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The Ten Commandments for the Workplace

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*Exodus 20, 1-17, reinterpreted according to the
Small Catechism of Martin Luther*

Ten Aids for life:

It has been tried and tested for thousands of years and still is constantly being forgotten.

So catchy that a child can count them on 10 fingers.

The compact instruction of the Creator, which cannot to be surpassed by any of the more sophisticated corporate guidelines.

Three-dimensional responsibility before God, the man and himself.

Basis for a world in which life can be successful.

Enabling a common design in the one world.

Peer-Detlev Schladebusch

1 You shall have no other gods.
Let God play the leading role in your life. Fulfill his mission to cultivate and preserve the earth. Praise God with your work.

2 You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God.
Respect God's authority. Do not assume you own it yourself. Avoid religious allusions for your benefit or for advertising purposes.

3 Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
Discover the great gift to you and your fellow men: You may rest on Sunday like God. Thank him for that. Also, consciously allow others to experience the Sunday as a day of rest and relaxation.

4 Honor your father and your mother.
God invented the family to enable people to grow up well. They should learn what trustworthy and caring community means. Join your part to make this experience a daily experience and to shape society positively.

5 You shall not murder.
Consider the consequences of your doing. Ask yourself what serves life.

6 You shall not commit adultery.
Fidelity and trust are a firm anchor in time. Do not marry yourself with your work. Be honest and loyal to your fellow men.

7 You shall not steal.
Fraud, manipulation or taking advantage should not determine your actions. There is no blessing to move forward at the expense of others. Instead, take a stand for justice and the right of the weak.

8 You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
Ask yourself what is true and fair. Be an example in collegial, friendly and partnership-based coexistence.

9 You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
You may have your true and eternal home with God. More is not possible. Grant others their possessions and pass on the love with which God meets you.

10 You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Greed, envy and avarice are poisonous fruits that make you and others sick. Love God, so that your life may be successful. Discover the potential that he has given you. Live them in mutual complement with your neighbor. So that you will be a blessing!