



Fear, Love & Trust

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Law/Gospel

In the Fifth Commandment, God calls me not only to do no harm to my neighbor but also to make every effort to intentionally promote my neighbor's life and health, just as Abraham did for Lot when enemy kings captured him. Because I am sinful, I too often fail to do this. **Through His ministry on earth—feeding the hungry, healing the sick, and raising the dead—Jesus demonstrated His desire to restore the abundant life that sin destroyed, culminating on the cross and in the empty tomb, when He rescued me from sin, death, and the devil to bring me back to God and give me life with Him forever.**

Take-Home Point

God commands that I respect life.

Bible Words

Love your neighbor as yourself.
Matthew 22:39

Abraham Rescues Lot

Genesis 14:1–16

Abraham's nephew Lot became a prisoner when war broke out between kings in his valley. The warring factions destroyed the lives and property of their enemies and innocent noncombatants.

As a caring, God-fearing uncle, Abram employed his own men and resources to rescue Lot, other people, and stolen property. These actions put Abraham and his men in danger, but restored many. By God's grace, Abraham's concern included others besides his kin.

Unjust war is only one example of humanity's willingness to destroy life. The violations against the Fifth Commandment include unjust wars, domestic violence, murder, abortion, and genocide. We break the Fifth Commandment when we encourage an overweight person to overeat, invite an alcoholic to drink, or act carelessly. We sin in what we do and what we avoid, such as failing to care for poor and sick people.

Jesus restored damage caused by our sins against the Fifth Commandment in His earthly ministry. He fed the hungry. He healed, restored health, and brought outcasts back to their communities. He raised the dead and gave loved ones back to families.

Jesus' ministry pointed to His most profound restoration, His suffering and death on the cross and rising again to defeat death itself and give us life with Him forever.

From the Catechism

The Fifth Commandment

You shall not murder.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

Prayer

Dear Jesus, help us value life as a gift from You. Amen.

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