

Lesson 4: 4th and 5th Commandments

TEACHER PREPARATION

Watch Pastor Buetow's Video Catechism and answer the questions in the comments.

[Video Catechism: The 4th Commandment](#)

[Video Catechism: The 5th Commandment](#)

TEACHER GUIDE

Target Questions:

2nd Table: How does God work through sinners to preserve life?

Link to presentation slides:

Confirmation Year 1: [Lesson 4 Slides](#) (Pptx. version available in download folder)

Opening:

Sing together [These Are the Holy Ten Commands](#)

LSB 581

Memory Work

Recite the entire 6 chief parts of the Catechism

Brain Break Time!

Suggestion:

Crossing the midline

First, instruct kids to touch their left elbow to their right knee, then touch their right elbow to their left knee. Switch back and forth, going slowly at first, building speed until they are going at a vigorous pace. Next, do some windmills by standing tall with their feet shoulder-width apart, and their arms stretched out. Bend at the waist and touch their right hand to their left toes, then their left hand to their right toes. Switch back and forth.

Instruction/Discussion

What is the 4th Commandment?

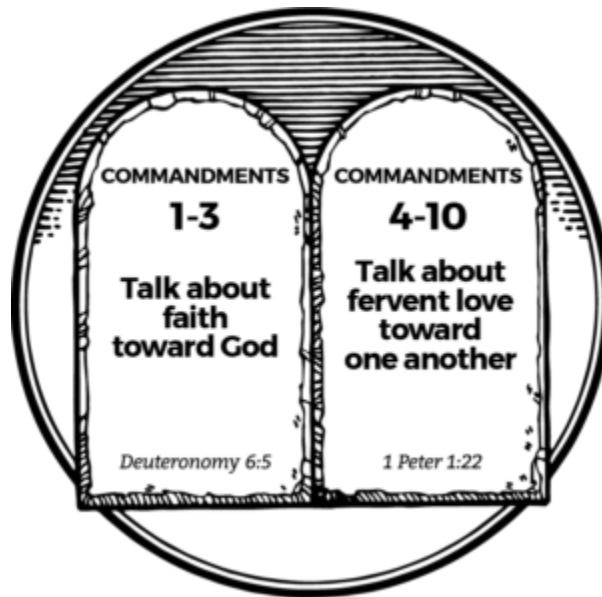
Honor your father and your mother.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

We are moving on to the 2nd table of the law. Explain what each table of the law is about.

The first table of the law explains how we relate to and love God. The second table of the law is how we relate to and love our neighbor.



What is the gift of the 4th Commandment?

God gives us the gift of parents and other authorities.

Do things typically go better or worse when we obey the law?

Read Ephesians 6:1-3

Through obeying this commandment, God gives us a promise. "Honor your father and your mother that it may go well with you and you may live long in the land." This promise, "that you may live long in the land," shows that things go better when we obey the law.

What about when our parents (or other authority) are wrong? Do we still have to obey them?

Read Acts 5:29

When our parents or other authorities are wrong about scriptural things, you must obey God rather than man.

For example,

If your parents told you to steal something from a store, you could look at the 7th Commandment, “You shall not steal,” and refuse to obey them without breaking the 4th Commandment.

What are the three estates?

Home/Family

Government/World

Church

What is the purpose of each estate?

Home/Family cares for your body and your soul

(Read Romans 13:1-7) Government/World cares for your body

(Read Hebrews 13: 17) Church cares for your soul

Name the three estates in life where God gives us authorities as a gift (top row). Give some examples of each estate (middle row). Indicate the purposes of each estate (bottom row).

Middle row answers will vary

1. Home	2. World	3. Church
Parents, Grandparents, Babysitters, Teachers	Police, Presidents, Doctors, Bosses, Managers, Company Owners, Coaches	Pastors (Note: There is one God-given office: Pastors. But there are many offices the church has used from time to time to assist pastors: teachers, DCEs, youth leaders, Sunday School teachers, deaconesses)
These care for your body and soul.	These are for your body.	These care for your soul.

Why can't the government or the church care for both the body and the soul?

It is not the job of the church or pastor to punish one for their sins. They are there to give God's forgiveness. In the same way, it is the job of the government to "bear the sword", to punish wrongdoing. We cannot confess our sins to one who wields the sword without expecting the repercussions of that wrongdoing.

What is the 5th Commandment?

You shall not murder.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

What is the gift of the 5th Commandment?

God gives us life.

"But help and support it in every physical need." God wants your body to be protected. If this is the case, does He want you to die?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:55-56

No, God does not want us to die. We die because of our sin.

Can we avoid death?

Read Romans 6:23

We cannot avoid death. We are all sinners, so we will all die, but we will look forward to eternal life in Christ.

What are some ways you can break the 5th Commandment?

Give students 2-3 minutes to discuss and brainstorm possible answers.

Unauthorized taking of someone's life

Killing an unborn child (abortion)

Killing the elderly or sick person (euthanasia)

Not helping someone who needs our help and it results in bodily harm

Hatred of another person (bullying/'cancelling'/racism)

Killing oneself (suicide)

- Suicide and abortion will be covered in more depth in Year 3 of confirmation. If you or your students have concerns, use your judgment in deciding how deep to go into this topic based on the ages and maturity level of your

students. Always remember to discuss concerns with your students' parents and/or your pastor as well.

Medically speaking, what is the difference between killing someone and allowing them to die?

Euthansia or medically assisted death is killing someone by giving them help in dying - for example, giving specific medications that will help them to die faster. Allowing someone to die is ceasing medications that will continue to keep that person alive and letting them die on their own.

When does it NOT break the 5th Commandment to kill someone? What is the difference between a soldier's vocation and murder?

Read Romans 13:1-7

God gives the authority to take life in certain circumstances, such as a soldier in war. A soldier's vocation is to protect his or her country and he or she therefore holds the authority to take a life.

Who took the punishment for murderers like us?

Jesus took the punishment on Himself that murders like us deserve even though He kept the 5th Commandment. He was crucified and died on the cross in our place.

Closing

Sing together [Water, Blood and Spirit Crying](#)
LSB 597

Homework

Watch [Pastor Simeks' weekly video](#)
Discussion questions with parents

Supplemental Activities

If you have extra time, try some of these activities to continue your learning!

- 4th Commandment: Watch and discuss HT's [Largely Catechized Life: Ep 24 – Serve God by Serving Your Neighbor](#) with Pastor Harrison Goodman
- 5th Commandment: Watch and discuss HT's [Largely Catechized Life: Ep 32 – Love Means More than Ignore](#) with Pastor Harrison Goodman
- Have your students share what they talked about with their parents this week when working through the discussion questions
- [Kahoot - 4th and 5th Commandments](#)