

Living In Relationship To God

The Fifth Commandment

Being A Friend

Jackie Robinson was the first black athlete to play major league baseball. While breaking baseball's "color barrier," he faced jeering crowds in every stadium.

On one particular day he was playing before the home crowd in Brooklyn. He committed an error and the home-town fans began to ridicule him. He stood at second base, humiliated, listening to the boos of the crowd.

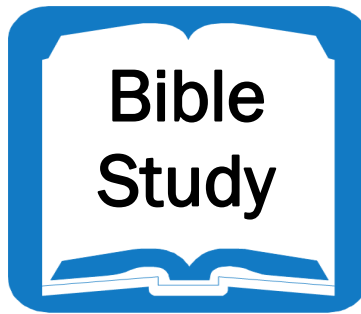
It was then that shortstop "Pee Wee" Reese came over and stood next to him. He put his arm around Jackie Robinson and faced the crowd. The fans grew quiet. Robinson later said that it was Reese's arm around him that saved his career.

What qualities made Reese a friend to Jackie Robinson?

What connection do you see between this story and the Fifth Commandment?

God desires by this commandment that we don't hurt anyone and do all within our power to keep others from being hurt. He asks us to show only love and kindness to everyone, even those who wish us harm.

From Luther's Large Catechism



Who is to be our friend according to the following passages?

Day One: Zechariah 7:10

Day Two: Proverbs 29:7

Day Three: Romans 12:18

Day Four: Colossians 4:5

Day Five: Galatians 6:10



Concordia Seminary
Center for Stewardship
Rev. Wayne J. Knolhoff, Director



For Discussion:

Luke 10:30-37

Read the above passage and discuss the following questions:

1. Christian stewardship has to do with a response to God's love. How did the Samaritan respond according to verse 33?
2. Christian stewardship has to do with how we treat our neighbor. Who is our neighbor according to verses 36 and 37?
3. Discuss Jesus' words about doing good to others in Matthew 5:46-47.
4. Talk about ways that we can be more of a friend to those around us.

Pray that God would help you to be a friend to everyone, especially to those who don't have many friends.

Stewardship Truth

Living in relationship to God means that I seek to be a friend to everyone.