

Zion Lutheran Church wide study of the Catechism

Week 11

The 10th Commandment

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

We remember that coveting is having a sinful desire for anyone or anything that belongs to our neighbor. So with this in mind:

What coveting does God forbid in the Tenth Commandment?

- God forbid every sinful desire to take from our neighbor that person's spouse or workers: Look at Luke 12:15 and Colossians 3:5.

The Bible narrative here is a familiar story of David coveting Uriah's wife in: 2 Samuel 11:2-4

What does God require of us in the 10th Commandment?

- We should be content with the helpers God has given us and encourage our neighbor's helpers to be faithful to our neighbor.

Luther ends this teaching with this question:

What does God particularly impress upon us in the last two commandments?

- In God's sight evil desire, coveting, is indeed sin and deserves condemnation. Genesis 3:6 and James 1:14-15

God wants us to love Him and to have holy desire: (ending this upbeat)

- Ps 37:4...delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart!
- Ps 119: 35-36
- Phil. 4-8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is admirable-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy-think about such things.