SEVENTH COMMANDMENT

1. **Opening Prayer**: Feel free to pray your own prayer or use the following as an outline.

Dear God,

Teach us to fear and love You above all things. Help us to trust You with our possessions; to trust that You will provide everything we need. Help us to love our neighbor as ourselves and to help our neighbor protect the things he owns.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

- 2. **Teaching**: Watch Lesson 15: Seventh Commandment. Video link: https://vimeo.com/200078172
- 3. **Scripture Search**: Read through the following section of Scripture:
 - 3.1. Matthew 6:25-26
 - 3.2. Matthew 25:14-30
 - 3.3. Luke 19:1-10
 - 3.4. Read through the following sections of the Small Catechism:
 - 3.4.1. The Seventh Commandment, page 105;
 - 3.4.2. The Central Thought, page 105;
 - 3.4.3. Questions 78-82, pages 105-109

4. Question Time:

- 4.1. Have you ever thought of God as liking property or ownership? Does that make you think differently about God or about property?
- 4.2. After watching the video, how is it that faith in God is at the heart of His command not to steal?
- 4.3. Give some examples of stealing that aren't as obvious as robbing a bank?
 - 4.3.1. Give some examples of someone getting something more from their neighbor than what is given in return. Would you consider cheating to be a form of stealing?
 - 4.3.2. Is this practice promoted within our culture? Where else have you seen this taking place?
- 4.4. How does God want you to use your money and property? Why?
- 5. **Closing Prayer**: Feel free to pray your own prayer or use the following as an outline.

Dear God,

Help me to love others as You have loved me. Help me to be honest about the things that I acquire and to honor You by sharing what I have with others. Thank You for the ways You have blessed me and help me to be a blessing to others.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.