

# Sola Confirmation Series: Ten Commandments

Ten Commandments Study Sheet - Test Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## PART A: CATECHISM

For the test, you will need to memorize the Ten Commandments, in the proper order, as they are found in the Small Catechism. As a way of studying, you should read through and review Luther's explanations in the Small Catechism. However, for this test, you do not need to memorize Martin Luther's explanations to the individual commandments.

In order to help remember the proper numbers for the Commandments, you might try using the memory hints written below and along with the symbol-pictures from each session as a visual clue:

### The First Commandment

You shall have no other gods before me.

**PRIORITY:** When God is first in our lives, we trust him above all else; doing his will becomes our top priority.

Memory Hint: Keep God as number one.



### The Second Commandment

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain; for the Lord will not hold guiltless those who take his name in vain.

**RESPECT:** The two bolts of lightning on the name tag remind us that God's name is powerful; we use it with respect.

Memory Hint: There are two ways to use God's name: for good or for bad.



### The Third Commandment

Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.

**SABBATH:** The Bible bed reminds us that on the Sabbath we are to stop and take time to rest in God's Word.

Memory Hint: We worship the three-in-one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



### The Fourth Commandment

Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land which the Lord your God is giving you.

**AUTHORITY:** God calls us to honor our parents and others in authority.

Memory Hint: Imagine a family of four: father, mother, son and daughter.



### The Fifth Commandment

You shall not kill.

**PROTECTION:** Five fingers on the hand are held up signaling to stop violence and harm.

Memory Hint: Five helps us "stay alive."



### The Sixth Commandment

You shall not commit adultery.

**FIDELITY:** Fidelity is the string that allows us to hold on to the love of husband or wife.

Memory Hint: Six is about faithful sex.



### The Seventh Commandment

You shall not steal.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** We take responsibility to see that no one steals the property of others. Like a lock, we protect their possessions.

Memory Hint: Seven is the key to the lock that keeps things from being stolen.



### The Eighth Commandment

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

**INTEGRITY:** God does not want us to lie, gossip, or misrepresent the truth.

Memory Hint: Eight reminds us we need to "talk straight."



### The Ninth Commandment

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

**CONTENTMENT:** If we are content, we will not covet our neighbor's house and possessions.

Memory Hint: Nine helps us remember that "we'll do fine."



### The Tenth Commandment

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, his workers, or his livestock, or anything that is your neighbor's.

**CONSEQUENCES:** Coveting often leads to many other bad consequences that follow as a result.

Memory Hint: The last two commandments are about coveting: You should not covet your neighbor's house (9th), then you should not covet anything in the house (10th).



You will also be asked to memorize Martin Luther's explanation to the conclusion of the Commandments, printed below (and found on page 11 in your pocket catechism):

### The Conclusion

#### *What does God declare concerning all these commandments?*

He says: "I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments" (Exodus 20:5b-6 ESV).

#### *What does this mean?*

God threatens to punish all who violate these commandments. We should, therefore, fear his anger and in no way disobey them. But God promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. We should, therefore, love him, trust in him, and gladly keep his commandments.

On the test you will be given a "fill-in-the-blank" text like the one that follows (note: the blanks on the actual test itself will be different from those printed here).

#### *What does God declare concerning all these commandments?*

He says: "I the \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ am a \_\_\_\_\_ God, visiting the \_\_\_\_\_ of the fathers on the \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ generation of \_\_\_\_\_ who \_\_\_\_\_ me, but showing \_\_\_\_\_ love to \_\_\_\_\_ of those who \_\_\_\_\_ me and keep my \_\_\_\_\_." (Exodus 20:5b-6 ESV).

#### *What does this mean?*

God \_\_\_\_\_ to punish all who \_\_\_\_\_ these \_\_\_\_\_. We should, therefore, \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_ and in no way disobey \_\_\_\_\_. But God \_\_\_\_\_ grace and \_\_\_\_\_ blessing to all who \_\_\_\_\_ these commandments. We \_\_\_\_\_, therefore, \_\_\_\_\_ him, \_\_\_\_\_ in him, and \_\_\_\_\_ keep his \_\_\_\_\_.

## PART C: VOCABULARY & QUESTIONS FROM THE UNIT

For the test, you will need to know the meaning of some important words and ideas (theme words, topics from the Small Catechism and the Bible, etc.). Questions will be asked as matching, fill-in-the-blank, true/false, multiple choice, etc:

### 1. Important Words from this Unit

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| a. Priority = what comes first in order and action | f. Fidelity = to be faithful and loyal               |
| b. Respect = to recognize and honor the power of   | g. Responsibility = to take proper care of something |
| c. Sabbath = to stop; to rest; to take a break     | h. Integrity = honesty/trustworthiness in character  |
| d. Authority = to have power; to be in charge      | i. Contentment = to be satisfied with what you have  |
| e. Protection = to be kept from danger and harm    | j. Consequences = the result of our actions          |

### 1) Why did God give us the law?

God's law protects us

### 2) What are the two basic functions of the law?

a) the law creates order; b) the law shows us our sins

### 3) In the Catechism, what are the two ways that Luther explains the meaning of the commandments?

a) What we should not do; b) What we should do (hint: think of red light/green light of a traffic signal)

### 4) What is the difference between believing that God exists, and having faith in God?

having faith in God means more than just admitting he exists; having faith means that you trust in God

### 5) Why is God's name an important and powerful thing?

God's name helps us know him, and it allows us to call on him

### 6) What does the word "Sabbath" mean? How often does God say that we should observe the Sabbath?

a) Sabbath means "to stop" or "to rest;" b) once every seven days

**7) In what way does God use a “chain of command” to rule the world?**

God uses various authorities (governments, police, judges, parents, etc.) to keep order and establish justice

**8) According to Jesus, what does “killing” include? To whom does the commandment apply?**

a) harming people in any way (words, actions, threats, etc.) b) we are not to harm ourselves or others

**9) What does adultery mean? What kind of things does faithfulness (fidelity) include?**

a) adultery means: having sex with someone you are not married to

b) faithfulness = loyalty, support, respect, love, honesty, trust, communication, protection, etc.

**10) How is cheating (on a test, in a contest, etc.) a type of stealing?**

it is taking credit that doesn't belong to you, for something you didn't earn

**11) What does it mean to bear false witness?**

it means to lie, or not tell the full truth about the way things are

**12) What does it mean to covet? What are some types of coveting?**

to want or desire what does not belong to us (i.e. what we are not meant to have or don't have a right to)

a) Envy = wanting what belongs to someone else

c) Greed = obsessively wanting to have more

b) Selfishness = not wanting to share with others

d) Jealousy = being possessive of another person

**13) What is temptation? Is it a sin to be tempted?**

a) temptation is when something or someone pressures you to sin

b) to be tempted by something is not a sin in itself (even Jesus was tempted; he did not sin),

however, it is a sin to give in to temptation and desire – whether in thought, word, or deed

**14) What is sin? Why would God want to keep us from sin?**

sin includes any thoughts, words, or actions, that are disobedient to God; God knows sin is harmful to us

**15) False Statements**

False The Ten Commandments are the only laws in the Bible

False Martin Luther originally wrote the Ten Commandments

False A person can do whatever they want with their own body

False If someone tempts you to do something wrong – you have sinned, not them

False Wants and needs are the same thing

**16) True Statements**

True God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on Mt. Sinai

True When we break the Commandments, somebody is always hurt in some way

True Idols are anything we trust in instead of God

True Taking God's name “in vain” means using it for nothing, or for no good reason

True A good way to observe the Sabbath is by worshipping with the church

True God is the first and main authority in our lives

True God uses real people and things to get his job done

True Having sex before marriage is adultery

True Using someone else's ideas as if they were your own is plagiarism: a form of stealing

True God wants us to take care of what belongs to others

True Marriage is meant to be a commitment for life

True Spreading rumors is a form of bearing false witness

True Lying under oath is called “perjury” – it is against the law

True Desire and coveting often leads to other sin

True If you give in to evil temptation and desire, you have sinned

True Our sin can have bad consequences in our lives, and the lives of others