
Foundations:

Basic Christian Teachings

Session 7: “Christian Living, Part 2”

Review from Session 6

- What does the Holy Spirit do in our lives?
- What are some of the Biblical metaphors for the church?
- How is the Bible different from other literature?
- What is the purpose of the Bible?

Today’s Session

This is the second session on living the Christian life. Today’s session on God’s call to follow Him in how we live out our relationship with Him and with others

- Living the Christian Life
- The Ten Commandments

A Living Relationship

We are called to live out our faith every day. Our relationship with Jesus affects every aspect of our lives – our thinking, speaking and acting. God has provided commandments in order to guide us into the life He calls us to live.

- The Law of God shows us our _____
- The Law of God shows us what is _____ to God.

This is not so much about following a rule, as it is following a _____.

Matthew 28:19-20 *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in[a] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

Jesus has promised to _____ us as we follow him in obedience.

John 13:17 *“Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”*

Luke 11:28 *“Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it.”*

So why do we keep God’s Law?

- We do not keep the law _____ saved.
- We keep the law _____ we are saved.

Romans 12:1 *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.”*

The point is to become more and more like _____

2 Corinthians 3:18 *“And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”*

Spiritual growth is the process of being conformed to the image of Christ for the sake of others.

The Ten Commandments

Jesus summarized the commandments as _____.

Matthew 22:37-40 *“Jesus replied: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”*

Love _____

1. *You shall have no other gods.*

- Putting God _____

Matthew 4:10 *“Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.”*

- **Small Catechism:** *“We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.”*
- This is the first and most important commandment. If we have God first in our lives, the other nine commandments will follow.
- What is before God in your life? De-throne it.

1 Peter 3:15 *“But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord.”*

- Trimming God and redefining Him to make Him fit our ideas and lifestyle is idolatry. When we do this, we are making up our own god.

Isaiah 37:19 *“They have thrown their gods into the fire and destroyed them, for they were not gods but only wood and stone, fashioned by human hands.”*

2. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God

- Honoring God’s _____

James 3:9-10 *“With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God’s likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be.”*

Ephesians 4:29 *“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”*

Ephesians 5:4 *“Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.”*

- **Small Catechism:** “We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.”

Psalms 50:15 *“Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.”*

Ephesians 5:20 *“Give thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

3. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

- Hearing God’s _____

- **Small Catechism:** “We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.”

- We were not created to work all the time. To be spiritually, relationally, emotionally, and physically healthy we need one day a week to rest and reconnect with God, family, and friends. If we do not, we will break.

Hebrews 10:24-25 *“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”*

Matthew 11:28 *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”*

Mark 6:31 *“Come with Me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.”*

- The Old Testament Sabbath, like all of Old Testament worship, pointed to Christ and was fulfilled in Him. Christ’s church is free to choose the day and manner of worship.

Colossians 2:16-17 *“Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.”*

Hebrews 4:9-10 *“There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from His.”*

Love your _____

4. ***Honor your Father and your Mother***

- God's gift of _____
- **Small Catechism:** "We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them."

Exodus 20:12 *"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you."*

Romans 13:2 *"He who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves."*

5. ***You shall not murder***

- God's gift of _____
- **Small Catechism:** "We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need."

1 John 3:15 *"Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him."*

- Different types of physical murder:
 - Homicide
 - Suicide
 - If you have personal questions, please contact a pastor.
 - Assisted Suicide

- Abortion
 - We believe that the Bible teaches that life begins at conception.

Psalms 139:13-16 *“For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place... Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be.”*

Matthew 1:20 *“But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.’”*

- What about capital punishment or military service?
 - Although the Bible does not encourage wars or capital punishment, it does acknowledge the government’s responsibility to protect its citizens from foreign aggressors and criminals.
 - The Bible cannot be taken to say that war and capital punishment are wrong in all circumstances. Neither are they always right. Christians may find themselves disagreeing with one another on the wisest use or nonuse of war and capital punishment.
 - See **Romans 13:1-7**

6. ***You shall not commit adultery***

- God’s gift of _____

Ephesians 5:3-4 *“Among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people. Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.”*

- **Small Catechism:** “We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.”
- Sexuality is a gift from God.
 - He thought it up and He created it for a purpose: to powerfully link a husband and wife in body, heart and spirit. It is also the means by which God creates new life. Therefore, sex has the power for great good and great harm.
 - This is why having sexual relations with a person outside the covenant of marriage is outside the plan of God. Therefore, a sin.
 - Marriage is to be between one man and one woman.

Genesis 2:24 *“For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.”*

7. ***You shall not steal***

- God’s gift of _____
- **Small Catechism:** “We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.”

1 John 3:17 *“If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?”*

Ephesians 4:28 *“He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.”*

- One of the reasons for God’s gift of possessions is so that we can be generous.

2 Corinthians 9:11 *“You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.”*

2 Corinthians 8:7 *“But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us -- see that you also excel in this grace of giving.”*

8. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor

- God’s gift of a _____
- **Small Catechism:** “We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.”

Ephesians 4:25 *“Each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body”*

James 4:11 *“Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it.”*

- The three “Golden Gates:”
 - Is it true?
 - Is it kind?
 - Is it necessary?
- What if I have a conflict with someone?

Matthew 18:15-17 *“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be*

established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house

10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

- God's gift of _____

1 Timothy 6:8-10 *"If we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs."*

- **Small Catechism:** "We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.
- **Small Catechism:** "We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.
- What is "coveting"? Coveting is wanting something so badly that sinful thoughts begin to rise in your heart.

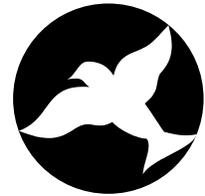
The power to live this Christian life:

- The _____

Galatians 5:22 *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”*

- Remaining in _____

Galatians 2:20 *“I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”*



John 15:5 *“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”*

For Further Growing

From “Luther’s Small Catechism”

- The Ten Commandments pp. 52-127

Sharpening The Sword

Each week you will be given a verse of the Bible to put to memory. The Bible calls God's Word "the sword of the Spirit" (Ephesians 6:17). We want you to have a big, sharp sword!

This week:

Matthew 22:37-40: *"Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."*