



elev8

life on another level

Student Workbook

YEAR 2

**The Ten
Commandments**
Do not Murder

Bible Readings

Exodus 20:1-17

Numbers 35

Psalms 94

Matthew 5



Learning Outcomes

At the end of this week you will be able to:

- Locate the Ten Commandments
- Express the theme of the sixth commandment in your own way
- Apply your learning from the commandment to your own life and community

Notes from Bible Reading

Scripture A word or phrase that stood out to me:

Observation What is happening in this Bible reading?

Application Something that I learned about who I am or how I should live:

Prayer What I would like to say to God, ask of God, or what I think God is saying to me:

Key Question What does it mean to not murder?

Engage

Go around the group and share one thing for each heading that has happened since you last met:

- Plus – What has been good or enjoyable?
- Minus – What has been difficult or painful?
- Interesting – What has been unusual or thought provoking?

If you could kill anyone in history (e.g. Hitler) or currently in your life, who would you kill?

And how would you like to do it? (Extra points for imaginative ways...)

Explore – Locate

- *What stood out to you in the Bible readings this week?*
- *What did you find meaningful or significant?*
- *Is there anything that you didn't understand or found confusing?*
- *Any questions or comments you may have?*

Murder is another way of saying actions that have the intention to cause the death of another person.

“Do not murder” seems like a fairly obvious thing not to do for people to get along with each other, however there was a time (and depending on the circumstances, it still seems like the time) when murdering others was seen as the ‘right’ thing to do...

Five questions to consider in looking at this commandment:

1. The Bible, especially the Old Testament, is full of stories of how humans deal with each other.

Do you think God intended for us to think he endorses every act done by ‘good people’ in the Bible – e.g. Jephthah killing his daughter because of a promise he makes (Judges 11)?
2. According to the Wikipedia entry on the Ten Commandments, the Roman Catholic Church uses the translation ‘kill’ (less specific and more inclusive) instead of ‘murder’. Why do you think they have done so?

3. Do you think there are any times it is justified to murder or kill someone?

How do we fairly decide if someone is less deserving of life?
4. The Bible seems to also want to protect the rights of those accused of murdering (or may have killed others accidentally). Why?
5. Jesus raises the bar in regards to how we should see murder and relating to others (Matthew 5). Why?

Explore – Express

Split into two teams for a debate: “It is always wrong to cause the death of someone”.

Flip a coin to decide which team will be defending the statement, while the other team has to argue the other side.

Spend 10 minutes to research, discuss and prepare your team’s arguments. It would be good to have at least two computers/phones with internet access to help each team prepare their comments.

- Remember in a debate, each team needs to order their speakers, with each speaker only speaking once.
- Each team takes turns on who is speaking. You can decide how long each speaker speaks for, but it has to be an agreed time limit that applies to all speakers.
- The first generally gives an overview of his team’s main ideas, with subsequent speakers able to debate the arguments of the other team.
- Finally the last speaker sums up his team’s position as well as is able to rebut (argue against) the other team.

If there is time, you might want to discuss the following statement:

“If you could do something easily to prevent someone dying, but you don’t, are you partly responsible for their death?”

Explore – Integrate

Murdering and killing seems never to go out of fashion, however God wants us to imagine a world without it in order to truly appreciate everyone has a right to life.

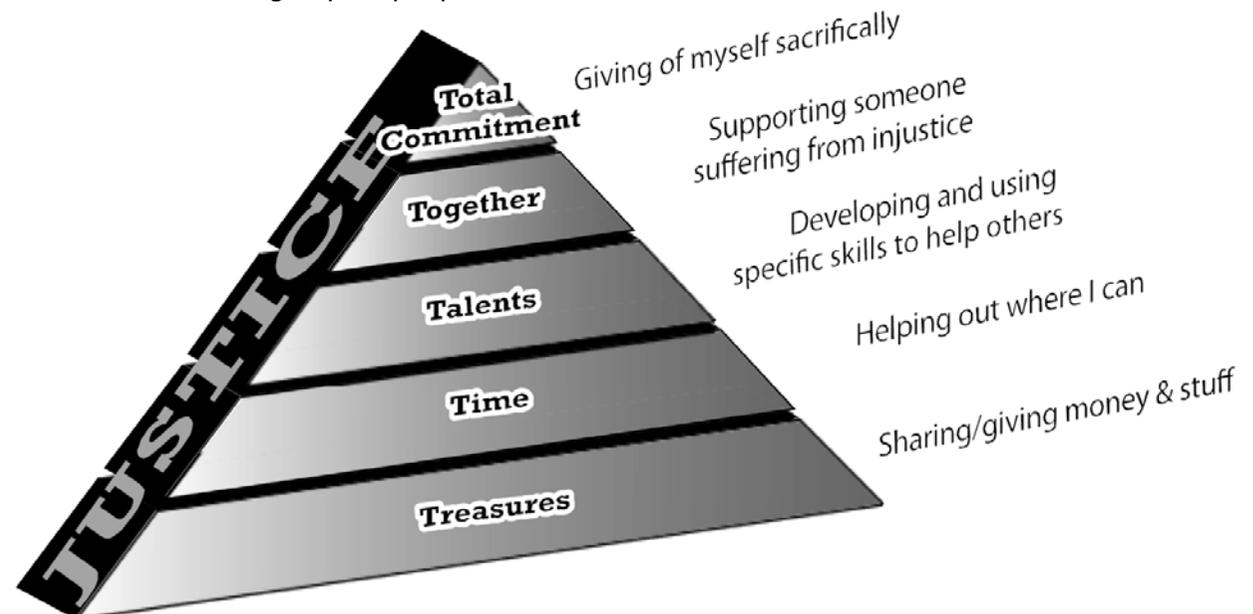
Jesus raises the bar further to not be not just against the act of murder, but also the thought of murder.

If God is against murder (and us thinking wishing bad things onto others)?

- What treasures can I give away to help those at risk of dying from the actions of others?
- How will I give about 30 minutes a week to find out more about the groups of people who are

dying because of the actions of other humans that could be prevented?

- What skill can I develop further to bring change to one of these groups of people (e.g. find out about people who volunteer to be human shields)?
- Who are people I can actually get involved more with their lives in a direct way that might be at risk of dying due to the actions of others?
- What area of my life do I need to sacrifice to be more like God this week?



Extend

Discuss with your group the challenges you are tackling. Use the time to ask for any help you might need, or to work together on any shared projects that you have.

Questions that may be helpful include:

- What challenges are you working on at the moment?
- Do you need any support or assistance?
- Are there any challenges that you have completed that we need to recognise and celebrate?
- Are there any new challenges that you want to work on?

Encourage

Tell another student in your group something you value or appreciate about them.

Share one thing you would like to pray for and pray for one another.

Give thanks for your own lives and the safety we generally live in, and the opportunity God gives us to make a difference in improving and saving the lives of others.

Pray that God continues to prompt you to find out more, pray about and act more about the people whose deaths we can prevent and celebrate.