



SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

Sermon: **The Sixth Commandment, Part 2 (Exodus 20:1-21)**

Date: **September 17, 2023**

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the teaching and bible passage this week?
2. What is forbidden in the 6th commandment? What is implicitly demanded of us in the 6th commandment?
3. What does the 6th commandment teach us about the dignity and sanctity of human life? What are the implications of this?
4. Explain the biblical justification for capital punishment for first degree murder. Use Scripture to support your answer.
5. What would you say to someone who argues that the death penalty itself violates the 6th commandment? What would you say to someone who argues against it along the lines of “shouldn’t we love our enemies?” or “I thought we were supposed to turn the other cheek?”
6. Pastor Jacob argued that it is a violation of the 6th commandment to *not* uphold capital punishment. Why?
7. What sort of ripple effects does the removal of capital punishment have on a nation? Conversely, what sort of restraining effects does its enforcement have on a nation?



SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

8. How is the need for capital punishment reinforced in the New Testament (hint: see Acts 25:11 and Romans 13:3-4)?

9. What sort of evidence is required in the Bible in order to punish someone with capital punishment? How would the death penalty be administered? Why was it administered in this way?

10. Review and discuss the “rules for going to war” and the “rules for engaging in war” that Pastor Jacob presented in his sermon. Do you agree with these rules and conclusions? Why or why not? Use Scripture to support your answer.

11. Why is capital punishment and even war a necessary *good* at times in order to protect the innocent and preserve human life?