

GOSPEL COMMUNITY GUIDE

Life WITH God : The Ten Commandments

Exodus 20:13 | September 7, 2025



CONNECT

Who's someone in your life that has shown you the value of caring for and protecting others?
What impact did that have on you?

QUICK UPDATES

Share any upcoming church events and handle housekeeping for the Gospel Community.

REVIEW

Have someone read the passage out loud from the ESV translation or something similar. Reflect on any insights, questions, or parts that stood out from the text or the sermon. Then read the summary below.

The sixth commandment, "You shall not murder", shows us that God is the giver of life and that every person made in His image has dignity and worth. God calls His people to value and protect life. Jesus takes this command deeper by showing that anger, insults, and contempt in our hearts also break it, revealing the seed of murder within us. The truth is, we've all devalued others and stand guilty. But Jesus, the innocent one, was killed so that we might live, forgiving our sin and restoring us as people who protect and give life. Until He returns, we are called to shine as a light in a world of Cain and Abel, bearing witness to His kingdom of life.

LEARN & LIVE

These questions help us grasp the truth of the passage and consider how to live it out.

- Exodus 20:13 says simply, "You shall not murder." What does the word "murder" mean in this context, and why is that distinction important?
- How does this commandment reveal something about who God is and what He values?
- What examples from Scripture (like Deut. 22:8 or Ex. 21:28–29) show that God not only forbids murder but also calls His people to prevent the loss of life?
- In what ways does our culture devalue human life, and how does God re-train His people to live differently?
- Where do you see "murder all around us" in today's world, and what might it look like for God's people to mourn and pray rather than grow numb?
- Read Matthew 5:21-22. Jesus expands the sixth commandment here. What does this teach us about the seed of murder in our hearts?
- How can anger, insults, or contempt towards others show that we don't fully value the image of God in them?
- In what ways does Jesus fulfill this commandment for us through His own death on the cross?
- How does following Jesus reshape the way we view every human life: the unborn, the poor, the marginalized, the overlooked?
- What's one practical step you could take this week in your vocation, location, or free time to value and protect life?

GO DEEPER

These questions invite us to slow down and wrestle with what's going on beneath the surface. Use these to go a little deeper or in your Huddle Groups.

- Why is it easier to condemn "murder out there" than to face the anger and contempt that live in our own hearts?
- When you get angry, what usually lies beneath it; God's will being violated, or your own? How can you tell the difference?

- Which of Jesus' examples (anger, insults, "you fool") hits closest to home for you? Why?
- Who is someone in your life you tend to devalue, avoid, or speak poorly of? What does that reveal about your heart?
- How do you respond to issues like abortion, suicide, or violence...with compassion and prayer, or with numbness, blame, or defensiveness?
- What makes it hard for you to believe that Jesus' death truly covers the anger, contempt, and "body count" in your own heart?
- How has God used your own experiences of brokenness or anger to make you more compassionate toward others?
- What does it reveal about your view of God if you dismiss small outbursts of anger, cutting words, or contempt as "not a big deal"?
- In what ways is the Spirit convicting you about how you use your words, your temper, or your posture toward people you disagree with?
- Where do you sense the Spirit inviting you to be more of a life-giver in your home, workplace, friendships, or community?
- **How is the Spirit inviting you personally to respond and what will you do differently this week?**

PRAY

- Pray about one way God spoke to you tonight through His Word.
- Pray by name for someone in your life who doesn't yet know Jesus.
- Pray for the needs of those in the group.
- Pray for this ministry area of Redeemer: **REDEEMER ELDERS** | Pray for our new elders; Jim Burke, Zach Mosby, and Austin Schauer, as they step into leadership, and for Jordan and Rick as they continue serving.

5 GROUP DISCUSSION RULES

We want to be full of grace as we meet, deepening our relationship with one another and with Christ. These five values help us know our **P.L.A.C.E.** in our GC's and Huddles.

1. **Pray** - Prayer is a space for confession, struggle, and praise. Keep requests focused on yourself and your immediate family, so we can pray specifically and personally.
2. **Listen** - Be present and attentive. Share with humility, be mindful of time, and remember: silence is okay.
3. **Apply** - Answer honestly. Consider how God's Word speaks into your life, and what it might look like to respond.
4. **Confess** - Confession and repentance are signs of maturity. We meet one another with grace, not shame.
5. **Encourage** - Practical advice is helpful, but truth is better. Speak the gospel into each other's hearts and stories.

COMMENTARY EXCERPT:

20:13 Sixth commandment.

This commandment, by prohibiting murder or man-slaughter, demonstrates the high priority which God places upon human life. No human being has the right to take another's life because each person is made in God's image (cf. Gn. 1:27; 9:6). In the Pentateuch, the punishment for taking another's life is death itself. The commandment, however, does not include judicial executions for capital offences or legitimate deaths resulting from war, and it should also be noted that the OT laws draw a careful distinction between premeditated and accidental deaths (see on 21:1–22:20, the section entitled 'The sanctity of life').

Alexander, T. D. (1994). Exodus. In D. A. Carson, R. T. France, J. A. Motyer, & G. J. Wenham (Eds.), *New Bible commentary: 21st century edition* (4th ed., p. 108). Inter-Varsity Press.