

Small Group Discussion Guide

“Top Ten Summer” (pt. 7) – 07.26.2015

Scripture: Exodus 20:15; Luke 23:32-43

Bottom Line: Our response to the 8th Commandment is not am I thief, but which thief will I be? Will I mock Jesus or will I confess and believe?

INTRODUCTION/ICEBREAKER:

As children we have the propensity to make decisions and not think about the consequences. Rob's sermon contained a story about the first item he remembers stealing when he was in the first grade. The item was a highly coveted Berenstain Bear's book. What is your first memory of stealing? What were the consequences?

UNPACKING THE GOSPEL IN THE BIBLE:

Read Exodus 20:15

1) Why do you believe “stealing” is included in the commandments? (Stealing goes against the very thing God calls us to do with our lives as Christians. We are a people called to serve and give generously to others as he has done for us).

2) What makes a person a thief? (definition: a person who steals another person's property)

Read Luke 23:32-43

1) Describe the difference between the thieves response to Jesus as they were crucified together?

2) How does Jesus respond to the thief who turns to him and believes?

3) What does this reveal about God's radical grace?

4) In what areas of your life and your struggles are you not believing in the same grace from God?

LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE:

1) **Road Map:** How does a life free of guilt over stealing or free of longing for certain “things” bring freedom and make much of Jesus to others?

2) **Mirror:** How does the 8th commandment “expose” our hearts? (shows that we are sinful people in need of a Savior)

3) **Window:** What does the 8th Commandment as Jesus interprets it reveal about God? (He is a GENEROUS Father who has given us all that we will ever need. He has given us Himself.)