

Studying 10 Commandments – we have learned 7; now 8th commandment.

8th Commandment is [Exodus 20:15](#) **“YOU MUST NOT STEAL.”**

Stealing is seeing and knowing something belongs to another person, and take it without planning to return it. Not yours! Many times Jesus says 8th!

Share 3 ways – 1) Steal money/things; 2) steal from God; 3) steal life.

In all 3, we want to talk about Christian actions or Christian view!! *Prayer*

Before starting, emphasize that we Christians – behave same as non-Christians?? NO. Bible says we have to “put on Christ” and to be a light...

Concern about putting on Christ – just adding Jesus, yet not really change...

See [Ephesians 4:21-24 \(NCV\)](#) ²¹I know that you heard about Him, and you are in Him, so you were taught the truth that is in Jesus. ²²You were taught to

“put off” (leave) your old self (behavior) - to stop living the evil way you lived before. That old self (behavior) becomes worse, because people are fooled by the evil things they want to do. ²³But you were taught to be made new in your hearts (mind), ²⁴to become a new person (put on the new self). That new person is made to be like God—made to be truly good and holy.

“Put off (leave) your old self” (v. 22); “put on new self” (v. 24) – behavior!!

1) Stolen \$\$/things – [Eph. 4:28](#) **“Those who are stealing must stop stealing and start working. They should earn an honest living for themselves. Then they will have something to share with those who are poor.”**

You might be surprised – Paul is writing to Christians in Ephesus church!!

Show 4 pix; 8th commandment – “You must not steal...do not steal.” Period!

Some Christians make excuses about why stealing – govt; raised poor; etc.

NO! This means you don’t believe God’s Word?? [Psalm 37:25 \(CEB\)](#) says – I was young and now I’m old, but I have never seen the righteous left all alone, have never seen their children begging for bread.

One time Jesus really upset in NT; people in temple “stealing”; overturned Shoplifting - 10%; #1 reason small stores fail/close down); steal from company

Cab driver in Boston found backpack with \$187,000 cash! Contacted police.

Many times people ask “DO YOU TRUST GOD?” NOT most important question! Real issue is, “CAN GOD TRUST YOU?” Answer better be YES, if you plan to serve Him.

2) Steal from God – tithes and time.

Tithes – “oh, DS will talk about money for the church” – NO

If you think I will force or push, ASLDC doesn’t need your money!

[Ref 2 Cor. 9:7](#) - **God loves a cheerful giver**; He’s not forcing it

I really want you to give tithes and offering – so YOU will be blessed

Clearer picture - [“God’s Pie” video](#)

Maybe you're not used to giving tithes, struggle with budget
God says [Mal. 3:8-10 \(KJV\)](#) ⁸ "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me!
But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings.
⁹ You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole
nation. ¹⁰ Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in
My house, And try (test) Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not
open for you the windows (floodgates) of heaven and pour out for
you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.
"...come on, test ME in this!"

Time – Jesus will come soon! Are you building relationships for God?
"Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." Eph. 5:16
(NCV) Use every chance you have for doing good, cuz these are evil times.

3) **Stolen Life**. Many believe 2 weeks ago, George Floyd's life was stolen. I
too believe, but not yet trial. Bkgd – GF from Houston. ?Christian but
struggled with drugs. Moved to MN few years ago – last Thurs memorial.

Not only GF; police shot in April here in Austin – unarmed Michael Ramos.
Admit not undy full; research; find 1200+ other black persons since 2015.
Yes police shot about 200 white persons in that time, but black 5X more!
LISTEN to black friends, leaders – "white privilege". What? White ahead?
Christian black Deaf man – pix of run track; starter gun 20 m/sec (ASL);
*ahead in education (lack of books), fear of daily outside, pull over, jail
*AG 1989 resolution on racism, but need more! How fair, start and stay,
*come alongside, LISTEN 1ST. THEN can share verse about trust, love, etc.

Now I want to share something – perhaps some people today have not yet
understood the gospel of Jesus Christ. All born in sin, and Jesus Christ
was sinless Son of God that died so we can go back to relationship with
Father God!

Let's read [Romans 10:9, 10 \(NCV\)](#) -

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and if you believe in your
heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ We believe
with our hearts, and so we are made right with God. And we declare with our
mouths that we believe, and so we are saved.

Closing prayer for salvation, then prayer for lives...

Old song – "I need you to survive"

You are important to me

I pray for you, you pray for me I love you

I won't harm you with words from my mouth

I need you to survive...