

**QUESTION 12:
WHAT DOES GOD REQUIRE IN THE NINTH AND TENTH
COMMANDMENTS?**

ANSWER : NINTH, THAT WE DO NOT LIE OR DECEIVE, BUT SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE. TENTH, THAT WE ARE CONTENT, NOT ENVYING ANYONE OR RESENTING WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN THEM OR US.

50 minute Lesson Outline:

- Catechism Recap (5 mins)
- Introduction to Question (5 mins)
- Teaching Outline (15 mins)
- Discussion and Question Time (20 mins)
- Virtue Vision (5 mins)

Bible Passage: Exodus 20:1–17

Memory Verse: James 2:8

Big Idea: God desires that his people live in a way that glorifies him and shows his character to the world.

Aim: To help us understand that God longs for us to be satisfied in him and to become more like him.

Virtue: Honesty

LEADER'S NOTES:

We learn to lie at a very young age. Children usually lie to gain some advantage for themselves, whether it's to become more popular or to avoid some sort of punishment. This lesson will help us understand that **God loves truth and longs for his people to be truth tellers; this will both benefit human relationships and display something of God's nature to a watching world as his people bear his image.** Another thing that we learn to do at a very early age is to covet the

belongings of others; sadly, this covetousness is nurtured by a vast advertising and marketing industry. **This lesson will help us to consider what it is to be satisfied in God and to not covet things that others have.**

Things to remember:

- Obeying God's commandments is a response to his grace and a way to glorify him.
- Be aware of how peer pressure affects us in both the areas of lying and coveting.

CATECHISM REVIEW OF LAST WEEK, Q10

What does God require in the sixth, seventh, and eighth commandments?

Answer : Sixth, that we do not hurt or hate, or be hostile to our neighbor, but be peaceful, pursuing even our enemies with love. Seventh, that we abstain from sexual immorality and live purely and faithfully, whether in marriage or in single life, avoiding all impure actions, looks, words, thoughts, or desires and whatever might lead to them. Eighth, that we do not take without permission that which belongs to SOMEONE else, nor withhold and good from someone we might benefit.

INTRODUCTION TO QUESTION 11

Ask the group if they've read the story, "The Boy Who Cried Wolf".

Ask the group what they think of lying.

Ask whether they like being lied to.

Ask them if they ever lie.

Explain that the Bible contains many warnings against lying, and the ninth commandment states clearly that God does not want people to lie. Question 12 will help us to consider the problem of lying and also what it means to covet.

Read the following some statements and **ask** if they think the statement is true or false:

1. September has thirty-one days. (lie)
2. Up is the opposite of down. (truth)
3. The sun rotates around the earth. (lie)
4. Cats have nine lives. (lie)
5. Walt Disney's full name was Walter Elias Disney. (truth)
6. Earthworms breathe through their skin. (truth)
7. The Titanic sank in 1932. (lie)
8. Bamboo is the fastest growing plant in the world. (truth)
9. Nashville, Tennessee, is the largest city in the United States. (lie)
10. Thomas Jefferson's face is on the \$3 bill. (lie)

Are you more attracted to people who tell the truth or people who lie?

TEACHING OUTLINE

QUESTION 12: WHAT DOES GOD REQUIRE IN THE NINTH AND TENTH COMMANDMENTS?

God is a God of truth. He loves the truth and hates lies. One of the things that it is impossible for God to do is lie! It makes perfect sense, therefore, for God to want his children to love truth and hate deception.

READ: Exodus 20:1–17

1 And God spoke all these words, saying,

2 "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

3 "You shall have no other gods before me.

4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me,

6 but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

7 "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

8 "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

9 Six days you shall labor, and do all your work,

10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.

11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

13 "You shall not murder.

14 "You shall not commit adultery.

15 "You shall not steal.

16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

17 "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

In this passage, the ninth and tenth commandments are focused once again on relationships between people. These commandments are intended to help God's people live wisely alongside one another.

What do you think the consequences might be if someone told lies about another person? It would be very damaging, and it would cause a breakdown in relationships. Sadly, people tell lies to one another and about one another all the time, and that brings lots of difficulties and problems.

What do you think it means to be like God and to seek to obey God? If God loves truth and hates lies, then his people should love truth and hate lies. God demands that his people do not tell any kind of lies, even what might be described as little white lies. All lying is wrong—despite what other people might say. God even hates the little white lies.

Reflect on when you've been tempted to lie, what makes you lie?

To get out of a tricky situation? To avoid being punished? To make people like them?

When we lie, we are concerned about ourselves and not about God or his glory. Explain to the children that the Devil is called the father of lies (John 8:44). When we lie, we are behaving like the Devil rather than God.

Have you ever been tempted to covet the belongings of another? What kind of things do you wish you had?

God cares about the hearts of his people. Coveting things often causes people to become obsessed about them, and they can take the place of God in the hearts of people. Covetousness can damage relationships between people.

Covetousness says to God that he isn't enough or that he hasn't provided enough for his people. It shows dissatisfaction in God, and it definitely doesn't love God with heart, soul, and mind.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

(Allow for several answers within your group before reading the provided response.)

- 1. Isn't sometimes necessary to lie?** The Devil is the father of lies and that he loves it when people lie because it shows the world what he's like rather than what God is like. Always seek to tell the truth.
- 2. By not having the same stuff that others have, I feel left out and lonely. Isn't that why I covet things?** We must understand that possessions will not provide satisfaction or fulfillment. God alone can satisfy us, and he will provide all that we need.

Things to consider:

- How will you strive to be a truth teller?

- What does it mean to be truly satisfied with what God provides and to trust him for all things?

- How does this lesson help you think about how you might love your neighbors, friends, and family?

VIRTUE VISION: Honesty

Last week we defined honesty in our own words. How have you lived up to your own understanding of honesty?

Has being dishonest ever hurt someone you cared about?

What would it take for you to trust God to help you live an honest life?

MEMORY VERSE

"If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself,' you are doing well.

James 2:8