


GROWING DEEPER:

Questions to dig deeper into this week's topic 

## DOWN TO THE STUDS

### Do the Rules Still Matter?

1. Take a moment to read the 10 Commandments in Exodus 20:1-17. Which of these commandments do you think should apply to *everybody*, regardless of their faith? Which of these commands should apply only to God's followers? What principle did you use to make that sorting decision?
2. Now read Jesus' words in Matthew 5:17-20. What do you think Jesus meant by saying that He came to "fulfill" the law in the Old Testament? Did He fulfill it so now it's over with, or do they still apply but in a new way?
3. For Pathfinder Church, we follow the Lutheran tradition of filtering the biblical laws through three "uses"—the *curb*, the *mirror*, and the *guide*. The 2nd use, the mirror, shows us how we fall short of God's standard of perfection. In light of that, how does Jesus fulfill the 2nd use of the law for us as sinful human beings?
4. We give thanks to Jesus for fulfilling the law on our behalf, vertically through the 2nd use! But horizontally, we still have an obligation towards our neighbors, in the 1st and 3rd uses. What do you think is the difference for Christians between loving our neighbors via the *CURB* (1st use of the Law) and loving them via the *GUIDE* (3rd use of the Law)?
5. As Christians, who are being sanctified by the Holy Spirit in our hearts, we want to do as much as possible from a "3rd Use" motivation of love. (Rather than a "1st Use" motivation of punishment/consequences.) What are some next steps that the Holy Spirit is putting on your heart right now, to do something different to love your neighbor in a better way?