



Welcome to Women's Bible Study

A Ministry of Autumn Ridge Church

November 10, 2010

Please turn off cell phones as a courtesy to our speakers. Thank You!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **THANKSGIVING OFFERING:** Next week, an opportunity to participate in one of our two annual free-will offerings will be available. These offerings help defray the expenses of WBS and allow us to thank those who serve our program week after week with a small gift of appreciation. Your past generosity has permitted us to persist in offering WBS free of charge for all participants as well as providing free childcare to mothers. Please prayerfully consider what you can give. Envelopes will be available and your gift may be left in the basket at the registration table. The WBS leadership team deeply appreciates your partnering with us in ministry.
- **FALL SURVEY:** Please take the time to fill out the fall evaluation form. You may return it to the registration table anytime between now and December 1 or mail it to the church by December 10. Your feedback is valuable to us as we continue to meet the spiritual needs of the church and surrounding community.
- **PIES NEEDED!** If you can make a homemade 9" pumpkin or pecan pie for the OASIS Thanksgiving at the Steers' home on Nov. 19, please email Gretchen Steer at steergjs@msn.com. Pies can be delivered to church or to the Steer's house on Friday morning Nov 19 by 11:00 am. You are not allowed to make pies if you're a guest at the lunch!
- **REMINDER:** There will be **NO WBS** on Wednesday, November 24. Instead, please join us for the **Thanksgiving Service and Pie Social** to be held at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary.
- **ALL WBS WEEKLY MATERIALS:** Announcement/outline page, discussion/study questions, and the printed lecture notes are available within 24 hours of the date of the lecture on our website.

Dear Friends,

With "Do not steal" we are in the midst of the commandments that teach us how to respect others. As I'm preparing my talk for Wednesday, I'm wondering what I can say about this commandment apart from the obvious... that it's a really good idea not to steal what belongs to others, just as we would prefer to go through life without other people stealing what belongs to us. And part of the beauty of this commandment is that it's closely related to the 7th, 10th and 8th commandments. Adultery is a form of stealing another person's spouse (the 7th commandment). And lying/false witness is a way of stealing another person's reputation (the 9th commandment). Finally, when we get to covetousness, the 10th commandment, it seems that the root emotion that causes us to steal is the desire to have what someone else possesses and we don't.

So once again, I'm struck by how neatly these Ten Words fit together, forming a web or netting that supports a joyful life. Following them teaches us how to put God first and then treat him and our fellow humans with appropriate respect, and how to make choices that promote a clear conscience before God.

A couple of weeks ago my husband mentioned in a sermon how we encountered bedbugs in a perfectly nice hotel while on a road trip. Although they were kind enough to put us up in a completely different hotel across town, I must admit I felt sort of wiggly and desperately un-rested all night long even in the new bed. That is a perfect description of how we feel when we have an unclear conscience about something we've done. While the commandments can give us reason to have an unclear conscience (since none of us can keep them perfectly), the interpretation that Jesus gave the Ten Commandments in the Sermon on the Mount hammers home the point that we CAN'T keep them – but he can meet their requirements for us. So we can have a clear conscience after all as long as we confess our shortcomings and sins and ask Christ to bear them for us.

If you're feeling sort of wiggly and un-rested in your conscience, take it to Jesus in prayer. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you live in a way that pleases God. As I get older, I'd sure rather have a good night's sleep and a clear conscience than deliberately persist in something that is creating distance between me and God. How about you?

Your friend,

Gretchen Steer



Women's Bible Study Weekly Outline

Today's Lecture from Exodus 20:15 is by Gretchen Steer
App #8: *God's Property*

- I. What is the Big Deal About Stealing?
 - A. It insults God's character.
 - B. It takes God's place.
 - C. It disrespects others.

- II. Stealing 101
 - A. What is stealing?
 - B. Why do we steal?
 - 1) Need
 - 2) Discontent
 - 3) Boredom
 - C. What are the consequences?

- III. The Antidote to Stealing
 - A. J_____G_____
 - B. C_____S_____

CHURCH EVENTS:

- **Mosaic Missions Festival:** Please check out the ARC website or this past weekend's *Ridgelines* for information regarding opportunities to hear about ARC's involvement with local and global missions and missionaries.
- **S.H.A.P.E. Class** – Come and change the way you think about ministry and discover how your spiritual gifts, passions, abilities, personality and experiences fit you to serve on Saturday, November 13, from 10 AM – Noon in the Wesley Room. Questions? Contact Karen Foster, Pastor of Ministry Development, at 288-8880.
- **SALVADOR in Concert:** Sunday, November 14, at 7:30 PM Autumn Ridge Church will host the national pop/rock Latino jam band *Salvador* for a special conclusion to our 2010 Mosaic Mission Festival. Tickets can be purchased at Christos Bookcenter or online at www.autumnridgechurch.org. General admission \$12, Gold Seats \$25.
- **Pools of Refreshing:** Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 21, from 6-8 PM in the Timothy Chapel. This quarterly gathering is a time of worship and spiritual renewal for women.
- **November Food Drive:** During the mission festival, ARC is sponsoring *In His Name*, an organization which packs and distributes food to the hungry in our area in the name of Jesus. Please consider contributing the following items – peanut butter, jelly, pasta/rice, canned goods – during November 13-14 and 20-21. Donations may be dropped off at the trailer located in the front of the church.