

Bible Study Lesson: Living by God's Commandments - 03122026

Focal Scripture (NIV – Exodus 20:12–17)

12 “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

13 “You shall not murder.

14 “You shall not commit adultery.

15 “You shall not steal.

16 “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

17 “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

Lesson Objectives

- Understand the moral and relational principles behind the commandments.
- Recognize how honoring parents, respecting life, and practicing honesty build community.
- Reflect on how coveting, stealing, and false testimony harm relationships and society.
- Connect these commandments to God’s call for compassion and generosity in Deuteronomy 15:4–11 and Matthew 25:42–45.

Verse Breakdown and Insights

- Verse 12: Honoring parents is foundational—it teaches respect, gratitude, and continuity of faith.
- Verse 13: Respect for life is central to God’s justice.
- Verse 14: Faithfulness in marriage reflects God’s covenant faithfulness.
- Verse 15: Stealing undermines trust and community; generosity is the opposite spirit.
- Verse 16: Truthfulness protects justice and relationships.
- Verse 17: Coveting reveals the heart—envy and greed destroy contentment and love.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is honoring parents connected to long life in the land?
2. How do these commandments protect community relationships?
3. What does coveting reveal about our hearts and desires?
4. How do these commandments prepare us to live generously and compassionately?
5. How can we apply these principles in modern life—family, work, and community?

Memory Verse

Exodus 20:12 (NIV): “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

Why This Lesson Prepares Us for Deuteronomy 15:4–11 and Matthew 25:42–45

- Deuteronomy 15:4–11: God commands generosity toward the poor. Exodus 20:15 and 17 remind us not to steal or covet, but instead to give freely.
- Matthew 25:42–45: Jesus identifies Himself with the needy. Living by the commandments prepares us to serve others with compassion and truth.
- Together, these passages show that obedience to God’s law leads to love, generosity, and service—practical expressions of faith.

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for giving us Your commandments to guide our lives. Help us to honor our parents, respect life, remain faithful, speak truth, and live contentedly. Teach us to be generous and compassionate, serving others as we serve You. May our obedience bring glory to Your name and blessing to our communities. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Fill-in-the-Blank Worksheet (Participant Version)

Bible Study Worksheet: Exodus 20:12–17 (NIV)

Focus Scripture

“Honor your _____ and your _____, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.” (v.12)

“You shall not _____.” (v.13)

“You shall not commit _____.” (v.14)

“You shall not _____.” (v.15)

“You shall not give false _____ against your neighbor.” (v.16)

“You shall not _____ your neighbor’s house...or anything that belongs to your neighbor.” (v.17)

Lesson Objectives

1. Understand the moral and relational principles behind the _____.
2. Recognize how honoring parents, respecting _____, and practicing _____ build community.
3. Reflect on how coveting, stealing, and false testimony harm _____ and society.

Verse Breakdown

- Verse 12: Honoring _____ is foundational.
- Verse 13: Respect for _____ is central to God’s justice.
- Verse 14: _____ in marriage reflects God’s covenant faithfulness.
- Verse 15: _____ undermines trust and community.
- Verse 16: _____ protects justice and relationships.
- Verse 17: _____ reveals the heart—envy and greed destroy contentment.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is honoring _____ connected to long life in the land?
2. What does _____ reveal about our hearts and desires?
3. How do these commandments prepare us to live _____ and compassionately?

Memory Verse

Fill in the blanks:

“Honor your _____ and your _____, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.” (Exodus 20:12)

Connection to Deuteronomy & Matthew

- Deuteronomy 15: God commands _____ toward the poor.
- Matthew 25: Jesus identifies Himself with the _____.
- Exodus 20: Obedience to God’s law leads to love, _____, and service.