

COMMANDMENTS 4-10 Relationship with each other.
US Catholic Catechism for Adults chapters 28-34, p. 373-460.

Psalm 19: 8-10 (OT 616)

Moral life: Friendship with God.

1 John 2:3-6 (NT 366) “The way we may be sure that we know [Jesus] is to keep his commandments. Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him.”

COMMANDMENT FOUR - Honor your father and your mother.
(USCCA text Ch 28, p. 373)

This commandment is not limited to biological parents.

1. Describe the goal of good intergenerational (between the generations) interaction in a family. Consider respect and responsibility. What are the challenges? the blessings?
2. It is always a challenge to balance commitment to family, work, and community. How can communication with God and communication with members of a family work for the good of the family with regard to this balance?
3. Discuss: “A healthy family is the prerequisite of a healthy society.” (text p. 383)

COMMANDMENTS 6 & 9 You shall not commit adultery; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife.

(USCCA Ch 30 & 33, p.404; 439)

covet - desire that which belongs to another.

1. How are chastity and modesty related?
chastity - purity of heart with regards to sexuality according to personal vocation in life.
2. How does immodesty and impurity of heart lead us down a path of lies about personal value as well as dysfunctional relationships?
3. History is not without a time when sexuality is degraded or subject of misunderstanding of God's purpose. What spiritual means does the Church offer to strengthen marriages or rebuild troubled marriages?

COMMANDMENT 5 - You shall not kill. (USCCA Ch 29, p. 387)
USCCA p. 389 - Respect human life. It is sacred because, from its beginning, it involves the creative action of God... (CCC 2258)

Issues of self defense (390), abortion (391), in vitro fertilization (392), stem cell research, cloning (392), euthanasia, suicide, physician-assisted suicide (393), end of life medical care (394), death penalty (394), war (395), terrorism (397), and scandal (397)

1. What are some root causes of the culture of death? Consider the priorities of good life as promoted by society. Also consider how life is valued or not valued in various circumstances.
2. How can individuals and families promote respect for life and the value of life in the world today?

COMMANDMENTS 7 & 10 - You shall not steal. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods. (USCCA Ch 31 & 34, p. 419 & 449)

Commandment 10 (text 447) is taken as embracing poverty of spirit. Know your heart.
ENOUGH

STEWARDSHIP (how we treat the gifts from God)

1. While it is necessary to acquire earthly goods for the care and well-being of our families, there are forces that motivate us to become overly attached to wealth. How does the society contribute to this? What role does envy play in this drive toward the love of money?
2. What habits help you have a healthy detachment from worldly goods? How would generosity counter the tendency to be attached to material things?

COMMANDMENT 8 - You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (USCCA Ch 32, p. 431)

(p. 431) Speak the truth and live the truth.

1. What is the relationship between trust and truth?
2. How does truth set us free from sin and death? (John 8:31-34, 43-47; NT 157-158)

Romans 13:8-10 (NT 232)

Suggested readings:

The Name of God is Mercy

The Joy of Love (about family life)

Laudato Si: On Care of Our Common Home.

all by Pope Francis.