

THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT

Ephesians 4:28

MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. THE NEGATIVE COMMAND
2. THE POSITIVE COMMAND
3. THE MOTIVATION

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick one or two of these to talk about as a group

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message? Why?
2. The eighth commandment is "thou shalt not steal." The positive counterpart to this command is that instead of stealing we should WORK. How would you describe your relationship with work throughout your life? How would you describe your current relationship with work?
3. In Ephesians 4:28, Paul is addressing Christians who are still stealing. Does your understanding of Christianity allow for someone to be a Christian and still be stealing? Why or why not?
4. Compare your current work to the type of work Paul calls us to in Eph. 4:28. What do you do for work? Is your work difficult? How is your work useful or good for others?
5. Sometimes work is not going to be everything you wish it will be. What do we do when we find ourselves in a job that is difficult or leads us to a lack of joy and fulfillment? How do we discern between when we should change our job versus when we should change how we relate to our job? (Note: Read Luke 3:12-14 for an additional text on this topic).
6. The Bible calls thieves to become philanthropists. The motivation we are given for why we should stop taking and start working is so that we can give to those who can't earn. What do you think would change in your approach to work if you were more focused on what you could give away instead of what your work could give you?
7. Jesus is not only the greatest inspiration and motivation for us to work in order to give away, He is also where we get the freedom and power to actually live this way. What are some ways that knowing what Jesus has done for you has impacted the way you work? What are some ways you would like to see Him change you more in the area of work?

A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU: When we work hard so that we can give to those in need we are becoming more like our generous, Heavenly Father.