

5. What are the four steps normally involved in stealing? Achan said: I _____ I _____, I _____, I _____.

APPLICATION

If we want to stop stealing, we should stop even doing the first step - we should stop looking at stuff that we might be tempted to steal.

What are some other things that you think we should do to help us not steal? _____

The Bible says: *If you are a thief, stop stealing. Begin using your hands for honest work, and then give generously to others in need. Ephesians 4:28*

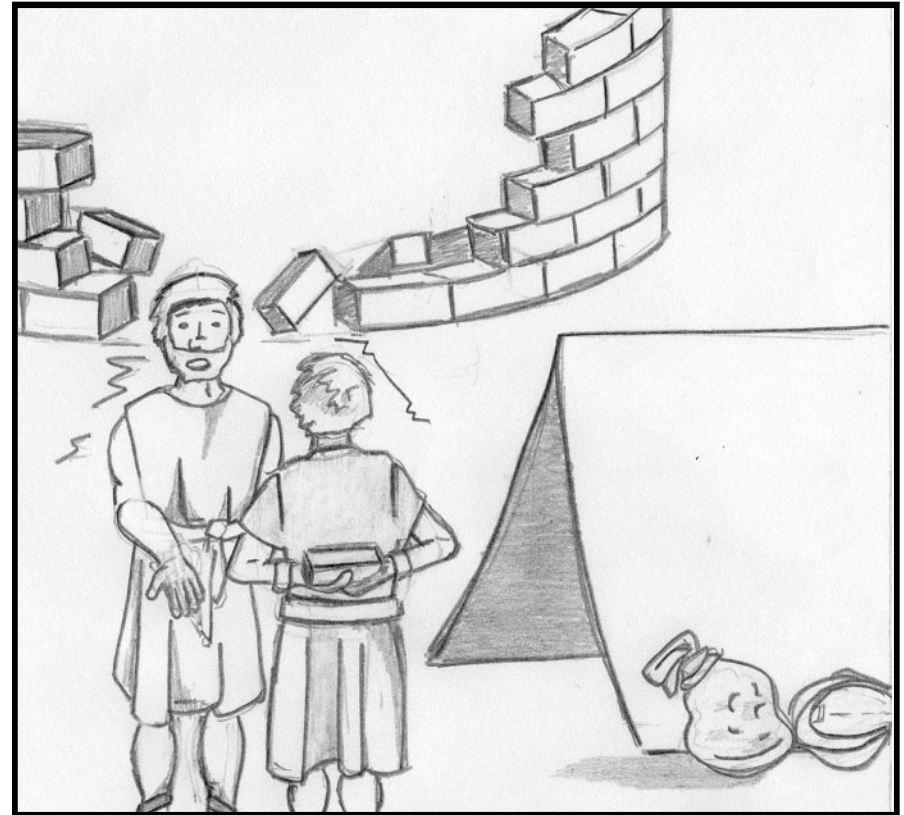
What does the Bible say we should do if we are in the habit of stealing stuff? Can you name all three things?

1. Stop _____ 2. Begin _____
_____ 3. And then _____

God wants us to ask Him for things that we need and thank Him for the things that we already have. Take a minute and thank God for something that He has already given to you. _____

Copyright © 2010 by Jackson R. Kennedy
Distributed by: UNITED CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES, INC
Scripture passage is from the: New Living Translation
Drawing by: Lydia Russell
For copies, call Jack Kennedy at: 601 520-1113 4

D Do



“Do not steal your neighbor's property ...”
Proverbs 22:28

“Do not steal your neighbor's property ...”

Instructions: Read the story, then go back and reread the story and answer the questions.

The book of Joshua tells us how God helped the Israelites, after they had come out of slavery in Egypt, to conquer the land that God had promised to give to them. In Joshua chapter 6 God causes the walls of Jericho to fall down so they can capture that city. But God tells them that when they go into the city ... *Do not take (steal) any of the things ..., or you yourselves will be completely destroyed, and you will bring trouble on all Israel.* **(?1)** *Everything made from silver, gold, bronze, or iron is sacred to the LORD and must be brought into his treasury.” Joshua 6: 18-19 NLT*

But sure enough, someone stole some of the stuff from Jericho and so God did not help them in the next battle they fought, they lost the battle and 36 of their men died. The children of Israel were very sad because God was not going to help them win battles any more and they could be destroyed or enslaved again. **(?2)**

When they called all of the people together, they found out that a man named Achan had taken the things that God told them to not take / steal.

*Then Joshua said to Achan, "My son, give glory to the LORD, the God of Israel, by telling the truth. Make your confession and tell me what you have done. **(?3)** Don't hide it from me." **(?4)***

Achan replied, "I have sinned against the LORD, the God of Israel. For I saw a beautiful robe imported from Babylon, two hundred silver coins, and a bar of gold weighing more than a pound.

*I wanted them so much that I took them. They are hidden (I hid them) in the ground beneath my tent, with the silver buried deeper than the rest." **(?5)***

So Joshua sent some men to make a search. They ran to the tent and found the stolen goods hidden there, just as Achan had said, with the silver buried beneath the rest. Joshua 7: 19 - 22 NLT

QUESTIONS

1. If we steal something, who does God say it will eventually destroy and who will it bring trouble to?

2. What happened after one person in the group chose to disobey God and stole something from the city of Jericho?

Explain how stealing can hurt the person who steals and can also hurt his/her family and friends. Say, for example, your father or mother steals something and goes to jail for several years. Who all does that hurt?

3. When we steal something, what does the “C” verse say we should do?

4. But instead of telling good people or people in authority about our problem of stealing stuff, we normally want to _____ from them.