

STUDY GUIDE
Life in Christ Jesus: Chapters 9-12

The Ten Commandments (also called the Decalogue which means 10 words) summarize the Law of God. It is the foundation of all human laws, moral and civil.

4th Commandment – Honor your mother and father

The 4th Commandment teaches that we obey our parents and all who have responsibility for our well being

5th Commandment – You shall not kill

The 5th Commandment teaches that we are to honor the sanctity of life

Pro life – we are called to have a consistent ethic of life. That is we are to be pro-life in all that we say and do. Being pro-life is rooted in respect for the dignity of every human person – friend, foe, neighbor and stranger.

The Community of Sant'Egidio is a Christian community that is officially recognized by the Catholic Church as a "Church public lay association". Its main activities are:

- prayer, centered on a reading of the Bible
- spreading the Gospel to help people who are looking for a sense to their life.
- service to the poor, which is free and unpaid
- commitment to ecumenism
- dialogue with members of other religions and non-believers

Obedience – Respectful listening and trusting response to a person who has authority over us and asks us to do something that is in accordance with God's law or a just civil law.

Murder – the direct and intentional killing of an innocent person

Abortion – direct and intentional killing of an unborn child

Suicide – intentional and direct killing of oneself

Euthanasia – direct and intentional killing of a person who is suffering from a long term or even terminal illness

Five Steps to terminating violence and perpetuating peaceful problem solving:

- **STOP** before acting hastily
- **LOOK** at what happened
- **LISTEN** to all sides to resolve the conflict
- **NEGOTIATE** the best solution
- **EVALUATE** your handling of the situation

Fidelity – faithfulness. We practice the habit of fidelity or faithfulness by being true to others and to what we believe, and by knowing and living what we believe.

Married couples practice the virtue of fidelity by being faithful to each other, and by being faithful to their commitment to be a sign of God's love in the world

The 6th Commandment – You shall not commit adultery & the **9th Commandment – You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse** - guide us to love and respect each other – they teach us the importance of faithfulness and respect in our relationships. These commandments are related to God's plan for life and love.

To keep integrity of heart (to honor and guard our true selves) we use some of these virtues

Prudence – the ability to understand what is right and act accordingly

Self-control (temperance)- we know ourselves and discipline ourselves by making

Chastity – guides us in expressing our selves and controlling of our passions

The 7th Commandment – You shall not steal

All creation belongs first of all to God. He is the source of all life. God created the world for the benefit of all. God made us stewards of creation.

Stewardship is the managing of and caring for the property of another person. The stewardship of God's creation involves these concerns:

- Concern for the future
- Concern for the poor
- Concern for the common good
- Concern for public life

The 7th Commandment demands that we treat people justly. Stealing is an act of injustice. It is the taking or abusing of the possessions that rightfully belong to another. Possessions can mean more than material things. Some examples of stealing are;

- People who are not given a fare wage for work
- Withholding of a lost item by someone who is not the rightful owner
- Willful damage of what belongs to another
- Cheating on a test or claiming another's ideas as your own
- Discrimination in employment because of age, gender, race, culture, ethnicity, religion, disability or economic status
- Increasing the profit or power of a few individuals at the expense of others
- Slavery or human trafficking – robs human beings of their freedom and reduces to some commodity like merchandise

Courage is one of the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. At the time of our Baptism we receive the gift of the courage; at Confirmation it is renewed; through the Eucharist, it continues to help us build up the Body of Christ, the Church. Courage helps us to overcome any obstacle that might keep us from following Jesus.

Integrity – Being true to the person God created one to be, seeking only what is true, beautiful and good about God, oneself, others, and the world is having integrity

Lying – the act of intentionally deceiving someone who has a right to the truth by deliberately saying what is false

Perjury – lying under oath

Gossip – harming a person's reputation and honor typically happens through gossip

Boasting – to try to earn recognition by unnecessarily inflating their accomplishments and abilities

Covet – wrongfully treasuring another's possessions

Greed – unchecked desire to have more and more things – excessive passion for things

Envy – feeling angry or saddened that others have something you do not have

Both the 8th & 10th Commandments guide us in living the second part of the Great Commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as your self.

8th Commandment – You Shall not bear false witness against your neighbor

10th Commandment – You shall not covet your neighbors goods

Peer Pressure

We usually think of Peer Pressure as a negative, but it can also be a positive.

As a negative, peer pressure moves one to wrongly go along with the crowd even if it means going against one's better judgment.

In the positive sense, peer pressure can influence you to do what is right and make good choices at times when you need courage.

The Lord's Prayer (Our Father) is a summary of the Gospel. The first half of the Lord's Prayer describes our belief in God and his plan for us. The second half presents our needs to him.

Seven petitions of the Lord's Prayer –

1. Hallowed be thy name
2. Thy kingdom come
3. Thy will be done
4. Our daily bread
5. Forgive us . . . as we forgive
6. Lead us not into temptation
7. Deliver us from evil

Forms of prayer

Blessing and Adoration: This form of prayer declares and acknowledges that God is the Creator and we are his creatures. God is the source of all that is good. We bless and adore God who created everything and everyone.

Petition: A prayer of petition asks God to give us the help we need in our daily lives. We trust God to provide for us, to give us what we need.

Intercession: This form of prayer helps us become aware of the needs of others. We ask God to bless, heal, or take care of those who are in need of his help and guidance.

Thanksgiving: Being thankful is synonymous with being a disciple of Christ. Saint Paul teaches us that we are to give thanks in every circumstance.

Praise: Our prayer of praise acknowledges that God is God. We are to give glory to God simply because he is God.