAPEL



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*THE*  
**10**  
**COMMANDMENTS**

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**STUDY GUIDE**

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# THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

WITH  
PASTOR GARY HAMRICK

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The Ten Commandments have been, without a doubt, the most influential document upon human culture, in general, and upon American culture in particular—framing both the **social** and **legal** foundation of our American society.

Supreme Court Justice William Rehnquist once wrote: *“It is...undeniable...that the Ten Commandments have had a significant impact on the development of secular legal codes of the Western World”* (dissent for *Stone v. Graham*, 1980).

In Colossians 2:16-17 and Mark 7:18-23, we find that the ceremonial and dietary aspects of the Old Testament law are no longer binding; however, the moral code is still intact. The Ten Commandments are the summary of God’s moral code and are intended to shape the way we live—our actions, speech, and attitudes. There are no exceptions to the moral code because it is an absolute, not a relative code. In other words, it doesn’t change because of changing times or changing cultural views; it expresses God’s moral standard for human behavior toward God and toward others.

May this study through the Ten Commandments be a blessing to your life as you hear and obey what God says.

Making Him Known,

Pastor Gary Hamrick  
Cornerstone Chapel





# THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

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## INTRODUCTION TO THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

**The Ten Commandments** (sometimes called “The Decalogue”) expresses God’s moral standard for human behavior toward God and toward others. They are not antiquated, irrelevant laws, but rather timeless, unchanging truth for every human society. Unfortunately, more and more, their guiding influence in America is being threatened in the courts and disregarded in our culture.

### HEBREW

Aseret Ha’davarim – (“the ten words” or “utterances”)

“The Decalogue” – (from Greek, deca - “ten”; logoi – “words”)

### 3 DIVISIONS of the Old Testament Law

1. Moral
  2. Ceremonial
  3. Dietary
- } These two are no longer binding  
(see Col. 2:16-17 and Mark 7:18-23).

**But the moral code of the Law is still intact!**

### 3 PURPOSES of the Old Testament Law

1. To explain what sin is
2. To expose sin in us
3. To express our need for a Savior

## GOD CALLS US TO RECEIVE THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. With obedience (Exod. 19:3-6)
2. With holiness (Exod. 19:7-11)
3. With reverence (Exod. 19:20-22)

### THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. You shall have no other gods before me
2. You shall not make for yourself an idol...
3. You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God...
4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy...
5. Honor your father and mother...
6. You shall not murder
7. You shall not commit adultery
8. You shall not steal
9. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor
10. You shall not covet... anything that belongs to your neighbor



## THE **FIRST** COMMANDMENT

**“YOU SHALL HAVE NO  
OTHER GODS BEFORE ME”**

**In the first of the Ten Commandments**, we examine the historical and practical reasons behind this commandment. Israel was surrounded by pagan gods of other cultures that had, unfortunately, influenced Israel away from the True and Living God. Today, our culture is similar—very pluralistic and polytheistic as well. We must make a choice that God will be God, and we must examine our own hearts for ways that we have allowed false gods to enter in.

### **False gods of ancient Israel**

**BAAL & ASHERAH** (Canaanites) – god/ goddess of sex, fertility [1 Kings 18:18-29]

**DAGON** (Philistines) – god of fertility [1 Samuel 5:1-4]

**MOLECH** (Ammonites) – god of pleasure [Jer. 32:35]

**CHEMOSH** (Moabites) – god of power [1 Kings 11:7]

**MAMMON** (Greeks) – god of money [Matt. 6:21,24]

### **The 1st Commandment is about:**

1. God's identity
2. Our fidelity

## THE **SECOND** COMMANDMENT

**“YOU SHALL NOT MAKE FOR YOURSELF AN IDOL”**

**The 2nd Commandment** is a prohibition against creating something with your hands or your heart that either reduces God or replaces God. In this study, Pastor Gary takes a look at how Israel was guilty of breaking this commandment, and how modern forms of idolatry still exist today.

### **The 2nd Commandment includes...**

1. A commentary about God, by God (“I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God.”)
2. Consequences for those who hate God
3. Blessings for those who love and obey God

### **Common forms of modern idolatry**

1. The worship of creation rather than Creator
2. Idolatry of the heart

**“Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.”**

**1 John 5:21**

## THE **THIRD** COMMANDMENT

**“YOU SHALL NOT MISUSE  
THE NAME OF THE LORD  
YOUR GOD”**

**God reveals Himself in the Bible** by more than 350 names and titles besides His proper name, Yahweh. He does this to express the vastness of His character and nature. Thus, when we misuse God’s Name (or “take it in vain”), we malign, dishonor, and disrespect the character and nature of God. Pastor Gary shares three common ways we might be guilty of breaking the 3rd Commandment in today’s study from Exodus 20:7.

### **Names and Titles of God**

- **EL SHADDAI** – “God Almighty” (Gen. 17:1)
- **YAHWEH YIREH** – “The LORD who Provides” (Gen. 22:14)
- **YAHWEH RAPHA** – “The LORD who Heals” (Exod. 15:26)
- **YAHWEH SHALOM** – “The LORD is Peace” (Judges 6:24)
- **YAHWEH SHAMMAH** – “The LORD is There” (Ezek. 48:35)
- **WONDERFUL, COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE** (Isaiah 9:6)
- **YESHUA (JESUS)** – “The LORD is Salvation” (Matt. 1:21)

### **Common ways we break the 3rd Commandment**

1. Blasphemy
2. Perjury
3. Hypocrisy

**“Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your Name.” (Psalm 86:11, NIV)**

# THE **FOURTH** COMMANDMENT

**“REMEMBER THE SABBATH  
DAY BY KEEPING IT HOLY”**

**God implemented a Sabbath rest** for our benefit and for His honor. In today’s study of Commandment #4, Pastor Gary looks at some of the historical, traditional, and biblical views of the “Sabbath”. We will examine the Practice, Purpose, and Principle of the Sabbath from Exodus 20:8-11.

## **PRACTICE on the Sabbath**

1. Acts of necessity
2. Acts of mercy

*{Mark 2:23—3:6}*

## **PURPOSE for the Sabbath**

1. Remembrance
2. Rest

*{Duet. 5:12-15; Exod. 20:8-11}*

## **PRINCIPLE of the Sabbath**

1. It’s not a “day”
2. The ultimate rest is in Christ

*{Col 2:16-17; Heb. 4:11; Matt. 11:28-30}*

# THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT

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## “HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER”

**God defined the family** as the foundation of a healthy society. And He calls children in each family to honor, respect, and obey their parents so that they might grow up to be respectful citizens who honor God and others. Unfortunately, some parents are not instilling these virtues in their children, and therefore the next generation is growing up largely devoid of these qualities. This study reminds us of the timeless principle of honor and its impact on the family.

### How to Treat our Parents

1. **HONOR** them (Exod. 20:12)
2. **RESPECT** them (Lev. 19:3)
3. **OBEY** them (Eph. 6:1-4)

**God has placed parents in roles of responsibility and authority to love and lead children.** And since God has defined the family and delegated authority to the parents... **When we honor our parents, we honor God**, because they are His representatives in the home.

# THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT

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## “YOU SHALL NOT MURDER”

In today's study from **Exodus 20:13**, Pastor Gary examines Commandment #6 – “You shall not murder.” What is the difference between killing someone and murdering someone? What are the ethical issues facing our society today about death and dying?

**The 6th Commandment** is about the protection and sanctity of human life at every stage of development, from conception to natural death. It condemns the deliberate, malicious, and unlawful taking of a human life.

### “You shall not murder”

**Hebrew: LO RATSACH** (“No murder”)

*It is different from the word nakah, “to kill”, which is permissible in certain circumstances.*

### Exceptions to the 6th Commandment:

1. Accidental homicide (Numbers 35:9-12, 22-25)
2. Justifiable homicide (Exodus 22:2, Romans 13:3-4)
3. Capital punishment (Genesis 9:5-6, Numbers 35:16-21, Matthew 26:52)

1. God is the author of life; murder is the usurping of God's authority
2. God values life; so should we
3. God gives life as a gift; we should cherish it, protect it, and defend it



## THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT

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**“YOU SHALL NOT  
COMMIT ADULTERY”**

**According to a recent Gallup poll,** 92% of Americans think that adultery is “morally wrong.” And yet, not as many people practice what they believe. God values marriage and ordained it as a loving, lasting, binding, holy, life-long covenant between a man and a woman. Adultery violates this sacred bond and leaves countless lives devastated in its aftermath. Still, there is forgiveness and grace for those who have fallen.

God calls for moral purity **BEFORE** marriage,  
and fidelity **IN** marriage.

### **Honoring the 7th Commandment:**

God calls for moral purity before marriage and fidelity in marriage.

1. **C**ultivate spiritual and physical intimacy in your marriage (**1 Cor. 7:4-5**)
2. **A**void compromising situations either in person or electronically (**Rom. 13:14**)
3. **P**ray for God’s protection over your marriage and your heart (**Prov. 4:23**)

# THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT

“YOU SHALL NOT STEAL”

**God has established the rights** of individuals to possess property and to be stewards (managers) of all that God owns. When people steal, they not only sin against the one who possess the property, but they also sin against the One who loaned it in the first place, namely—God. Besides the obvious “taking” what doesn’t belong to you, have you ever considered the MANY ways that we “steal” from one another?

“You shall not steal” Hebrew: **LO TIGNOV**

Implicit in the 8th Commandment

**EVERYTHING BELONGS TO GOD.**

(Psalm 24:1, 1 Chronicles 29:11, Psalm 50:12)

God has established the rights of individuals to possess private property and to be stewards (managers) of all that God owns.

**The Definition of “Stealing”:** “Stealing is taking by force, threat, intimidation, coercion, or deception what belongs to someone else.”

**How should the 8th Comm. motivate us?**

1. To live by the ethic of honest, hard work.
2. To trust in God’s provision to meet all our needs.
3. To respect other people’s property.

**How do we violate the 8th Comm.?**

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| 1. TAKING                              | 3. WITHHOLDING |
| 2. BORROWING<br>(And not returning it) | 4. DEFRAUDING  |

## THE NINTH COMMANDMENT

**“YOU SHALL NOT GIVE  
FALSE TESTIMONY AGAINST  
YOUR NEIGHBOR”**

**Is it ever OK to tell a lie?** What if it's one of those little “white lies” to protect someone's feelings? The 9th Commandment is a call to TRUTHFULNESS. God is the “God of truth” (Psalm 31:5) and “it is impossible for Him to lie” (Heb. 6:18). Therefore, God wants His children to walk in similar honesty and truthfulness.

### **The 9th Commandment forbids:**

**1. FALSE ACCUSATIONS**

(Exod. 20:16, Deut. 19:15, 1 Tim. 5:19, 1 Kings 21)

**2. LIES**

(Prov. 12:22, Psalm 34:12-13, Eph. 4:15)

**3. SLANDER**

(1 Peter 2:1)

**4. GOSSIP**

(Prov. 20:19)

**5. FLATTERY**

(Psalm 12:3)

**6. DECEPTION**

(Prov. 24:28)

The 9th Commandment is a call to truthfulness. It forbids false accusations, lies, or slander of any kind that would injure the reputation of another.

## 10

THE TENTH  
COMMANDMENT

**“YOU SHALL NOT COVET  
ANYTHING THAT BELONGS  
TO YOUR NEIGHBOR”**

In this final teaching from the 10 Commandments, Pastor Gary examines the word “covet” and what it means to “desire enviously that which belongs to another.” If covetousness is like a tree, then there are generally 5 roots that nourish it: envy, jealousy, greed, lust, and discontentment. To deal with covetousness in our hearts, we must lay the ax to the roots of these 5 sins.

**Covet (v.) \`kə-vət\`**

**“To desire enviously that which belongs  
to another.”**

**We violate the 10th Commandment when:**

1. We want or desire something that belongs to another
2. We want or desire something because of greed, lust, jealousy, envy, or discontentment.











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