



You Shall Not Steal
Pastor Sarah Grasso
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Taking something that does not belong to you.

Brittany, age 9, says, "God wants us to be happy with what we have." Nathan, 11, adds: "Stealing is wrong because it is actually coveting. So you are breaking two commandments."

- Discontent
- Greed
- Lack of trust

The very thing that you steal might be the very thing that destroys you

Joshua 6:15-21

On the seventh day the Israelites got up at dawn and marched around the town as they had done before. But this time they went around the town seven times. 16 The seventh time around, as the priests sounded the long blast on their horns, Joshua commanded the people, "Shout! For the LORD has given you the town! 17 Jericho and everything in it must be completely destroyed^[a] as an offering to the LORD. Only Rehab the prostitute and the others in her house will be spared, for she protected our spies. 18 "Do not take any of the things set apart for destruction, or you yourselves will be completely destroyed, and you will bring trouble on the camp of Israel. 19 Everything made from silver, gold, bronze, or iron is sacred to the LORD and must be brought into His treasury." 20 When the people heard the sound of the rams' horns, they shouted as loud as they could. Suddenly, the walls of Jericho collapsed, and the Israelites charged straight into the town and captured it. 21 They completely destroyed everything in it with their swords—men and women, young and old, cattle, sheep, goats, and donkeys.

Joshua 7:1-

But Israel violated the instructions about the things set apart for the LORD.^[a] A man named Achan had stolen some of these dedicated things, so the LORD was very angry with the Israelites. Achan was the son of Carmi, a descendant of Zimri^[b] son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah.

2 Joshua sent some of his men from Jericho to spy out the town of Ai, east of Bethel, near Beth-aven. 3 When they returned, they told Joshua, "There's no need for all of us to go up there; it won't take more than two or three thousand men to attack Ai. Since there are so few of them, don't make all our people struggle to go up there."

4 So approximately 3,000 warriors were sent, but they were soundly defeated. The men of Ai 5 chased the Israelites from the town gate as far as the quarries,^[c] and they killed about thirty-six who were retreating down the slope. The Israelites were paralyzed with fear at this turn of events, and their courage melted away.

6 Joshua and the elders of Israel tore their clothing in dismay, threw dust on their heads, and bowed face down to the ground before the Ark of the LORD until evening. 7 Then Joshua cried out, "Oh, Sovereign LORD, why did you bring us across the Jordan River if you are going to let the Amorites kill us? If only we had been content to stay on the other side! 8 Lord, what can I say now that Israel has fled from its enemies? 9 For when the Canaanites and all the other people living in the land hear about it, they will surround us and wipe our name off the face of the earth. And then what will happen to the honor of your great name?"

10 But the LORD said to Joshua, "Get up! Why are you lying on your face like this? 11 Israel has sinned and broken my covenant! They have stolen some of the things that I commanded must be set apart for me. And they have not only stolen them but have lied about it and hidden the things among their own belongings. 12 That is why the Israelites are running from their enemies in defeat. For now Israel itself has been set apart for destruction. I will not remain with you any longer unless you destroy the things among you that were set apart for destruction.

Joshua 7:20-21

20 Achan replied, "It is true! I have sinned against the LORD, the God of Israel. 21 Among the plunder I saw a beautiful robe from Babylon,^[d] 200 silver coins,^[e] and a bar of gold weighing more than a pound.^[f] I wanted them so much that I took them. They are hidden in the ground beneath my tent, with the silver buried deeper than the rest."

“ I wanted them so much that I took them”

“ I wanted them so much that I charged them”

Trust

Do we really trust and believe that He will provide for us?

Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the LORD with all your heart,

And lean not on your own understanding;

Philippians 4:6

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with *his* hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. Ephesians 4:28

Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Philippians 2:4