

Questions 97 & 98

Name _____

Q97. What is the eighth commandment?

A98. You shall not steal.

Q98. What does the eighth commandment teach you?

A98. To be honest and industrious.

Scripture Base: Ex 20:15; Lev. 25:35; Mal. 3:8;
Matt. 6:19-20, 25:14-30; Eph. 4:28.

Doctrine: WCF: 19 SC: 73-75

Supplementary Questions

1. What are some of the ways we steal?

2. What else does this commandment teach you?

3. Who actually owns all that you have?

4. What is the only way you may keep what you have forever?

Song: "Go to the ant" – Judy Rogers

Teaching Notes

Review: Q95. What is the 7th commandment? - *You shall not commit adultery.*

Q96. What does the 7th commandment teach you? - *To be pure in heart, language, and conduct.*

Stories: Achan's sin, Josh 7:1-26, The talents, Matt. 25:14-30

Questions

1. a. We steal from **others** when we take:

- i) Their possessions.
- ii) Their time: by making them wait; by not living up to our home or school responsibilities, causing others to have to do more work in helping or correcting us; by using work time we're paid for to do something else.
- iii) Their energy: by making more work for them.
- iv) Their good name (reputation); by falsely accusing them, or even saying something about them that's *true* that you didn't *need* to say.

b. We steal from **God** - when we take His honor/credit.

- For something good He enables us to do.

- By not worshiping Him in the worship service.

And, when we don't give Him His tithe (Mal. 3:8). [Explain one tenth]

- 2. It teaches you i) that you may protect your own belongings and the belongings of others (even if they are our enemies) from thieves. It's as wrong for others to steal as it is for you. (Ex. 23:4-5).
- ii) You are to work hard, not only so you won't be tempted to steal, but so you'll have something to give to those in need. (Eph. 4:28; Lev. 25:35)
- 3. God owns everything, and He has given you what you have as a stewardship. You are responsible to use what He has given you for His glory, including your time, gifts, and resources. (The parable of the talents, Matt. 25:14-30. See also 1 Pet. 4:10.)
- 4. By using what you have to serve the Lord, so laying up treasures in heaven, Matt. 6:19-20.

Gospel: How can you be content with what God has given you? How can you use what God has given you for His glory and not for your own pleasure? How can you protect not only your own possessions, but those of your enemies? The only way you can is by the grace of God. Without His grace, you will be tempted to steal from God and others what rightly belongs to them. The only way you can receive His grace is by coming to Jesus and asking for His help, by trusting in Him. He will save you and give you the strength you need to obey Him.

Extras: Brainstorm ways to GIVE instead of TAKE. Coloring Worksheet; W/S 5-10, continued. Song: "Go to the ant" – Judy Rogers