



Series: Better Relationships

Sermon: Part 1: Honesty In What You Say And Do

Date: Sunday, October 15th, 2023

Though we know that lying is wrong, it has become quite normalized in our culture.

“You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.” (Exodus 20:16)

Two Major Things That Lies Do:

1. Lies _____

2. Lies _____ **trust**

An _____: “A solemn, usually formal calling upon God to witness the truth of what one says or to witness that one sincerely intends to do what one says.” (Merriam Dictionary)

“Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.’ But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by Heaven, for it is God’s throne; or by the Earth, for it is His footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black.” (Matthew 5:33-36)

Jesus was saying that if you think that you can start to create different levels of truthfulness then you are wrong and are being deceived.

This is not meant to scare us, but for us to evaluate any sort of inconsistencies in our lives and in our speech because He is the One that we ultimately reflect based on our lives and our speech.

For followers of Jesus, we want to be truthful in everything we say and do because that honors and pleases _____.

There are different levels of commitment but Jesus is saying that there cannot be different levels in the truthfulness of what we say.

Because we are always being observed, everything we say is really an oath.



When you make a promise or make a commitment and you stick with it regardless of how you feel, it not only trains you to be honest and do that again, but it honors the God who is watching.

*“All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.”
(Matthew 5:37)*

When we tell the truth, our identity becomes more _____ - _____.

_____ comes from the word integer, meaning a whole number.

Are you someone of integrity?

Are your words and actions trustworthy?

What would those around you say about you?

When We Have Been Dishonest:

1. Confessing to God that you have been dishonest and how you have been dishonest

2. Confessing to those whom you may have been dishonest with

Bottom Line: *Lying betrays trust and it destroys relationships.*

Questions to reflect on this week or with others:

1. How have you been dishonest with God, family, friends, co-workers, yourself?
2. How easy is it for you to admit your dishonesty to God and to others?
3. Who will you need to admit to? God? A spouse? A significant other? A child? A boss? A friend?
4. How does living your life knowing that you are always being observed by God influence the levels of your honesty?

Songs used in service: The Lord’s Prayer (Hillsong), Alabaré Al Señor (Hillsong), This Is Our God (Phil Wickham), Good Lord (David Leonard), God So Loved (We The Kingdom)

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Any prayer requests?

Name: _____ **Email (so we can follow up):** _____

What can we be praying for you about?