

# Living In Relationship To God

## The Eighth Commandment

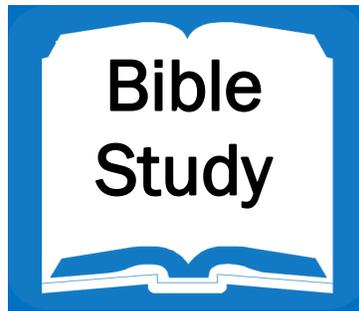
### A Story:

A traveler, between flights at an airport, went to a lounge and bought a small package of cookies. Then she sat down and began reading a newspaper. Gradually she heard a rustling noise. She was flabbergasted to see a neatly dressed man helping himself to her cookies. Not wanting to make a scene, she reached over and took a cookie herself. A minute or two passed, and then came more rustling. He was helping himself to another cookie! By this time they had come to the end of the package. Then, as if to add insult to injury, the man broke the last cookie in two and pushed half across to her, ate his half and left. It was a good thing, too, for by this time the traveler was angry.

A short time later she reached in her purse to get her ticket. To her amazement, there she found her package of unopened cookies!

The point: Things are not always as they may seem to us. This can be especially true when we hastily judge another person's behavior.

**The substance of this commandment is: Nobody shall harm another person with his tongue, no matter whether he is a friend or an enemy.**



*What do the following passages say about how we treat others?*

**Day One:**           Philippians 2:4

**Day Two:**           Hebrews 6:10

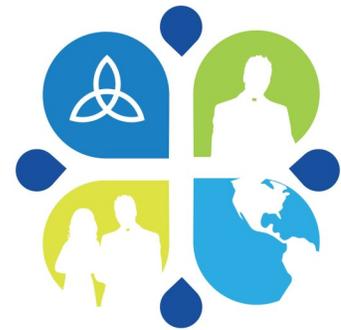
**Day Three:**         1 Peter 3:8

**Day Four:**          1 John 4:7

**Day Five:**          Hebrews 12:14



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### For Discussion:

**Mark 14:3-9**

Read the above passage and discuss the following questions:

1. Christian stewardship calls for a response on the part of the believer. How did the woman respond according to verse 3?
2. How did some of those who witnessed the act respond according to verse 4?
3. Why do you suppose Jesus defended her action?
4. How did Jesus respond to her expensive gift?
5. Talk about ways to guard against jumping to conclusions about others.

### Stewardship Truth

**Living in relationship to God means that I seek to explain the actions of others in the kindest ways.**