

God's Good Rules

Lesson 9

Commandment 8

"Do Not Steal"

Lessons from the Bible: Exodus 20:1-17

Working hard and giving generously is better than stealing..

Review Commandments 1-4:

- The first 4 commandments teach us how to respect and honor God. Do you remember what they are?
- Put God first
 2. No fake gods
 3. Respect God's name
 4. Respect God's day of rest

The last 6 commandments are how we are to treat ourselves and others.

Last time we learned Commandment 7. Do you remember what it is?

- 5. Honor your father and mother
- 6. Do not Kill
- **7. Keep your promises**

Today we have another lesson on how to treat others:

Read: Exodus 20:15: **"You must not steal."**

This commandment is one that everyone, whether they obey God or not, can agree is a good thing.

Who can explain what stealing is? (Allow students to answer.)

- Stealing is taking something that does not belong to you without permission and without paying for it. Now of course you know that stealing is wrong. That's why God tells us not to do it. Today we are going to talk about why it's wrong to steal, and what we ought to do instead.

Why do you think God commands us to not steal? (Allow students to answer.)

When we take something that belongs to someone else, we show that we don't care about that person very much.

Think about it. How would you feel if someone stole one of your favorite toys? You would be pretty upset, wouldn't you? When you steal, it hurts the person you steal from. When you do something to hurt others, you are not being kind and loving, like Jesus wants us to.

So, the command to not steal is a command to protect not only people's stuff, but people's hearts from being hurt. It is a command to respect and care for others.

Now it seems pretty straightforward to not take things that belong to other people. But there is more to stealing than that. Usually when people think of stealing, they think of a bad guy in a mask, robbing a bank.

If you think about it, there are many ways to break this commandment.

Robbing a bank is one way. Let's think of some other ways that we might break this commandment.

- Some possibilities include: stealing a toy from a friend's house, playing with a sibling's favorite toy without permission, taking money from mom's purse, taking a candy bar from the grocery store without permission, or taking someone's snack at school.)

Now that we have covered some basics, let's think a little more about what stealing may mean.

Did you know that you can steal time? Think about when you are supposed to be doing your homework. If you mess around, complain, and play instead, you are stealing time from your family. You ought to get your homework done right away, so you have more time to play. The same thing goes for doing your chores, too. Adults can steal time from their bosses by not working when they are supposed to, or by working on things other than their job when they're at work.

You can also steal someone's reputation. Your reputation is what people think of you. When you gossip, saying mean or untrue things about someone, it hurts the way others may think about them. It steals away the good thoughts others have about them.

You can also steal ideas. Let's say you are writing a story for school and you come across a paragraph in a book or online that sounds really good and you think it would sound good in your story. If you write out that paragraph without saying where you found it, if you just make it seem like you wrote it, you are stealing someone else's idea.

Imagine you are playing with your friends during recess, and your best friend comes up with an idea for a new game. So your best friend tells you, and you tell the whole group, but you pretend like it was your idea, not your best friend's. That would be stealing your friend's idea.

Psalm 34:9-10 says, ***"Fear the Lord, you his godly people, for those who fear him will have all they need. Even strong young lions sometimes go hungry, but those who trust in the Lord will lack no good thing."***

When you trust God, you can know that he will take care of you and give you everything you need. So, there is no reason to steal. Stealing shows that you do not trust God to take care of you and that you do not care for the people he created.

Now, we know that stealing is wrong. We don't want to take things that don't belong to us. The Bible tells us what we can do instead of stealing.

Let's look at Ephesians 4:28. It says, ***"If you are a thief, quit stealing. Instead, use your hands for good hard work, and then give generously to others in need."***

Acts 20:35 says, ***"And I have been a constant example of how you can help those in need by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"***

From these two verses, we learn that working hard and giving generously is so much better than stealing! When you are focused on sharing and giving and working hard, you won't even be tempted to dishonor God by stealing.

End in prayer

10 Commandments in simple terms.

1. Put God first
2. No fake gods
3. Respect God's name
4. Respect God's day of restDo
5. Honor & Obey your parents
6. Do not kill people
7. Respect marriage – Keep promises
8. **Do not steal**
9. Do not lie
10. Do not be jealous

Bible Verse | Psalm 119:1-2: "Joyful are people of integrity, who follow the instructions of the Lord. Joyful are those who obey his laws and search for him with all their hearts."

Activities: Practice "The Ten Commandments Boogie Song"

Video: The Ten Commandment Boogie:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L2hB5Gqo8Vo>

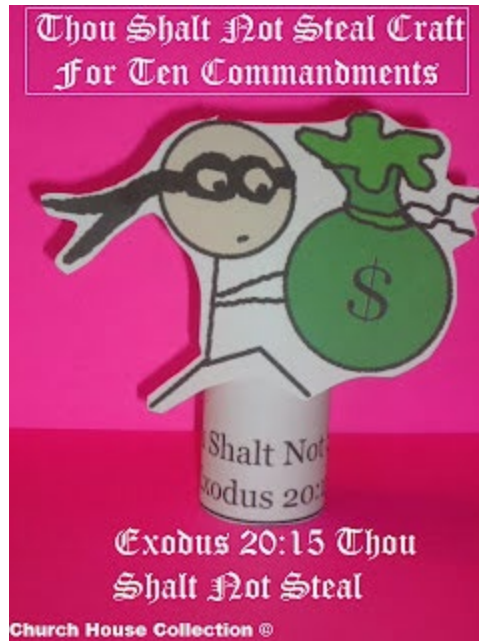
Craft: Do Not Steal – Toilet Paper Roll Bandit

Feel free to take a picture of their art work or share how your activity went!
Post it on our Facebook page or share it on GroupMe. Have a Blessed Day &
Week! Until we can meet again

~ *Teacher Chrissy*

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Thou Shalt Not Steal Toilet Paper Roll Craft For The 10 Commandments - Exodus 20:15



Thou Shalt Not Steal Toilet Paper Roll Craft For 10
Commandments

Exodus 20:15- Thou Shalt Not Steal

Pick which template you need below and print it off. Have the children color the picture and then cut it out. Have them tape the picture onto a toilet paper roll tube.

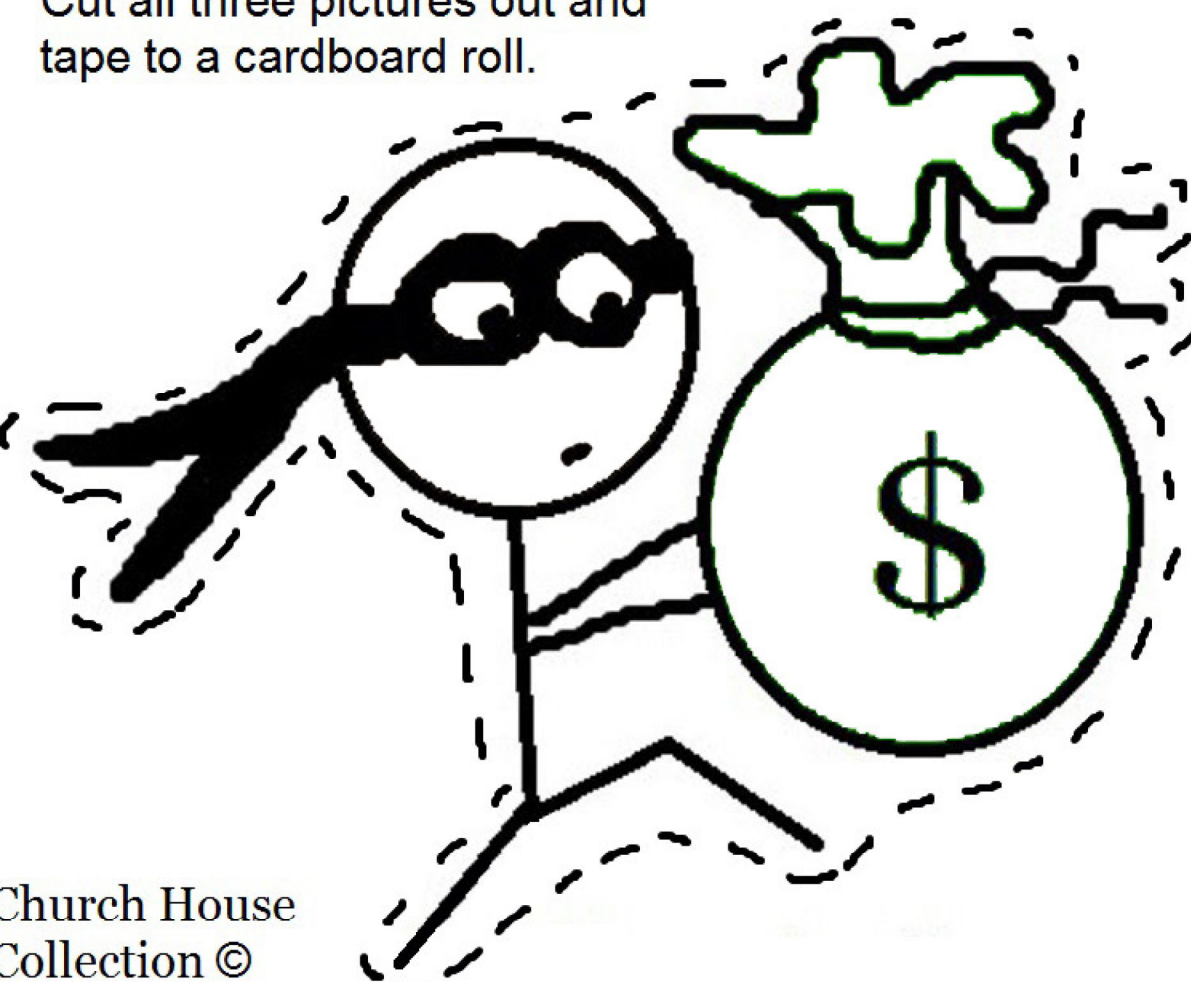
Wrap the square piece of paper that has the scripture on it around the toilet paper roll and tape in the back. Tape the thief to the front of the craft roll. Then have the child add the scripture they cut out right over the words on the square and tape down.

Church House Collection ©

Thou Shalt Not Steal

Exodus 20:15

Thou Shalt Not Steal Craft
Cut all three pictures out and
tape to a cardboard roll.



Thou Shalt Not Steal

Exodus 20:15