



## Living Beyond Yourself

### *A Study Through Ephesians*

#### Part 18 – From Stealing to Sharing

##### Ephesians 4:28

He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.



##### The Big Idea

Be a \_\_\_\_\_, not a \_\_\_\_\_!

##### Why are we tempted to steal?

- Because we have a \_\_\_\_\_  
John 10:10 - The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
- Because Stealing Is Part of the \_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew 15:19, "Out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder ... theft "  
Ephesians 4:21-24 – 22 - ...put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness  
Luke 12:15 – "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

*"The greatest sport in America isn't baseball. It's \_\_\_\_\_.*

"Lead me not into \_\_\_\_\_.  
I can find it \_\_\_\_\_!"

##### Stealing is:

- Against the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
Exodus 20:15 - "You shall not steal."  
1 Peter 4:15 - If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler.  
Proverbs 30:7-9 -
- Against \_\_\_\_\_  
Titus 2:9-10 - Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, 10 and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive.
- Against \_\_\_\_\_  
Leviticus 19:13 – Do not defraud your neighbor or rob him.  
Romans 13:9-10 – "Do not steal," "Do not covet" ... "Love your neighbor as yourself." 10 Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

##### Stealing Can and Must Be \_\_\_\_\_ Of – Luke 23:40-43

##### The Cure for Stealing

...but must work, doing something useful with his own hands that he may have something to share with those in need.

Pliny to Trajan – they bound themselves by a solemn oath, not to do any wicked deeds, never to commit any fraud, theft..., never to falsify their word, nor deny a trust when they should be called upon to deliver it up."

- Stealing is inconsistent with our new \_\_\_\_\_
- Stealing takes from others with no thought of giving in return
- Stealing can lead to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- Stealing leads only to more \_\_\_\_\_ and lies
- Believers in Christ are taught not to be \_\_\_\_\_ but rather to \_\_\_\_\_ with others who are in need.