

Q. 136. What are the sins forbidden in the sixth commandment?

A. The sins forbidden in the sixth commandment are, all taking away the life of ourselves, or of others, except in case of public justice, lawful war, or necessary defense; the neglecting or withdrawing the lawful and necessary means of preservation of life; sinful anger, hatred, envy, desire of revenge; all excessive passions, distracting cares; immoderate use of meat, drink, labor, and recreations; provoking words, oppression, quarreling, striking, wounding, and whatsoever else tends to the destruction of the life of any.

The confession allows for exceptions: Public justice, lawful war, necessary defense.

How to pray over this sixth commandment?

1. **Thank God for the gift of life.**
2. **Pray to be a vessel of life to others. To minister to the needs and burdens of men.**
3. **Pray for men's souls, who face eternal death.**
4. **Pray for all who labour for the souls of men.— the church, missionaries and all gospel efforts.**
5. **Pray that your life and testimony be a lifeline to the perishing. Christians are to be watchmen for souls. The Lord calls us to be His watchmen for souls:**

Eze 3:17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

Eze 3:18 When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked *man* shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

Eze 3:19 Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.

Eze 3:20 Again, When a righteous *man* doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumblingblock before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand.

Eze 3:21 Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous *man*, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul.

**The Free Presbyterian Church in Cloverdale Prayer Meeting June 01/16
The Sixth Commandment. Exodus 20:13 “Thou shalt not kill.”**

Remember that human life is sacred because we are created in God's image.
Gen. 9:6. Abel's blood cried out to God for vengeance. Gen. 4:10.

Larger Catechism Q. 135. What are the duties required in the sixth commandment?

A. The duties required in the sixth commandment are, all careful studies, and lawful endeavors, to preserve the life of ourselves and others by resisting all thoughts and purposes, subduing all passions, and avoiding all occasions, temptations, and practices, which tend to the unjust taking away the life of any; by just defense thereof against violence, patient bearing of the hand of God, quietness of mind, cheerfulness of spirit; a sober use of meat, drink, physic [medications/drugs], sleep, labor, and recreations; by charitable thoughts, love, compassion, meekness, gentleness, kindness; peaceable, mild and courteous speeches and behavior; forbearance, readiness to be reconciled, patient bearing and forgiving of injuries, and requiting good for evil; comforting and succoring the distressed, and protecting and defending the innocent.

We are to preserve life . Safety standards are to be used. Deut. 22:8

We are not to endanger our own lives. Eph. 5:28. Suicide is against this commandment. Man is a moral being with a soul and is not like the beast of the field to be disposed off as merely physical and temporal.

[Canadian Federal Government] Bill C—14, Right to die legislation, crosses the line from suicide being a crime to making it a right. Once it is a right, according to federal law, man becomes autonomous over his own life. He sets himself up as the final arbiter of his own life. He ceases to take the place of a created being under the rule of the Creator.

We are to avoid thoughts of murder. Matt. 5:22

We are to use self-defence to spare our own lives. Matt. 4:6

We are to be content with our circumstances. James 5:7-9.

We are to exercise self control in food, drink and medications, rest and work. Prov. 25:16.

We are to have charitable thoughts. Romans 13:10.

We are to be ready to be reconciled. Eph. 4:2

We are to care for the needy. Matt. 25:35