



## Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - November 13, 2011

### Sermon

10 Commandments:

#### *“The Ninth Commandment”*

Exodus 20:16

by Bob Shank

Things I want to remember about this sermon...

Monday 11/14/11

Exodus 20:16

What exactly is “false witness?” Who is my neighbor? Is lying okay as long as I don’t lie about my neighbor? What exactly does this ninth commandment entail and how can I obey it? Is this a problem today? What are the consequences of bearing false witness against someone? How are people damaged when this commandment is broken? What is the punishment for breaking this commandment? Is keeping this commandment important today? Why?

Tuesday 11/15/11

Matthew 12:36

Jesus speaks to this commandment and the importance of keeping it. In fact, Jesus makes it clear that “on the day of judgment you will have to give an account for every careless word you utter!” These are Jesus’ words. Make no mistake about it, words need to be used wisely and we need to be careful how we speak about others because we will be held accountable for the things we say! Does this make you nervous at all? Are you always careful with your words and how to talk about others?

Wednesday 11/16/11

Exodus 23:1

“You shall not spread a false report...” Oh, how we like to talk about others. Did you see the clothes she wore today? Did you see how he treated his wife last night? Did you see how that student didn’t know the right answer? Not only do we talk and gossip about others, but we also spread false reports about people sometimes just to make ourselves look good. There is no place in the church family for false reports. We need to stop hurting people with our words and false accusations!



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Things to do this week in response to the sermon...

*What is heaven like in my opinion?*

*Discover what the Bible says about heaven.*

Thursday 11/17/11  
Proverbs 25:18

This proverb clearly indicates what a person who bears false witness against another is like. One who bears false witness is like a club, a sword, or a sharp arrow! Think of the damage a club, a sword, and a sharp arrow can do. The damages can be severe and long-lasting. Why don't we think before we speak? Why do we enjoy tearing someone else down so much? Words wield power and sometimes we use the power of words in the wrong way. Be careful what you say today about another person!

Friday 11/18/11  
Psalm 57:4

Words can divide and hurt someone in a major way. This verse in Psalm 57 clearly demonstrates the incredible damage that words can provide. One like this can have a tongue as sharp as a sword! I remember doing a talk with youth one time in a church some years ago. It was an object lesson. I told them the week before that I was going to bring the most powerful weapon of all time to their youth meeting. They guessed what kind of weapon it could be but were surprised when I brought in a cow tongue! Our tongues can be sharp as a sword so be careful!

Saturday 11/19/11  
2 Thessalonians 3:11-12

When we hear something about someone, what do we think? Do we always believe everything we hear or everything we read? The media, and many people, like to get dirt on people. They report all kinds of things about a person. Is it always true? What defense is there for someone who has been slandered falsely? How can we best prevent this kind of damage? Simply by not engaging in tearing someone down in the first place. Be careful with your words and be Christian toward others.