



Sermon Questions

July 20th, 2025 | Scripture: Exodus 20:1-2, 13 and Matthew 5:19-22 (The Sixth Commandment)

Pre-study: 3 things from the sermon. *Write down 3 ideas, illustrations, quotes, or points that made an impression in the sermon.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Here are some other ways you can meet with God throughout the week:

Reflect on these Scriptures:

- Genesis 4:1-16, 9:1-7
- Psalm 37:8-11
- Prov. 1:11-18
- Isaiah 1:22-23
- Matthew 5:21-26
- Galatians 5:16-26
- Hebrews 12:18-24
- 1 John 3:11-14

Pray: Ask the Lord to help you see the dignity that he has bestowed on all human life. Then make a list of those who are hardest for you to love and ask the Lord to bless them.

Serve: Consider serving with one of our local mission partners who is working to preserve and promote life here in the DMV:

- Active Compassion for Saints (ACTS)
- Assist Pregnancy Center
- Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center
- Bethany House
- Share of McLean
- The Lamb Center
- Project Belong

Core Questions

1. As the resource *Biblehub* makes clear: "The word translated as 'murder' in the sixth commandment is distinct from other killing verbs used in scripture. It is never used for judicial execution, holy war, or sacrificial slaughter. Those contexts employ other verbs. The semantic field for the word used here is thus ethically charged, referring only to prohibited homicide." How does this help us understand that the sixth command goes after our hearts instead of killing in general?
2. Jesus picks up on this theme in Matthew 5, where he says that anyone who is angry with his brother, insults his brother, or calls his brother "you fool" has violated the sixth commandment. We know that anger (Mark 3:5) and calling someone a fool (Luke 12:20) are not prohibited in other passages of scripture; therefore, Jesus must be referring to an unrighteous heart posture here. What kind of heart posture is he describing?
3. Genesis 9:6 shows us that the sixth commandment is grounded in man being made in the image of God. Why is an unrighteous heart posture that devalues the life of other image bearers so grievous to God?

Inward Grace in Action

4. After commenting on the sixth commandment, the main application that Jesus gives in Matthew 5 is the pursuit of reconciliation in relationships with others. How does the reconciliation that Jesus has worked for us on the cross empower us to pursue reconciliation with others?

Outward Grace in Action

5. Loving our enemies is a task that is admittedly far beyond our own strength. Which relationships do you need to ask the Lord for strength to love and the power of His Holy Spirit to forgive? Is there any relationship that you would ask the group to 1) cover in prayer as you pursue reconciliation, or 2) come alongside to encourage you, because you know either that reconciliation with this person may not be wise to pursue, or that it shall never be found this side of heaven?