



- 1. THOU SHALL LOVE  
PEOPLE MORE THAN  
YOUR JOB**
- 2. THOU SHALL  
COMMUNICATE  
REGULARLY, TRUTHFULLY,  
AND LOVINGLY**
- 3. THOU SHALL ACCEPT  
CORRECTION**
- 4. THOU SHALL FIGHT FOR  
RECONCILIATION**
- 5. THOU SHALL NOT  
GRUMBLE**





**6. THOU SHALL NOT  
GOSSIP**

**7. THOU SHALL ASSUME  
GOOD THINGS ABOUT  
OTHERS**

**8. THOU SHALL BE PATIENT  
WITH THE WEAKNESSES  
OF OTHERS**

**9. THOU SHALL NOT INSIST  
ON YOUR OWN WAY**

**10. THOU SHALL EMBRACE  
BIBLICAL AUTHORITY**

**Ten Commandments for Relationships**, Pastor Heath Lambert, October 4, 2022  
Senior Adult Leadership Training.

Our relationships on a leadership team are paramount to the success of our ministries. Jesus said, “By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another”. John 13:35.

**1. Thou shall love people more than the job. John 13:35, Matt 22:37-39.** We tend to identify ourselves with our employment. We feel like our life is going well if things are going well. Inside the church, if you view your job only as success in your job, you have missed the point. We must love God and love people. Come to work/Sunday School, as a Christian, loving Jesus first and then loving people. I don’t have to get my way. We must keep our priorities straight, loving people is our priority. (*video 7:00-12:28*)

**2. Thou shall communicate regularly, truthfully, and lovingly. Prov 25:11-12.** “Like apples of gold in settings of silver is a word spoken in right circumstances”. Apples of gold are the words, and the setting of silver is the circumstances. We are supposed to say the right things at the right time. Not everything that needs to be said, must be said right now. We must communicate regularly, truthfully, and lovingly. Every conflict traces back to a communication issue. Regular communication is essential in relationships. Eph4:15, “Speaking the truth in love.” We need to remember, truth is the content of our speak, love is the manner. Both are required in the Bible. Some Christians choose their favorite, some only say things lovingly, and others just tell the truth, lovingly. We need to do both. (*video 12:28-22:26*)

**3. Thou shall accept correction. Prov 9:7-9.** We are pursuing excellence. No person should ignore correction. We must receive correction and respond positively to it. Correction is your friend. It is a “mirror that lets you know there is lettuce in your teeth”. It is good to know where I didn’t do something well. What I did could have been done better. Help me in how I might have done better in receiving correction. Correction is an act of love. Love me by telling me how I could do better. Some people will not communicate in good faith. If you correct a scoffer, wicked, they will use the correction against you. Reprove a wise man and he will love you. Some people will use correction against you. We want to be men and women who are wise. I’m not perfect but I don’t always know when/where I am not. (*video 22:27-27:40*)

**4. Thou shall fight for reconciliation. 2 Cor 13:11.** Aim for restoration. In our world we don't see that happening. Aim for division is our world, political issues, church. I don't like your perspective and I am coming after you. Aim for restoration it is not me versus you. Pursue and fight to be reconciled. We don't have to always win our way. Address sin when we see it, confess sin when we commit it, and we must forgive sin when we are victims of it. Help me to forgive as Jesus has forgiven me. Be sweet. People are watching and they notice when we are **not** mean and nasty. As Christians we can't say some behavior is "unforgiveable" (because of how we have been forgiven) but we can say it is "inexcusable". Our natural drift is to get fussy when we don't get our way. Maybe people will visit our church when they see us being sweet. (*video 27:40-33:00*)

**5. Thou shall not grumble. Phil 2:14.** "Do all things without grumbling or disputing." Grumble is to say the word, the word just sounds like grumbling. In your heart you grumble. In all things do not grumble, complain, dispute. When you discover a problem what do you do? You don't grumble, don't ignore it, but seek to resolve it. Some things we can't fix. It's a blessing to not be responsible for stuff. Some decisions are already made. I don't have to fix it. (*video 34:00-38:45*)

**6. Thou shall not gossip. Gal. 5:14-15, Prov. 20:19.** We love gossip! The logic of gossip is we love it. We can gossip with our mouth which means you love to be in the know. We love to share the info, and we know what others don't know. We gossip with our ears. We love to know what is going on. Negative stories on social media spread 600 times faster than positive stories. I love to know something bad, and I love to tell you something bad. Gossip is the most destructive sin in a church. Gossip destroys because it happens every week in every church. Stories spread like wildfire, that were totally untrue, a few years ago in our church. Some people believed stories that never happened. The truth didn't matter. **Truth doesn't stop gossip because truth doesn't start gossip.** Gossip works on lies. Horrifying glimpse into the human heart, that we love destructive information, we want to tell and hear it. Rule. As Christians, we don't speak critically about someone unless we have a plan to help. How sweet a church can be if we always say sweet things about you in front of you and behind your back. (*video 38:46-48:02*)

**7. Thou shall assume good things about others. 1 Cor 13:7.** "Love believes all things." Love does not believe nonsense and old wives' tails. I make a charitable interpretation/judgment about you and your character until I have facts that prove otherwise. The opposite of being suspicious. Actions, words, darkness of our heart.

Believe good things about people. Sometimes you get may burned and accused of being gullible. (*video 48:02-53:45*)

**8. Thou shall be patient with the weaknesses of others. 1 Thess.5:14.** Help the weak, be patient with them. I am created, I have “created” limitations. We all have limitations. We have been patient and kind with Heath’s brain surgeries. WE ALL HAVE LIMITATIONS. WE HAVE TO BE PATIENT WITH EACH OTHER. GOLDEN RULE, do unto others. (*video 53:46-56:20*)

**9. Thou shall not insist on your own way. 1 Cor 13:5.”** Love does not insist on its own way.” We have conviction when it is in the Bible. Love draws a distinction between “the way” and “my way”. Stand on it if it is in the Bible. Right way, wrong way, own way. Music is a principle in scripture, we must sing, but can’t make everyone happy with what we sing. I should step aside from my way to allow your way. (*video 56:21-56:20*)

**10. Thou shall embrace biblical authority. Heb 13:17.** We live in an anti-authority culture. We live in a culture that is suspicious of authority. We have been under bad authority, that deceives, mistreats, and abuses, for so long that it creates a culture of distrust of authority. “Obey your leaders and submit to them for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account....”. God has instituted authority, in church, at work, at home. Fight the leader is what we do but the Bible says obey and submit. In Leadership we must give an account to Jesus. Help our leaders to enjoy their work, and don’t let it make them miserable. We go to the truth of the Bible. (*video 57:38-59:35*)

Recorded by Linda Hodges, October 14, 2022.