

**INTEGRITY**

**SECURITY**





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**STEALING**

If you can't get what you want legitimately.

Why are the stars still in their  
ancient places? Only because  
they are out of reach of predatory  
hands! John Parks

**YOU SHALL NOT STEAL.**  
*(Exodus 20:17)*

For many reason, God expects us to **RECOGNIZE** the property/possessions of others as belonging to them and **RESPECT** the boundary of ownership. In fact, he expects us to **REJOICE** with others in what he has given to them.

Property/Possessions are a gift  
from God (*Psalm 50*)



“Ownership” is actually stewardship.  
Owners are accountable to God for  
their management. (*Psalm 8*)

God gave us laws that encouraged  
a person to work, earn, save, and  
own (*Exodus 22:1-15*)

Under Old Testament law, a thief was expected to make restitution and could even be sold into slavery if unable to repay (*Exodus 22:3*). Even a king had no right to confiscate property (*1 Kings 21*).

# **PRINCIPLES OF INTEGRITY**

Possessions are God's to give, not man's to steal.

Because God himself gives to every man life and breath and everything which they possess. (*Acts 17:25*)

Both **tangible** and **intangible** theft is wrong.

Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything, and do it not only when their eye is on you (to win their favor) but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men. (*Colossians 3:22-23*)

**TALENTS > WORK > POSSESSIONS > GIFTS**

This is God's design and intention for humanity.

If you have been stealing you must steal no more. You must work, doing something useful with your own hands, that you may have something to share with those in need. (*Ephesians 4:28*)

**YOU SHALL NOT COVET** your  
neighbors house ... wife ... servant  
... ox ... donkey. Or anything that  
belongs to your neighbor.

*(Exodus 20:17)*



Abundant **possessions/wealth**  
does not equal abundant **life**

Watch out! Be on your guard  
against all types of greed. A  
man's life does not consist in the  
abundance of his possessions.

*(Luke 12:15)*

Desire for possessions easily  
overwhelms our desire for God.

Put to death whatever belongs to  
your earthly nature ... greed  
(which is idolatry). Because of  
these things, the wrath of God is  
coming. (*Colossians 3:5-6*)

The **more** we have, the **more**  
we are consumed by worldly  
responsibilities.

**God's** child can rest securely in what **God** has given them for that moment.

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you. Never will I forsake you. "So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper. I will not be afraid."  
*(Hebrews 13:5-6)*

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