

Faith Talk

Trinity Canadian Reformed Church

Worshiping Sundays 9 am and 3 pm, 2553 Binbrook Rd E

Living by the 10 Commandments

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When discussing faith, one of the yardsticks used for measuring ‘sin’ is the 10 Commandments. One of the things often heard is “I don’t steal, or murder, and I’m faithful to my spouse. I don’t ‘sin’ all that much, so why would I need a Saviour?” Most people have likely read the 10 Commandments, probably even within recent memory. But do we stop and think about them, and how they relate in our modern lives? This “Faith Talk” examines just one of the commandments to show us why we need a Saviour in Jesus Christ. The 6th commandment states:

You shall not murder.

Seems pretty basic, doesn’t it? I’m sure most people can answer “I’ve never murdered anyone in my life.” But the act of murder is only part of this command. In Matt. 23:25-28 Jesus condemns the hypocrisy that tries to hide inner corruption with an outward show. And in the I John 3:15 we read “Whoever hates his brother is a murderer...” From this we learn that not only outward actions matter, but also thoughts and emotions. So this commandment doesn’t speak just about murder, but also forbids the root of murder - envy, hatred, anger, thoughts of revenge. God also commands us to show patience, peace, and friendliness to others. So how does this actually function in life?

Do we get along with our neighbours, or say we “can’t stand them?” How often do we come home from work cursing the so-and-so that cut us off on the highway or feel satisfied when he ends up in the ditch with a flat tire? Isn’t it natural to stop speaking to someone who has wronged us? Or look for pay-back? Do we grumble under our breath when the complaining neighbour heads our way or do we show patience with him? A negative attitude toward others is sin – it is murder in God’s eyes.

Do we still feel confident in our own worth? I think an honest look at ourselves would show that, at heart, we are all murderers. No one could face God’s judgement on this command. That’s why we need Christ. Because only He can.

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