



“Ten Words for Life”

Sermon Series June 25 – August 27

Please note that there is one set of questions for the entire series, which can be used for discussing each week's sermon—there will not be new questions posted each week.

Discussion Questions

Jesus said that he came to fulfill the law that God had given to God's people. In the sermon series, we're talking about that law—the Ten Commandments—as “words for life”: words that give life to individuals and communities if we truly fulfill them by living into their purpose. When the commandments prohibit something, like idolatry or murder, understanding the purpose of the commandment often means finding the positive vision implied in the prohibition or prescription. (For example: the purpose of the first commandment, or the positive prescription implied in its prohibition, “have no other gods before me”, might be that we should truly worship the true God.)

As you look at this week's commandment, consider the following questions for discussion.

1. How is this commandment a “word for life”? What would the world look like if this commandment didn’t exist, or if everyone ignored it?
2. What’s the minimum sense of this commandment—what does it prohibit or require? By contrast, what’s the positive vision or purpose behind this commandment?
3. How does Jesus fulfill this commandment in his life, teaching, ministry, etc.?
4. What would it look like to fulfill this commandment in your own individual life?
5. What would our St. Paul’s community look like if this commandment were fulfilled in our life together?