

Living In Relationship To God

The Seventh Commandment

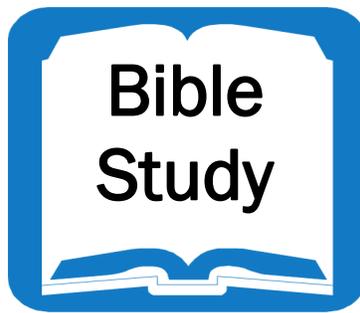
A Story:

Once upon a time there was a man who had nothing and God gave him ten apples. He gave the man three apples to eat. He gave him three apples to trade for a shelter from the sun and rain. He gave him tree apples to trade for clothes to wear. And He gave him one apple so that he might have something to give back to God to show his gratitude for the other nine.

The man ate three apples. He traded three for a shelter from the sun and rain. He traded three for clothes to wear. Then he looked at the tenth apple. He knew God had given him the tenth apple so that he might return it to Him out of gratitude for the other nine, but it looked bigger and juicier than the rest. He reasoned that God had all the other apples in the world, so he ate the tenth apple and gave the core back to God.

What does this story have to do with the Seventh Commandment? See Malachi 3:8-11.

God richly provides us with everything we need for this body and life. He asks us to return a portion of it to Him—not because He needs it, but because we need to give.



What do the following passages say about the offering we bring to God?

Day One: Deuteronomy 16:17

Day Two: 2 Corinthians 9:7

Day Three: 2 Corinthians 9:12

Day Four: 1 Corinthians 16:2

Day Five: Luke 6:38



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



For Discussion:

Luke 19:1-10

Read the above passage and discuss the following questions:

1. Christian stewardship always begins with God giving to us. What did God give Zacchaeus according to verse 5?
2. Christian stewardship calls for a response. How did Zacchaeus respond according to verse 8?
3. What caused Zacchaeus to respond the way he did?
4. Someone has said that if you really want to know what is important to a person look at his/her checkbook or credit card statement. How is that true?

Stewardship Truth

Living in relationship to God means that I seek to use God's gifts as He would have me use them.