

TODAY'S SERMON:

GIVE OR TAKE?

Pastor Ben Orchard
Ephesians 4:28
May 8, 2016



LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

If you are in a Life Group, take some time to answer these questions before your Life Group meets. Feel free to use a journal or separate sheet of paper if you need more space.

LOOKING CLOSER AT THE PASSAGE

28 What is a biblical definition of stealing?

Can you think of forms of stealing that are culturally accepted, legal, or very common?

Why might the church be a place where stealing would be a particular problem and lead to Paul to address it so explicitly?

Which of the following statements do you most identify with? Why?

- 1) I am a hard worker and rarely or never accept outside help or handouts.
- 2) I try to work hard, but am grateful for occasional help and charity.
- 3) I work as hard as I need to after taking advantage of the various forms of assistance and charity available to me.
- 4) I tend to avoid work and leverage any free resources available to me, even if questionably legal.

What kinds of labor do you think Paul has in mind when he says to do "what is good?"

Looking at the end of verse 28, what major changes occur in the heart of a repentant thief (particularly what they love and where their focus is)? What can we learn from this regardless of whether we struggle with stealing or not?

STUDY QUESTION (Optional)

Read Exodus 20:15; 22:1-15. What principles can we draw from God's instruction to Israel about theft that would give us guidelines for how to properly repent from theft today?

MEMORIZATION CHALLENGE REMINDER

For those of you who have committed to memorizing the book of Ephesians, this is just a friendly reminder to keep at it!

READING PLAN: MAY 9-15

	✓ Romans	✓ Proverbs
9	<input type="checkbox"/> 12-13	<input type="checkbox"/> 22:1-16
10	<input type="checkbox"/> 14-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 22:17-29
11	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruth	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:1-18
	Ephesians	
12	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-3	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:19-35
13	<input type="checkbox"/> 4-6	<input type="checkbox"/> 24:1-22
14	----- Reflection -----	
	1 Samuel	
15	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-3	<input type="checkbox"/> 24:23-34

❖ Don't _____ what does not _____ to you (28a).

❖ Our work is not a _____ but a _____ (28b).

❖ As God _____ us, we are to _____ those in need (28c).