

## The Sixth Commandment

You shall not murder. – *Exodus 20:13*

### My Decision

I will revere life because all life comes from God.

### God's Passion for Life

This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. – *Deuteronomy 30:19-20*

### Matthew 5:21-24

<sup>21</sup>“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ <sup>22</sup>But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to his brother, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.

<sup>23</sup>“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift.

### How do I live out this teaching in everyday life?

1. Choose not to respond with inappropriate anger toward your brothers and sisters (vs. 22)

**Wisdom:** Keep the big things big, the little things little, and ask God for wisdom every day to know the difference.

2. Understand that you can't move ahead spiritually until the relational roadblocks have been removed. (vs. 23)

3. Take the appropriate steps toward reconciliation (vss. 23-24)

- Stop
- Go
- Be reconciled
- Worship in freedom

4. Keep short accounts and don't allow unresolved issues to fester (vss. 23-24)

5. Enjoy the blessing of Romans 12:18: “If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.”

## God's Promise as We Grow

To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. – *Jude 24-25*

## The Big Ten Challenge

I will commit to convene my most important small group (my family) once a week to discuss this week's commandment. We will discuss the commandment questions with honesty and truthfulness and close our time by praying for each other.

### Suggestions for parents with small children:

This is a great opportunity to talk to your kids about why life is so precious. Don't miss out on the opportunity!

### Suggestions for husbands and wives:

Our spouses are often convenient targets when we are angry. Discuss what happens in your mind when you are arguing. How can you create honor in the middle of a disagreement?

### Suggestions for small groups:

Stay on track with this commandment. Is there some relational work that needs to happen in the group before you can "offer your gift"?

### Small Group Discussion Questions



- 1) What makes you angry?
- 2) How does your anger present itself? How do you know when you have crossed the line into an inappropriate expression of anger?
- 3) Read the passage from Matthew 5 again. Do you agree that regular anger and murder can come from the same heart? So what?
- 4) Are there any unresolved issues within the context of our group that need to be resolved before we can worship together?
- 5) Is there something you need to do to be obedient to Romans 12:18?
- 6) How can we pray for each other tonight?