

Stewards by God's Design: The Three R's of the Christian Steward

Relationships – Responsibilities - Resources



The second table of the Law (Commandments Four through Ten) deals with the relationship we have with our neighbor.

Commandment Four:
Honor your father and
your mother.

Commandment Five:
You shall not murder.

Commandment Six:
You shall not commit adultery.

Commandment Seven:
You shall not steal.

Commandment Eight:
You shall not give false
testimony against your
neighbor.

Commandment Nine:
You shall not covet your
neighbor's house.

Commandment Ten:
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

My Relationship with Others

In **Genesis 2:18** God says that it is not good for man to be alone, so He created Eve to complete Adam. He told Adam and Eve to be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. God designed human beings to live and flourish in community with others. Living and flourishing in community requires that we treat others as God desires.

Read **Matthew 22:35-40**.

- What is the first great commandment?
- What is the second?
- Why are these commandments so important?

Read **Matthew 19:16-22**. A rich, young man comes to Jesus with an important question. He asks, “Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?” Jesus responds with an interesting statement, “Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good.”

- Why did Jesus respond this way?

Jesus continues, "If you would enter life, keep the commandments." When the young man asks, "Which ones?" Jesus responds, "You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

- Why did Jesus only quote the second table of the Law?

Read **Matthew 7:12**. How does Jesus want us to treat others? Why is this called the Golden Rule?

Read **Luke 10:25-37**. Here Jesus responds to a lawyer who asked him the question, “And who is my neighbor?” How did Jesus answer?

Having a positive relationship with other people is necessary for a life that is consistent with God's will. Paul writes in Romans 12:8, *If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.* How does one get along with others (steward our relationship with others faithfully, wisely, and fruitfully) even when it is difficult? What do the following Bible passages have to say about our relationship with other people?

- Matthew 7:3
- 1 Samuel 16:7
- Romans 14:10-12
- 1 Peter 3:8-9
- 1 Timothy 2:4