

Tuesday, July 19 - Read *Genesis 4:1-10*

1. How did both Cain and Abel image God in the work that they engaged?
2. What does this tell us about the variety of ways that God intended us to image him?
3. In what way has God created you uniquely in his image? Which of his gifts, or attributes, has he given you to image him with?
 - a. Why is this an important question for each of us to determine?
4. How was Cain's anger at Abel an outgrowth of his anger toward God?
5. To what degree is our treatment of God's image bearers a reflection of our feelings toward God?
 - a. How was this at work in what Peter recounts in Acts 2:22-23?
6. Given that others are his image bearers, what are we effectively doing when we murder them?
7. What is the difference between murder and killing?
 - a. Are there times when God allows the killing of another human being? (See Exodus 22:2-3) Why?
 - b. How does this account of Cain and Abel perfectly describe murder rather than killing in self-defense or in a just war (which is a type of self-defense)?

KTFK: Abel was / hears the / the ground, / The blood / murder God / crying from / every single / and with / awful sound. / of righteous

Song: "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

Prayer: "LORD God, what a terrible sound it must have been to have heard the blood of righteous Abel crying out from the ground. How awful, how terrible murder is, and what a dark and selfish place it comes from when hatred takes over in our hearts toward another. Help us to be unlike Cain and, with the help of your Holy Spirit, to genuinely rule over the evil desires that still come upon us so that we may never act in hateful ways like this toward another human being, an image bearer of you. Amen."

Wednesday, July 20

Read *Genesis 6:11-13* (from before the flood)
and

Read *Genesis 9:1-7* (from after the flood)

1. What type of sin was it that had filled the earth prior to the flood?
2. Why do you think this was? What would lead to violence filling the earth like this?
3. How did God deal with this problem?
4. What does God put in place after the flood in order to restrain the spread of violence throughout the earth?

5. To whom does God give the authority and responsibility to mete out this punishment to anyone who would murder another human being? (See Romans 13:1-5)
6. How faithfully do you believe civil government in our country is fulfilling this God given responsibility to restrain evil through punishing the wrongdoer?
7. Should Christians be advocates for law and order? Why or Why not?

KTFK: the ruler's / heed God's / placed his / hands, and / rightly men / wields it / God has / when he / sword of / wise commands. / wrath into

Song: "Jesus Shall Reign"

Prayer: "LORD God, we pray that our land would embrace more fully and truly your ordained role for civil government – that it would use the sword to punish the wrongdoer and that it would protect the innocent and godly. History is filled with examples of governments doing the opposite, of oppressing people and being guided by men and women of corrupt hearts. Spare us, we pray, from that, and help us to be salt and light in our nation on this important topic. Amen."

Thursday, July 21 - Read *Matthew 5:21-22*

1. What is Jesus saying here about God's overall meaning for the sixth commandment?
2. What lies at the heart of murder?
3. In what way is anger against a brother like murder?
4. Does this mean that anytime we are angry with someone we are engaging in murder?
5. What kind of anger is Jesus referring to?
6. Is it possible, then, to murder with your words, or even with your mind?
7. Does this mean that murdering with words is just as bad as actually murdering someone?
8. What, then, does it mean?
9. How would Jesus have us respond to this teaching?

KTFK: we wickedly / or words / Anger at / can make / killing with / us act / berate. / in hate, / our thoughts / our brothers

Song: "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

Prayer: "LORD, it is easy for us to absolve ourselves of breaking this commandment when we see it only as an admonition against the literal killing of others. But when you look down into our hearts, we see that absolving ourselves is impossible. Help us, LORD, to operate toward all people for their temporal and eternal good. Amen."

Friday, July 22 - Read *Luke 10:25-37*

1. While the sixth commandment is stated in the negative, “You shall not murder,” what is Jesus teaching us here about what we ***should*** do? How would you state the commandment positively?
2. How would you define compassion?
3. Why do you think the Priest and the Levite passed by on the opposite side of the road?
4. What risks might we face when we come to the aid of a victim of “murder,” whether literal or some slightly lesser variation, as in this case?
5. What costs are there in showing compassion to those in these kinds of circumstances?
6. What barrier did the Samaritan overcome in his decision to help this victim of violence?
7. In what kinds of ways could we give of ourselves for the care of local victims of murder (and all its lesser variants)?
8. Who is the last person that you showed compassion to?

KTFK: be prolonged. / hurt and / Love will / to those / it not / who have / show compassion / pain that / been wronged, / comforting their

Song: “Think About His Love”

Prayer: “LORD, it is a lot easier staying away from breaking the sixth commandment than it is to fulfill it in its positive sense. Give me a heart that is quick to help those who are true victims and allow me to be willing to risk my own safety and spend that which I have, rather than simply seeking to use it for myself. Amen.”

Saturday, July 23

Read the entire passage again and review the key thoughts from each day. Which did you find most important for you this week?

July 22 - Love will / show compassion / to those / who have / been wronged, / comforting their / hurt and / pain that / it not / be prolonged.

July 21 - Anger at / our brothers / can make / us act / in hate, / killing with / our thoughts / or words / we wickedly / berate.

July 20 - God has / placed his / sword of / wrath into / the ruler's / hands, and / when he / wields it / rightly men / heed God's / wise commands.

July 19 - The blood / of righteous / Abel was / crying from / the ground, / and with / every single / murder God / hears the / awful sound.

July 18 - Made in / his image / the earth / to subdue, / bringing him / glory in / all that / we do.

Family Worship 2022

July 18-23

Deuteronomy 5:17

Kids and Parents: See if you can unscramble the daily KTFK - Key Thought for Kids (Answers on back page)

This week we continue our study of the second table of the Ten Commandments, and its instruction regarding our relationships with others, with the 6th commandment, “You shall not murder.” The focus of this commandment is: “The Value of Human Life,” and it calls us to recognize God’s image in every human being.

Monday, July 18 - Read *Genesis 1:26-28*

1. What is unique about mankind out of all the things that God created?
2. What does it mean to be created in God’s image?
3. Does mankind then have unique value in the world? (See Psalm 8)
4. Why do you think God created man in his own image?
5. What does it mean to subdue the earth and have dominion over everything on it?
6. How does our fulfillment of this cultural mandate glorify God?
7. What difference does it make, or should it make, in our treatment of others when we recognize that they are image bearers of God?

KTFK: we do. / his image / bringing him / to subdue, / glory in / Made in / all that / the earth /

Song: “Take My Life and Let It Be”

Prayer: “LORD God, how amazing it is that you have created us in your image with glory and honor above all other creatures and with the divine commission to have dominion over the earth. How incredibly valuable you have made us. Help us to see every other person today and each day as a divine image bearer, that our treatment of them might match that lofty description. Amen.”