

Name: _____



Reading and Praying Together

December 2023

Dec 4, 2023

Prepare

He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness, for not by might shall a man prevail.

The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; against them he will thunder in heaven.

The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

- A selection from Hannah’s prayer (1 Sam 2:9-10)

Memorize

Psalm 1:5-6 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q55 -

Q: What is forbidden in the third commandment?

A. The third commandment forbids all profaning or abusing of anything whereby God makes Himself known.

God’s Word

- Proverbs 23
- Matthew 9

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm

46:10a)

Dec 5, 2023

Prepare

Almighty, gracious Father, since our whole salvation depends on our true understanding of your holy Word, grant that our hearts—freed from worldly affairs—may hear and understand your holy Word with all diligence and faith, so that we may rightly discern your gracious will, cherish it, and live by it with all earnestness, to your praise and honor, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

- A prayer of Martin Bucer

Memorize

Psalms 1:5-6 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q56 -

Q: What is the reason annexed to the third commandment?

A. The reason annexed to the third commandment is, that however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord our God will not suffer them to escape His righteous judgment.

God's Word

- Proverbs 24
- Matthew 10

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 6, 2023

Prepare

My great evil is that I do not remember the sins of my youth, nay the sins of one day I forget the next. Keep me from all things that turn to unbelief or lack of felt union with Christ.

- A selection from “Union with Christ” in *The Valley of Vision*

Memorize

Psalm 1:5-6 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q57 -

Q: Which is the fourth commandment?

A. The fourth commandment is, “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore, the LORD blessed the Sabbath day, and made it holy.”

God’s Word

- Proverbs 25
- Matthew 11

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 7, 2023

Prepare

Good Father, free me entirely from the error in which I have wandered, and in which I still wander. Teach me instead the way to avoid every enemy on the way to you.

If I love no one above you, I ask that I may find you. And if I desire anything beyond measure and wrongly, deliver me from it. Make me worthy to behold you.

- A selection from a prayer of Augustine

Memorize

Psalm 1:5-6 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q58 -

Q: What is required in the fourth commandment?

A. The fourth commandment requires the keeping holy to God such set times as He has appointed in His Word; expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy sabbath to Himself.

God's Word

- Proverbs 26
- Matthew 12

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 8, 2023

Prepare

Lord, however you deal with me in outward things, whatever you take from me, whatever you deny me—do not deny me Christ! Do not deny me a share in his righteousness! Amen.

- A selection from a prayer of David Clarkson

Memorize

Psalm 1:5-6 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q59 -

Q: Which day of the seven has God appointed to be the weekly sabbath?

A. From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, God appointed the seventh day of the week to be the weekly Sabbath, and the first day of the week ever since, to continue to the end of the world, which is the Christian Sabbath.

God's Word

- Proverbs 27
- Matthew 13

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 9, 2023

Prepare

And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

- Isaiah’s prayer (Isaiah 6:5)

Memorize

Psalm 1:5-6 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q60 -

Q: How is the sabbath to be sanctified?

A. The Sabbath is to be sanctified by a holy resting all that day, even from such worldly employments and recreations as are lawful on other days; and spending the whole time in the public and private exercises of God’s worship, except so much as is to be taken up in the works of necessity and mercy.

God’s Word

- Psalm 102

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm

46:10a)

Dec 10, 2023

Prepare

O, make your Word a swift Word, passing from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip and conversation; that, as the rain returns not empty, so neither may your Word, but accomplish that for which it is given. Amen.

- A prayer of George Herbert

Memorize

Psalm 1:5-6 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Read

God's Word

- Reread a passage that particularly spoke to you this week.

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 11, 2023

Prepare

Do good to me by all your dispensations, by all means of grace, by worship, prayers, praises, and at last let me enter that world where is no temple, but only your glory and the Lamb's.

- A selection from "The Nevers of the Gospel" in *The Valley of Vision*

Memorize

Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q61 -

Q: What is forbidden in the fourth commandment?

A. The fourth commandment forbids the omission or careless performance of the duties required, and the profaning the day by idleness, or doing that which is in itself sinful, or by unnecessary thoughts, words, or works, about our worldly employments or recreations.

God's Word

- Proverbs 28
- Matthew 14

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 12, 2023

Prepare

Jesus, I flee to you. I cling to your cross. Save me from Satan's hellish power and pluck me from his grasp.

So I will praise you, Lord, and adore your great name. With Father and Spirit one, forever and ever, amen.

- A selection from a prayer of Ephraim the Syrian

Memorize

Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q62 -

Q: What are the reasons annexed to the fourth commandment?

A. The reasons annexed to the fourth commandment are, God's allowing us six days of the week for our own employments, His challenging a special propriety in the seventh, His own example, and His blessing the Sabbath day.

God's Word

- Proverbs 29
- Matthew 15

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 13, 2023

Prepare

You knock at the door to this wretched heart. Why stay so long outside? Come in and bless me with your presence. Break it open with almighty power, and let it no longer shut you out. Amen.

- A selection from a prayer of David Clarkson

Memorize

Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q63 -

Q: Which is the fifth commandment?

A. The fifth commandment is, "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you."

God's Word

- Proverbs 30
- Matthew 16

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm

46:10a)

Dec 14, 2023

Prepare

“O Lord, the God of Israel, enthroned above the cherubim, you are the God, you alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; you have made heaven and earth. Incline your ear, O Lord, and hear; open your eyes, O Lord, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to mock the living God... So now, O Lord our God, save us, please, from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you, O Lord, are God alone.”

- Selection from Hezekiah’s prayer (2 Kings 19:15-19)

Memorize

Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q64 -

Q: What is required in the fifth commandment?

A. The fifth commandment requires the preserving the honor and performing the duties belonging to everyone in their several places and relations, as superiors, inferiors, or equals.

God’s Word

- Proverbs 31
- Matthew 17

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm

46:10a)

Dec 15, 2023

Prepare

Lord Jesus Christ, you carry the lost sheep back into the fold in your arms, and deign to hear the confession of the publican—graciously remit all my guilt and sin. Lord, you hear the penitent thief, you have set a heritage of mercy for your saints, and have not withheld pardon from the sinner—hear the prayers of your servants according to your mercy. Amen.

- A prayer of Wilhelme Loehe

Memorize

Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q65 -

Q: What is forbidden in the fifth commandment?

A. The fifth commandment forbids the neglecting of, or doing anything against, the honor and duty which belongs to everyone in their several places and relations.

God's Word

- Ecclesiastes 1
- Matthew 18

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 16, 2023

Prepare

All these sins I mourn, lament, and for them I cry pardon. Work in me more profound and abiding repentance; give me the fullness of a godly grief that trembles and fears, yet ever trusts and loves, which is ever powerful, and ever confident; grant that through the tears of repentance I may see more clearly the brightness and glories of the saving cross.

- A selection from "Yet I Sin" in *The Valley of Vision*

Memorize

Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q66 -

Q: What is the reason annexed to the fifth commandment?

A. The reason annexed to the fifth commandment is a promise of long life and prosperity (as far as it shall serve for God's glory and their own good) to all who keep this commandment.

God's Word

- Psalm 103

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm

46:10a)

Dec 17, 2023

Prepare

Do not let us avoid the reading of the divine Scriptures, Lord. For that would be of Satan's devising—not wanting us to see the treasure, otherwise we would gain the riches. So he would say that hearing the divine laws means nothing. Otherwise, if we did, we might become doers of the word, as well as hearers. Knowing then his evil plan, Lord, let us fortify ourselves against him on every side. Fenced with this kind of armor, we can live unconquered lives, as well as strike a heavy blow to his head.

- A selection from a prayer of John Chrysostom

Memorize

Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Read

God's Word

- Reread a passage that particularly spoke to you this week.

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm

46:10a)

Dec 18, 2023

Prepare

Pour out the spirit of grace and supplication, that your throne of grace may be surrounded by supplicants, that there may be a great flocking to the mercy seat, and grace may be imparted abundantly to your own glory, through Jesus Christ the high priest, who is passed into the heavens, and is at your right hand forever. Amen.

- A selection from a prayer of Nathaniel Vincent

Memorize

John 15:1-2 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q67 -

Q: Which is the sixth commandment?

A. The sixth commandment is, "You shall not murder."

God's Word

- Ecclesiastes 2
- Matthew 19

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 19, 2023

Prepare

Hear me, Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. Guard my life, for I am faithful to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; have mercy on me, Lord, for I call to you all day long. Bring joy to your servant, Lord, for I put my trust in you. You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you. Hear my prayer, Lord; listen to my cry for mercy. When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me.

- Selection from David's prayer (Psalm 86:1-7)

Memorize

John 15:1-2 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q68 -

Q: What is required in the sixth commandment?

A. The sixth commandment requires all lawful endeavors to preserve our own life and the life of others.

God's Word

- Ecclesiastes 3
- Matthew 20

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 20, 2023

Prepare

Divine Spirit, illumine to me the words of the Lord. Show me the wealth of glory that lies beneath the old familiar stories. Teach me the depths of meaning hidden in the songs of Zion. Raise me to the heights of aspiration that is reached by the wings of the prophet. Lift me to the summit of faith that is trod by the feet of the apostle. Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.
Amen.

- A prayer from George Matheson

Memorize

John 15:1-2 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q69 -

Q: What is forbidden in the sixth commandment?

A. The sixth commandment forbids the taking away of our own life or the life of our neighbor unjustly, or whatsoever tends thereunto.

God's Word

- Ecclesiastes 4
- Matthew 21

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 21, 2023

Prepare

Give me that faith which is the means of salvation, and the principle and medium of all godliness; may I be saved by grace through faith, live by faith, do the work of faith. Perceiving nothing in myself, may I find in Christ wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, redemption.

- A selection from “The Convicting Spirit” in *The Valley of Vision*

Memorize

John 15:1-2 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q70 -

Q: Which is the seventh commandment?

A. The seventh commandment is, “You shall not commit adultery.”

God’s Word

- Ecclesiastes 5
- Matthew 22

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm

46:10a)

Dec 22, 2023

Prepare

Give strength and power to your people. Present your flock dazzling and spotless, worthy of the fold on high, in the place of rejoicing and in the splendor of the saints.

Do this so that in your temple everyone, both flock and shepherds, together may say: "Glory in Christ Jesus our Lord, to whom be all glory forever and ever!"

- A selection from a prayer of Gregory Nazianzen

Memorize

John 15:1-2 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q71 -

Q: What is required in the seventh commandment?

A. The seventh commandment requires the preservation of our own and our neighbor's chastity, in heart, speech, and behavior.

God's Word

- Ecclesiastes 6
- Matthew 23

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 23, 2023

Prepare

I challenge you, Lord, in my extreme thirst for you, and for spiritual life in you, by that word, and by that promise which you made—make it good to me. I grovel in the dust and tremble at your feet.

Open now that promised well of life. For I must drink or else I die.
Amen.

- A selection from a prayer of Isaac Ambrose

Memorize

John 15:1-2 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q72 -

Q: What is forbidden in the seventh commandment?

A. The seventh commandment forbids all unchaste thoughts, words, and actions.

God's Word

- Psalm 104

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm

46:10a)

Dec 24, 2023

Prepare

“You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this.

- Solomon's prayer (1 Kings 3:6-10)

Memorize

John 15:1-2 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Read

God's Word

- Reread a passage that particularly spoke to you this week.

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 25, 2023

Prepare

Lord God, of might inconceivable, of glory incomprehensible, of mercy immeasurable, of goodness ineffable; O Master, look down upon us in your tender love, and show forth, toward us and those who pray with us, your rich mercies and compassions. Amen.

- A prayer of John Chrysostom

Memorize

John 15:3-4 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q73 -

Q: Which is the eighth commandment?

A. The eighth commandment is, "You shall not steal."

God's Word

- Ecclesiastes 7
- Matthew 24

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm

46:10a)

Dec 26, 2023

Prepare

O Christ, all your ways of mercy tend to and end in my delight. You wept, sorrowed, suffered that I might rejoice. For my joy you have sent the Comforter, multiplied your promises, shown me my future happiness, given me a living fountain. You are preparing joy for me and me for joy; I pray for joy, wait for joy, long for joy; give me more than I can hold, desire, or think of.

- A selection from "Joy" in *The Valley of Vision*

Memorize

John 15:3-4 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q74 -

Q: What is required in the eighth commandment?

A. The eighth commandment requires the lawful procuring and furthering the wealth and outward estate of ourselves and others.

God's Word

- Ecclesiastes 8
- Matthew 25

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm

46:10a)

Dec 27, 2023

Prepare

We bow in obedience before your almighty and excellent name, and we also submit to our rulers and governors here on the earth.

Lord and Master, you have given these rulers the power of sovereignty through your own mighty power. And as we understand the honor you have given them, help us to submit ourselves and not resist your will in any way. Grant unto these leaders health, peace, unity, and stability, so they can administer without failure the government you have given them.

- A selection from a prayer of Clement of Rome

Memorize

John 15:3-4 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q75 -

Q: What is forbidden in the eighth commandment?

A. The eighth commandment forbids whatsoever does or may unjustly hinder our own or our neighbor's wealth or outward estate.

God's Word

- Ecclesiastes 9
- Matthew 26

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 28, 2023

Prepare

You have given the light to those who sat in darkness and in the shadow of death. Now we see the light of knowledge. And you fashioned us again into everlasting life, through our Lord and creator. You have graciously brought us back to paradise through the one who first separated humanity from paradise. Amen.

- A selection from a prayer of Methodius of Olympia

Memorize

John 15:3-4 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q76 -

Q: Which is the ninth commandment?

A. The ninth commandment is, "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."

God's Word

- Ecclesiastes 10
- Matthew 27

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm

46:10a)

Dec 29, 2023

Prepare

Come to us, Lord, and purify the ears of our leaders. Purge my ears, as well, that no stains would remain from all the infidelity they have heard.

Cleanse our ears thoroughly, not with water from a well or from a river, but with words cleansing like water, but clearer than any water, and purer than any snow...

- A selection from a prayer of Ambrose of Milan

Memorize

John 15:3-4 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q77 -

Q: What is required in the ninth commandment?

A. The ninth commandment requires the maintaining and promoting of truth between man and man, and of our own and our neighbor's good name, especially in witness bearing.

God's Word

- Ecclesiastes 11
- Matthew 28

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 30, 2023

Prepare

The waters closed in over me to take my life; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped about my head at the roots of the mountains.

I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the pit, O Lord my God.

When my life was fainting away, I remembered the Lord, and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.

- A selection from Jonah's prayer (Jonah 2:5-7)

Memorize

John 15:3-4 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

Read

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q78 -

Q: What is forbidden in the ninth commandment?

A. The ninth commandment forbids whatsoever is prejudicial to truth or injurious to our own or our neighbor's good name.

God's Word

- Ecclesiastes 12

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm
46:10a)

Dec 31, 2023

Prepare

Almighty God, whose creation, and the work of whose hands we are—grant us to know that we exist and move in you alone, so that we may submit ourselves unto you, not merely being directed by your secret providence, but showing ourselves your willing and obedient followers, as it becomes sons. Thus may we endeavor to glorify your name in this world, till we arrive at the enjoyment of that blessed heritage which is laid up for us in heaven, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

- A prayer of John Calvin

Memorize

John 15:3-4 Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

Read

God's Word

- Reread a passage that particularly spoke to you this week.

Meditate (How does the reading help you to love God? How does the reading help you to love others?)

Pray

Adoration -

Confession -

Thanksgiving -

Supplication -

Rest in Christ (“Be still, and know that I am God.” Psalm

46:10a)