

So I take a little, what's the big deal?

Ex. 20:15, Deut. 5:19, Mt 19:18, Rom 13:9, Eph. 4:28

Reasons for stealing:

- Financial hardship
- Laziness
- Entitlement
- Greed
- Excitement
- Addiction

Types of stealing: ("Sin of Stealing", bible.org)

- Active
 - Time theft
 - Material theft / Electronic theft
 - Robbery
 - Extortion
 - Embezzlement
 - Kidnapping
- Passive
 - Negligence (Ex. 22)
 - Failure to return someone else's stuff. (Lev. 6:1-7)
 - Failure to give what rightly belongs to someone else. (Lev. 19:11-13, Deut. 24:14-15)

God's feelings about stealing: (Eph. 4)

- Stealing is a sin! Stealing is never justified in Scripture
- If you are stealing, Quit it! (v. 28a)
- If possible, make restitution for your theft. (Luke 19:1-10)
- Instead of stealing, start working. (v. 28b, 2 Thess. 3:10-15)
- Instead of taking, start giving. (v. 28c)

Points to Ponder:

- Recognize God's view on stealing – Sinful!
- Recognize God's command for stealing – Stop!
- Recognize your responsibility for stealing – Repentance & Restitution!
- Recognize your replacement for stealing – Working!
- Recognize your blessing for not stealing – Giving!