

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH CONFIRMATION**  
**THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**  
**Lesson 11: "Eighth Commandment" (L11)**  
**Year 1 (7<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

After completing this lesson, the student will:

- \*Memorize the 8th Commandment and meaning.
- \*Understand and Realize the importance of reputation in the life of a Christian.
- \*Continue completing The 10 Commandment Tablet.
- \*Mature in respect of other's reputation and one's use of the tongue.
- \*Be able to apply Godly talk principles in their lives.
- \*Know what is commanded and forbidden in The Eighth Commandment.
- \*Understand Scripture's view of 'Explaining all in the kindest way.'

1. Introduction:

Watch video: (Parents are to meet with students during instruction with this commandment).

2. Continuation of 10 Commandment Tablets: 10 Words to be used in the tablets:

**GOD, MARRIAGE and SEXUALITY, POSSESSION, COVETING PEOPLE, REPUTATION, GOD's WORD, **GOD'S NAME**, AUTHORITY, **LIFE**, *COVETING THINGS*.**

3. Have you ever played the game called the phone tree? Line up 5 people and tell the first person a story, any story that has 10-12 facts. Have that person tell the person next to them, then they tell what they heard to the person next to them the story they heard and continue unto the last person. Have the last person tell the story and compare it to the original story. What happened? What might happen when we listen to gossip? Why do people Gossip. Why does God call us not to 'bear false witness?' Next to your faith and your life, what is the most important thing that matters to you? Hint; It will impact your friends, your future spouse, your career and most things in your life. It's something that can't be bought, but it can be improved. It can be tarnished by others and one's actions and behaviors can brighten or diminish it. Hint It mainly has to do with others think of you. Can you find that in the list on question 2?

4. On a different sheet of paper, write down the 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment and meaning 5 times.

5. Grab your 2<sup>nd</sup> tablet, look at question #2, write down below and on the tablet the word or phrase that relates most directly to The 8th Commandment.

Answer five out of the next seven 6.....7.....8.....9.....10.....11 Circle the ones you will complete.

6. Open up your Catechism to P. 87. Read question 61, answer these.  
A. What three things are forbidden by God in this commandment?

- B. Under each Bible verse, share how the 8<sup>th</sup> commandment is being broken or kept;

#203, Proverbs 19:5

#204, Ephesians 4:25

#205, Proverbs 11:13

#206, Matthew 18:15

#207, Luke 6:37

#208, James 4:11

7. There are three things which we need to keep in mind before we talk about anyone/anything:
- A. Is it true?
  - B. Is it kind?
  - C. Is it necessary?
  - D. Apply these three to these situations listed here;

There's a rumor going around that Billy stole \$50 from his parents and then and went and bought alcohol for a party on Saturday. Apply A. B. C.

In the newspaper under "Civic Lawsuits," it stated that Mr. and Mrs. Jones are getting a divorce. Mr. Jones is the Jr. High Wrestling coach and math teacher. Apply those three.

Tracie is a new student at the school, it's been heard that she' at the school because she her guardian parents didn't want to raise her anymore. It seems like she was adopted and floated from home to home and now she's at your school. Apply A.B. C.

Your own situation;

8. Read question 62 on pp. 88-89. What does God require of us in the 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment?  
A. List the three things that God requires of us in this commandment.

B. Application:

\*You hear someone gossip about someone else. What do you do?

\*My neighbor watched my home while we were on vacation. What do you do?

\*Someone didn't pay me back the money I borrowed them when they said they left their money at home.

\*Someone dresses poorly and their parents drive old used cars that are beat up.

- C. "Explain everything in the kindest way." That's part of the meaning of the 8<sup>th</sup> commandment and one of the three requirements of this commandment. What does it mean to explain everything in the kindest way?

9. Bible Narratives: Look at the Bible narratives throughout this commandment. Pick one. Like Mark 14:3-9, "Jesus spoke well of the woman who appointed him." Draw a picture and relate that to a specific teaching/truth in the meaning.

10. Sayings: Write the meaning of the 8<sup>th</sup> commandment here. Now react to these statements according to the meaning.

\*Don't tell anyone I told you, but did you hear?

\*Speak the truth in love.

\*Talk to me, not about me.

\*Praise in public, criticize in private.

\*I don't mean to gossip, but did you hear?

\*Judge not unless you be judged.

\*A gossip will say something behind your back and never to you and a flatterer will say something to your face and never to anyone else.

\*Gossip, lies, slander and false witness destroys a Christian community.

11. Wisdom from Mark Twain. Mark Twain was a very famous writer who wrote during the 18-1900's. He wrote about 'common sense' and some of his writings are beneficial as Christians. Choose and Explain 4/6 of his comments written below. How do they relate to the 8<sup>th</sup> commandment?

- A. "A lie gets half way around the world before truth gets its shoes on."
- B. "It's better to have someone think you a fool, then to open up your mouth and remove all doubt."
- C. "It takes a long time to lose my temper, but once lost I could not find it with my dog."
- D. "When in doubt, tell the truth."
- E. "Learning softens the heart and creates gentleness and charity."
- F. "The best way to cheer yourself up is to cheer someone else up."

***Closing prayer: "Heavenly Father, grant us Your Holy Spirit and enable us to keep this commandment as 'having put away falsehood, let us speak the truth with our neighbors for we are members of one another." In Jesus' name. Amen."***