

The Congregation at Prayer

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the 21st week after Trinity (Oct. 24th-Oct. 30th)

CATECHETICAL THEME:

7th Commandment

This Week's Catechetical Theme: 7th Commandment

With the Seventh Commandment, the LORD protects His gift of property. We might think of the children of Israel, who while living in bondage in Egypt, did not remember having things of their own. But having been delivered from slavery, they would have possessions to call their own for the first time. Of course, with sinful and selfish hearts by nature, the children of Israel would be prone to sin against their neighbor either by stealing what the LORD had given to another, or by scheming to get another's possessions in a way that only appeared to be proper. However, the people of God are called to love and serve their neighbors. And so, the LORD desires that we would help our neighbor to improve and protect that which he owns. This is the Seventh Commandment and our catechetical theme for the week. God bless your time in His Word.

Invocation: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Ten Commandments

The Apostles' Creed

The Catechism: 7th Commandment

You shall not steal.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Daily Readings	Catechetical Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	Jesus Heals an Official's Son John 4:46-54		Psalm 57
Monday	An Abomination to the LORD Proverbs 20:10-11	1 Cor. 1:1-17	Psalm 58
Tuesday	Jesus Cleanses the Temple Luke 19:45-46	1 Cor. 1:18-31	Psalm 59

Wednesday	Jesus and Zacchaeus Luke 19:1-10	1 Cor. 2:1-16	Psalm 60
Thursday	Generosity Proverbs 19:17	1 Cor. 3:1-23	Psalm 61
Friday	Look to the Interests of Others Philippians 2:3-11	1 Cor. 4:1-13	Psalm 62
Saturday	Revelation 14:6-7	Romans 3:19-28	Psalm 63

Questions to Discuss in the Home

Sun: Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon:** To what sort of stealing does the proverb refer? Does this sort of stealing occur today? How might a business owner be tempted to sin against the 7th Commandment? Who does the proverb indicate is able to understand this? **Tues:** For what reason does Jesus cleanse the temple? In the temple, those who had to offer a sacrifice for sin were being taken advantage of by being charged extremely high prices for the sacrifices. Why would this anger Jesus? How does this break the 7th Commandment? **Wed:** What occupation did Zacchaeus hold? What temptations would exist for Zacchaeus as a tax collector? What sin did Zacchaeus commit? Why did Jesus seek him out? How did he respond? **Thurs:** What positive action does the proverb encourage? How does this illustrate the meaning the commandment? **Fri:** How does this passage encourage us to look at others? How does this change our view of our possessions? Who does the passage offer as an example of this? **Sat:** In preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

Memory Verse

Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. (Ephesians 4:28)

In Our Prayers this Week

Our Church: Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Preschool. **Circuit 7 Vacancies:** Trinity Lutheran Church-Centralia. **Those in Need of Healing:** Carolyn Freund. **Those Who Mourn:** The family and friends of Don Stroud (Mary Nolte's father). **Those Undergoing Medical Treatments:** Elbert Brink, Sharon Hanke; Eddie Hermsmeyer, Glenn Knolhoff (undergoing lung cancer treatment). **Those Recovering From Surgery:** Mike Jones, Pat Borgelt (Angie Nolte's father). **Those Who Are Sick & Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Ariana Nolte, Barb Mueller, Randy Zimmermann, Rodney Tate, Connie Schilling. **Homebound Members:** Melvin & Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken, Paul Schierschwitz, Marlene Schierschwitz. **Baptismal Birthdays:** Ron Michael, Karen Yardley, Kaitlynn

Hull, Braiden Yardley (1/26). **Anniversaries:** Paul & Judy Kleiboeker (10/25), Eric & Kathy Hanke (10/26), Sara & Adam Hanks (10/27).

The Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer From the Small Catechism

Hymn of the Week: Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide (LSB 585)