

“Eighth Commandment: Defend & Protect the Reputation of Others”

A good name is a very precious gift of God which can easily be ruined by a godless mouth. God protect his gift of a good name. In a broader look at this commandment, it involves watching and being aware of what words comes out of our mouths. You will be using your catechism on pages 97-102 (questions 84-90). You will also need your Bible for this lesson.

Watch the class video for Lesson 10 and answer the following questions. You can pause the video to answer the questions as the lesson progresses.

Introduction

1. With a study of the Eighth Commandment, an area we will be talking about is gossip. Ask mom or dad if they would share with you a time that gossip really hurt them, someone else they know, or when some gossip they may have passed along really hurt someone else. Discuss this together.



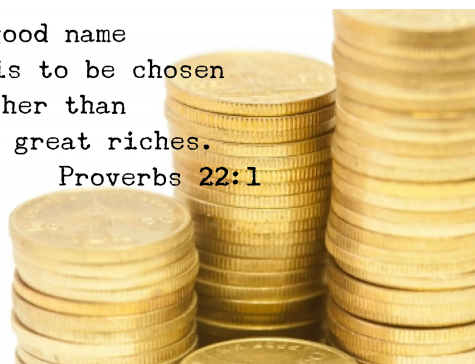
Think also of someone right now you might know at school or a friend who is being “picked on” or “talked about” in your class or neighborhood. Name three ways you see how this could be harmful to them.

	How is this harmful?
1.	
2.	
3.	

Protecting Reputations

2. The Eighth Commandment leads us into looking at something valuable, more valuable than gold or silver (the Bible says that). Our reputation or our good name is worth so much. Read p. 97 from top of the page through Question 84 with its passages and answer. When it comes to having a good name, why do we want people to do the following? (Fill in the chart below).

A good name
is to be chosen
rather than
great riches.
Proverbs 22:1



Why do we want people to ...	Your answers
respect us?	
trust us?	
believe the truth about us?	

3. Breaking the Eighth Commandment can take on many different forms. God’s Word holds up the mirror of God’s law to show us how we’ve broken this commandment. Read Question 85, its passages, and its answers about all the ways we break the Eighth Commandment. Then answer the following questions.



Question	Your answers
Name three damaging things lying can do.	
Is telling a “white lie” ok? Why or why not?	
What’s the best way to deal with gossip (if someone starts gossiping to you about someone else? Hint: Luther’s explanation of this commandment can help.	
We don’t want to reveal information that could hurt someone if they’ve confided in us. But give an example of a situation when it would be ok to not keep someone’s secret.	

4. Misusing words in our speech can make us guilty of sin. Read Question 86, its passages, and its answer. Focus in on the passages. What words and phrases jump out at you that God doesn't take lightly our sins of misusing words? Also tell why you picked that word or phrase.



God doesn't take lightly our sins of misusing words because he says ...



5. We need Jesus' forgiveness for sins we commit against the Eighth Commandment, sins we commit with words. Read Question 87 and its passages. Tell how the Isaiah 53:9 and 1 Peter 2:22,23 make us sure that our sins have been forgiven.

6. God guides us how to keep the Eighth Commandment and what are ways to do so. Read Question 88 and its passages. For each of the passages below, give an example from today of what it would look like to keep this commandment. Student's do the white boxes, and parents give answers for the orange boxes. You can also include an additional example to a box not assigned to you.

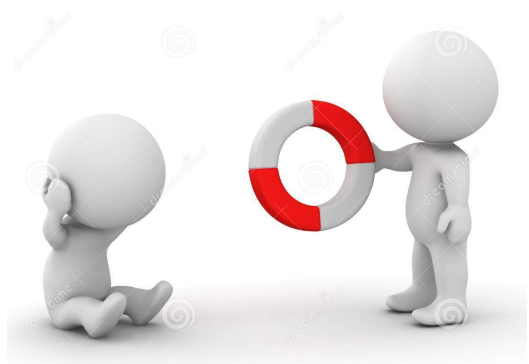


Passage	Example from today of keeping the Eighth Commandment
Ephesians 4:15	
Ephesians 4:25	
1 Peter 3:8-10	
Proverbs 31:8,9	
1 Corinthians 13:5-7	



7. Someone once said, “Sometimes we just have to stand in the pain. It’s not fun, it hurts, but sometimes we need to stand there in an uncomfortable situation because we have messed up.” Read Question 89 and its passage. How does God want us to show love to those whom we have sinned against?

8. You will have people sin against you and break the Eighth Commandment. But God also wants us to show love to those who do this. Read Question 90 and its passages. Based on what you read, list two ways God wants us to show love to those who have sinned against us?



Connections

9. Read the CONNECTIONS section on pages 101 to 102 to further understand the Eighth Commandment. Use your Bible and read 2 Samuel 12:1-14 and the paragraph about 2 Samuel 12:1-14 on p. 101. What do you find difficult in warning someone or helping them repent and trust God's forgiveness?



10. How is speaking a humble rebuke similar to being a doctor?

Use the words of the hymn on pages 101 and 102 as a closing prayer for your lesson today. Speak the words together outloud.

Question?

What question do or your parents have from today's lesson that you'd like to ask your pastor? (There may or may not be a question. If not, then leave it blank.)

Assignment

1. Watch the video for Lesson 10.
2. Complete this worksheet with your parents by typing in the answers. Make sure you submit the worksheet so I can respond to it.
3. Memorize the Eighth Commandment and Luther's Explanation (found on the top of p. 97). Also, memorize this Very Important Passage (VIP) of the Bible:

A passage that I live life differently because Jesus lives in me
Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

4. Review also the other seven commandments, the passages, terms, and chapters of the Bible we've had so far. Have someone quiz you on them. We will keep building our list of commandments and passages we learn.