

# The Ten Commandments

from *Luther's Small Catechism*

*I am the Lord your God.*

## **The First Commandment**

*You shall have no other gods.*

### **What does this mean for us?**

*We are to fear, love, and trust God above anything else.*

## **The Second Commandment**

*You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*

### **What does this mean for us?**

*We are to fear and love God so that we do not use his name superstitiously, or use it to curse, swear, lie, or deceive, but call on him in prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.*

## **The Third Commandment**

*Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.*

### **What does this mean for us?**

*We are to fear and love God so that we do not neglect his Word and the preaching of it, but regard it as holy and gladly hear and learn it.*

## **The Fourth Commandment**

*Honor your father and mother.*

### **What does this mean for us?**

*We are to fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and others in authority, but respect, obey, love, and serve them.*

## **The Fifth Commandment**

*You shall not kill.*

### **What does this mean for us?**

*We are to fear and love God so that we do not hurt our neighbor in any way, but help him in all his physical needs.*

***The Sixth Commandment***

*You shall not commit adultery.*

***What does this mean for us?***

*We are to fear and love God so that in matters of sex our words and conduct are pure and honorable, and husband and wife love and respect each other.*

***The Seventh Commandment***

*You shall not steal.*

***What does this mean for us?***

*We are to fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or property, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his property and means of making a living.*

***The Eight Commandment***

*You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*

***What does this mean for us?***

*We are to fear and love God so that we do not betray, slander, or lie about our neighbor, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain his actions in the kindest way.*

***The Ninth Commandment***

*You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*

***What does this mean for us?***

*We are to fear and love God so that we do not desire to get our neighbor's possessions by scheming, or by pretending to have a right to them, but always help him keep what is his.*

***The Tenth Commandment***

*You shall not Covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his cattle or anything that is your neighbors.*

***What does this mean for us?***

*We are to fear and love God so that we do not tempt or coax away from our neighbor his wife or his workers, but encourage them to remain loyal.*