

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week following
the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity(October 1st – October 7th)*

CATECHETICAL THEME:

7th & 8th Commandments

This Week's Catechetical Theme: 7th & 8th Commandments

We continue our consideration of the Ten Commandments this week by focusing on the Seventh and Eighth Commandments. 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.

With the Eighth Commandment, the LORD protects a person's name and reputation. In love and service to our neighbor we are to speak in ways that uphold our neighbor's name, and his reputation. When we fail to defend our neighbor, or worse, when we speak in ways that harm his name and reputation, we sin against this commandment. Certain authorities must cast judgment, but the Scriptures teach us to speak the truth in love. We do not ignore sin, but we remember that love covers a multitude of sins, and we make every effort to put the best construction on everything, and to speak of our neighbors in the kindest way. God bless your time in God's Word this week as you consider both the Seventh and Eighth Commandments.

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: The 7th & 8th Commandments

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.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

Daily Readings	Catechetical Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	Healing of a Man on the Sabbath Luke 14:1-11		Psalm 128
Monday	Jesus Cleanses the Temple Luke 19:45-46	1 Samuel 3	Psalm 129
Tuesday	Jesus and Zacchaeus Luke 19:1-10	1 Samuel 4	Psalm 130
Wednesday	How to Speak to Your Brother Matthew 18:15-20	1 Samuel 5	Psalm 131
Thursday	False Witness Against Jesus Mark 14:5-12	1 Samuel 6	Psalm 132
Friday	The Tongue Is a Fire James 3:5-12	1 Samuel 7	Psalm 133
Saturday	Deuteronomy 10:12-21	1 Cor. 1:1-9	Psalm 134

Questions to Discuss in the Home

Sun: Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon:** 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? **Tues:** 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? **Wed:** How does this passage teach us to treat our fellow Christian, even if he or she would sin against us? Are we encouraged to go tell everyone about it? How does this protect the reputation of our neighbor? How is this a loving work? **Thur:** What was the goal of the council; what did they intend to do to Jesus? What sort of witnesses were provided to speak against him? Who is the only person to speak the truth in this account? **Fri:** How does James describe the tongue? How is it that the tongue is dangerous? How can the tongue be used for good? How might we learn to control our tongue? What sort of words do we desire to speak to our neighbor? How then is the husband supposed to treat His wife? What is marriage given to be a picture of? **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

For Circuit Vacancies: Faith Lutheran (Flora), Trinity Lutheran (Iuka), Faith Lutheran (Mt. Vernon), Messiah Lutheran (Carlyle). **For Those Recovering From Surgery:** Matt Nolte, Curtis French. **For Those in Need of Healing:** Abby Siddell, Melba Nolte, Norma Rueter, Brandon Schrage, Kay Wheaton. **For Those Undergoing Medical Treatments:** Marla Corry, Beth Jones (daughter-in-law of Mike Jones), Beth Mayer (niece of Mia Zimmermann), Alexis Tehandon (Granddaughter of Debra Wells). **For Those Who Are Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Barb Mueller, Sam Tepe (brother of Angie Siddell), Ariana Nolte, Randy Zimmermann. **Homebound Members:** Earlene Lange, Ruth Onken. **Baptismal Birthdays:** Evan Corry (10/1), Emma Winkeler (10/5), Monica French (10/6). **Anniversaries:** Elizabeth & Joe Terry, Whitney & Scott Telford (10/1).

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

Hymn of the Week: Seek Where You May to Find a Way (LSB 557)