

A Year with the Catechism

(In preparation for next week.)

The Fifth Commandment

You shall not murder.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every bodily need.

Bible Passages

Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer.

[1 John 3:15]

Whosoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man. *[Genesis 9:6]*

Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. *[Matthew 5:44]*

Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. *[Romans 12:19]*

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy... Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. *[Matthew 5:7, 9]*

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

[Ephesians. 4:32]

Weekly Catechism Reading

Sunday: Genesis 4

Monday: p. 85 – Central Thought & Part 59

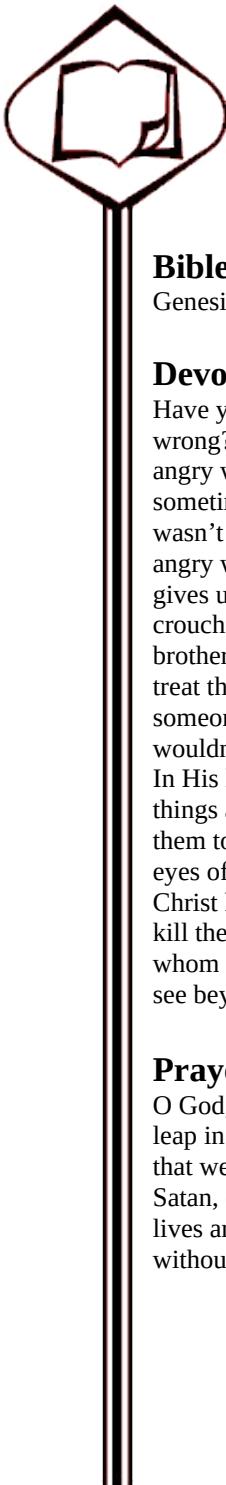
Tuesday: p. 85-87 – Part 60 - First

Wednesday: p. 87 – Part 60 – Second

Thursday: p. 88 – Part 61

Friday: p. 88-90 – Part 62

Saturday: p. 90-92 – Part 63-End



A Year with the Catechism

Devotion

Bible Readings

Genesis 4:6-7, Matthew 5:21-22

Devotion

Have you ever been so angry that you did something you knew was wrong? Or did something you didn't mean to do? I used to get so angry with my brother, I would start throwing things at him, sometimes breaking my toys. I didn't want to break my toys, but I wasn't really thinking because I was so angry. Jesus said that being angry with someone like that is just as bad as killing them. God gives us insight as to why this is when He tells Cain "sin is crouching at the door." Cain's anger led him to physically kill his brother. Our anger with others can lead us to mentally kill them: to treat them as if they shouldn't be alive. When we start devaluing someone's life, we begin to play God and say, "If I were God, I wouldn't waste my time on him!" Fortunately, God never said that. In His love, He sent Jesus to be killed for us. So when we see those things about others that make us angry, we should look beyond them to where these annoying things are. When we look with the eyes of faith, we see the annoying sins nailed to the cross in Christ. Christ has already killed the sin in that person, so we do not need to kill them again with our anger. As we see in our neighbor one for whom Christ already died, we by the power of the Holy Spirit, will see beyond the anger. We will see Christ in them, and Him in us.

Prayer

O God, our heavenly Father, Satan crouches in our heart, ready to leap in a moment of anger. Guard and keep us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may have a measure of Your patience and not fall victim to Satan, our foe; through Jesus Christ, Your only Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

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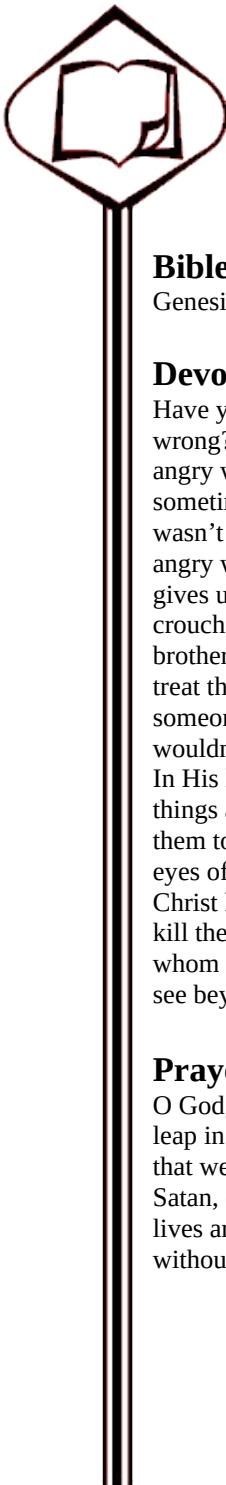
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