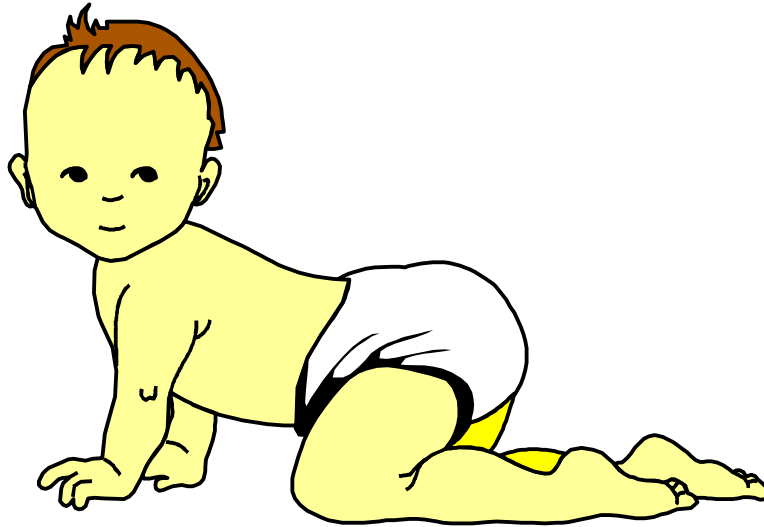


LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM

The Fourth & Fifth Commandments



Student Activity Book

“The Fourth And Fifth Commandments”

by

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The Fourth Commandment

Honor your father and your mother.

What does this mean?

“We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.”

I The Fourth Commandment

A. Expresses God's concern for _____-ity (thorau)

B. Who are God's “authorities”?

1. _____ (rentspa)
2. _____ (eachters)
3. _____ -ment (overng)
4. _____ (orspats)

C. What God says about “authorities” in Romans 13.

v. 1 “Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.”

This means...

v. 2 “Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.”

This means...

v. 3 “For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you.”

This means...

v. 4” *For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.” Romans 13:1-4 (NIV)*

This means...

II Honoring Others: Who should we honor?

- A. _____ (arentsp)
- B. _____ (ildrench)
- C. _____ (eadersl)
- D. _____ (ouseps)
- E. _____ (veryeone)

III How Do We Honor Our Authorities?

- A. By _____ them (ovingl)
- B. By _____ them (beyoing)
- C. By _____ them (espectingr)
- D. By _____ for them (rovidingp)
- E. By _____ for them (raypring)

+ + +

The Fifth Commandment

You Shall Not Murder.

What does this mean?

“We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.”

I What Is “Murder”?

A. “Murder” means to _____ (illk) someone.

B. “Murder” according to the Bible...

1. Moses: _____ is murder (gnillki) (cf. Gen. 4:1ff)

2. John: _____ is murder (redtha)

“Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.” I John 3:5 (NIV)

3. Jesus: _____ is murder. (gerna)

“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment.” Matthew 5:21-22 (NIV)

C. “Murder” is any action to any person that does not _____
God’s gift of life. (espectr)

II Kinds Of Murder

A. Killing a family member

1. _____-cide (omih):

2. _____-cide (atrip):

3. _____-cide (atrim)

B. Killing Others...Directly or Indirectly

1. _____-ation (ssassina):
2. _____ for hire (urderm)

C. Killing Self: _____-cide (ius)

D. Killing Unborn: _____-tion (bora)

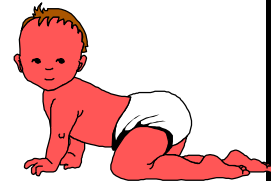
E. Mercy Killing: _____-asia (uthean)

III Contemporary Fifth Commandment Issues: Abortion

A. Definition: "The unholy and sinful termination of an unborn child's life."

DID YOU KNOW...

- * *Only 1/2 of 1% of all rapes result in pregnancy?*
- * *A fetus can feel pain at SIX weeks?*
- * *At three months, all of the fetus's organs are functioning?*
- * *Since Roe v. Wade, child abuse has increased 400%?*
- * *The most dangerous place in the United States is the mother's womb?*



"In the United States, one baby is aborted every 20 seconds. More babies have died in one year through abortion than in all of our wars combined."

When they tell you that abortion is a matter just between a woman and her doctor...
they're forgetting someone.

(Source: *Lutherans for Life*, 1983)

B. Is abortion acceptable?

1. What does Government say?
2. What does God say?
3. What must Christians say?

“We must obey God rather than men!” Acts 5:29 (NIV)

C. Is abortion ever an option??

1. Rape: No!
2. Incest: No!
3. Medical Emergency:

Abortion can only be considered when both mother and child would die. Then, and only then, abortion is acceptable ONLY because we are trying to save one life where both would otherwise be lost.

D. Alternatives To Abortion...there really ARE choices!

? Abstinence:

? Birth Control: Anything which prevents pregnancy before it happens and does not destroy a forming child in the womb is acceptable.

? Adoption:

? Others...

IV Contemporary Fifth Commandment Issues: Euthanasia

A. Definition:

1. Eu: _____ Thanasia: _____

2. The intentional killing by act or omission of a dependent human being for his or her alleged benefit.

B. Two Types Of Euthanasia

1. _____tary Euthanasia (olunv): When the person who is killed has *requested* to be killed.
2. ____-voluntary Euthanasia (ni): When the person who is killed made no request and gave no consent.

C. What does God say? “You shall _____ murder” (otn)

Euthanasia: Some Guiding Principles

1. Euthanasia is a synonym for mercy-killing. Therefore, it is *murder*.
2. God, our Creator, has ultimate authority over life and death.
3. Only God knows when a disease or condition is truly terminal and incurable.
4. Administering pain medications, even at the risk of shortening one's life, is permissible and humane since it does not entail the choice of death.
5. To refuse "heroic treatment" in consultation with one's physician, family, and pastor, may be good, ethical, and a Christian way to honor God's will.
6. Suffering, though an intrusion into life, is often God's way to build and reinforce one's faith and confidence in God.
7. When one's body can no longer sustain its own life, and doctors in their professional judgment conclude that there is no real hope for recovery (even with extraordinary measures), a Christian may, in good conscience, pray "Thy will be done" in recognition that God is the author of life and death.
8. The care of the terminally ill is a complex issue. Thus, any actions taken which may later appear to have been wrong may, like all sins, be forgiven on the basis of Christ's love for us.

(Adapted from *Dr. Ralph Bohlmann "A Time to Die" Lutheran Witness*, February, 1988, p. 192)

Further Reflections...

“There is a crucial distinction between taking life and allowing death. Terminating heroic measures under the clear circumstances of inevitable, imminent death, is not murder. It is not killing. Hence, it is not mercy killing. It...is simply allowing the natural death of someone already dying.”

M. Scott Peck, *Denial of the Soul*, p. 100

“The answer to physical pain is not euthanasia; it is physician, nurse, and patient education to the point where adequate physical pain relief is an acknowledged patient right.”

M. Scott Peck, M.D. in *Denial of the Soul*, p. 116.

The “Good Death” A Christian Perspective *Six Criteria*

1. It is a *natural* death, not a result of suicide or homicide.
2. It is physically *painless*, whether the painlessness is natural or effect by adequate medicinal relief of pain.
3. The person dies in *healthy* relationship, which is to say that he or she has achieved forgiveness and reconciliation with God, family, and those who will live on.
4. The person consciously is *ready* to die—in other words, he or she is not in denial, pretending that their death still isn't happening.
5. In some fashion or another the persona has expressed that readiness and said their *good-byes*.
6. The person is able to die because he or she has *worked through* the existential suffering and spiritual searching required to meet death with full acceptance.

“Many terminally ill persons actually and deliberately cooperate with God when they are dying and may thereby ease the process of dying.”

M. Scott Peck, *Denial of the Soul*

V When Terminal Illness Is Diagnosed...

- 1) Talk with the dying person
 - a. Do they want others to know?

 - b. How can you tell others?

 - c. What are their wishes for treatment, care, etc.?

- 2) Contact Pastor

- 3) Contact Other Doctors

- 4) Don't ignore the person. They need you! They want to share their love, their fears and keep the friendship and relationship alive.

- 5) Pray for God's will to be done

For Reflection:

- 1) Why do you believe God wants us to honor authorities?

- 2) Whom do we obey when the government and God's Word contradict each other?

- 3) Why do people kill each other?

4) Why is abortion wrong?

5) For what reasons do you want to worship God regularly?

Assignments:

1. Memorize the *Fourth and Fifth Commandments* and their meanings
2. Do “Galatians and Ephesians” Bible Summary
3. Complete the “Study Guide” below
4. Do the internet quiz for “The Fourth And Fifth Commandments.”

Study Guide: “The Fourth And Fifth Commandments”

Part I: True Or False. *The Fourth And Fifth Commandments.* (pp. 14-17) Place a “T” (True) or “F” (False) before each question below.

- ___ 1. Jesus was the perfect child.
- ___ 2. Though Absalom hated his father, his father loved him.
- ___ 3. Abel disobeyed God by killing his brother Cain.
- ___ 4. In God’s sight, anger is a form of murder.
- ___ 5. The Fifth Commandment urges us to help even our enemies in need.
- ___ 6. The story of the Good Samaritan teaches us that if someone is nearly dead, to let them die.
- ___ 7. To withhold food from a needy person is a violation of the Fifth Commandment.
- ___ 8. Abortion is OK since God wants parents to have only children that are wanted.
- ___ 9. Since God gave us government, we should obey *everything* they tell us to do.
- ___ 10. Euthanasia is acceptable in the care of animals.

Part II: Multiple Choice. Write the letter of the correct answer before each question below.

- ___ 11. “Authorities” may include...
 - a. Policeman
 - b. The President
 - c. Parents
 - d. All of the above
- ___ 12. We should obey our parents...
 - a. At all times
 - b. Never
 - c. Only when what they say is approved by God’s Word
 - d. Whenever we feel like it and they don’t make us mad.
- ___ 13. We obey authorities because....
 - a. They can punish us
 - b. We’re weaklings
 - c. They represent God
 - d. God put them in their office
 - e. A, B and D
 - f. A, C and D
 - g. C and D
 - h. None of the above

- ___ 14. “Murder” includes everything except...
- a. Homicide
 - b. Abortion
 - C. Suicide
 - c. Euthanasia
 - d. Angering someone
 - e. Withholding necessary care for health and life
 - f. All of the above are considered “murder”
- ___ 15. Life begins
- a. At the time of conception
 - b. At the time of birth
 - c. When you leave your parents’ home
 - d. 1 month after conception.
- ___ 16. When we euthanize people, we...
- a. Treat them like animals
 - b. Are taking life into our own hands
 - c. prevent them from a deepened faith
 - d. Play God and undermine His power
 - e. All of the above
 - f. C and D only
- ___ 17. When someone is near the end of their life we should...
- a. Administer medication to ease pain
 - b. Pray for—and with—the person
 - c. Share Jesus Christ with them
 - d. Stay away because we’re scared.
 - e. A and B
 - f. A, B and C.
 - g. None of the above.
- ___ 18. The only reason God gives to abort a child is...
- a. The child was conceived through rape
 - b. Emotional distress of a mother
 - c. The doctor is uncertain if the baby will be healthy
 - d. The mother’s life is in danger
 - e. All of the above.
 - f. None of the above.
- ___ 19. God is against abortion because...
- a. He is the Author of life
 - b. He wants all people to know of Jesus.
 - c. He doesn’t want people to make His decisions for Him.
 - d. We don’t know
 - e. God is not against abortion.
 - f. A, B and C.
 - g. D and E.
- ___ 20. The Parable of the Good Samaritan teaches us that ...
- a. We should hate people of other ethnic backgrounds
 - b. We should never interfere when someone else is hurting or in need.
 - c. We should help anyone in need, even our enemies
 - d. Jesus loves little children, too.

Part III: Matching. Match the items on the right by placing the letter of the matching item before the item on the right.

___ 1. Abortion	a. Considered murder by Jesus
___ 2. Euthanasia	b. When life begins
___ 3. Homicide	c. Killing an unborn child
___ 4. Authorities	d. Parents, Teachers, Pastors, Government
___ 5. Suicide	e. Murdering a family member
___ 6. Anger	f. Killing oneself
___ 7. Hell	g. Where unforgiven people who murder go
___ 8. Conception	h. Willfully killing someone

TFF