

## **The Ten Commandments (6): Valuing Life**

### **Exodus 20:13**

#### **I. The Meaning of the Sixth Commandment**

A. Killing that God does not define as murder:

1. Capital punishment for the unlawful taking of another's life (Genesis 9:6; Romans 13:4).
2. Self-defense that may result in the death of another (Exodus 22:2; Nehemiah 4:16; Esther 9:16).
3. Accidental death (Exodus 21:13).
4. Death as the result of justifiable war (Deuteronomy 20).

B. Killing that God does define as murder:

1. Homicide (Numbers 35:20-21).
2. Infanticide and abortion (Exodus 21:22-25).

#### **II. The Reason for the Sixth Commandment**

A. Man is made in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26-27; 9:6).

B. Remembering that man is made in the image of God, should eliminate all prejudice and discrimination.

#### **III. The Challenge of the Sixth Commandment**

A. Seek to understand the reasons for your anger (Matthew 5:22; Genesis 4:3-7).

B. Refrain from voicing disrespectful comments about others (Matthew 5:22b; James 1:19).

C. Recognize that it is always our responsibility to pursue reconciliation (Matthew 5:23-26).