HOW GOD'S TEN COMMANDMENTS ARE THE FOUNDATION FOR A STRONG FAMILY, MARRIAGE, AND SINGLE LIFE.

Exo. 20:15, "You shall not steal" (NKJV).

I. HOW DO WE STEAL?

A. THERE ARE AT LEAST SIX WAYS.

1. By deceiving customers.

Deut. 25:13-16, "In all your transactions you must use accurate scales and honest measurements, so that you will have a long, good life in the land the Lord your God is giving you. All who cheat with unjust weights and measurements are detestable to the Lord your God" (TLB).

(a) The person you cheat may never catch you, but God does.

(b) A good rule is tell people what you would want to be told if you were buying something.

2. By defrauding employers.

1 Peter 5:6, “Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time” (NKJV).

3. By delaying payments

4. By defaulting on loans.

Ps. 37:21, “The wicked borrows and does not repay, but the righteous shows mercy and gives” (NKJV).

5. By defrauding the government.

6. By stealing from the Lord.

Mal 3:8-11, "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed you?' In tithes and offerings you are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field, says the LORD of hosts” (NKJV).
II. WHY SHOULD I BE HONEST?

A. YOU ARE BEING WATCHED

1. By God.

   Job 34:21 "God carefully watches the goings on of all mankind, he sees them all. No darkness is thick enough to hide evil men from his eyes."

2. By your spouse.

3. By your kids.

   (a) Values are caught not taught.

4. By unbelievers.

The Bible says,

Matt 5:16, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (NKJV).

Why should you be honest?

B. You will reap whatever you sow.

Gal 6:7, “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap” (NKJV).

Prov. 15:27, “Dishonest money brings grief to all the family,” (TLB).

Prov. 21:6, “Dishonest gain will never last, so why take the risk?” (TLB).

God says it's not worth it. You're eventually going to be found out here on earth or in heaven. Why take the risk?