

With whom do you really need to be honest this week?
Ask God to help you stay honest—and not be misleading in any way.

Thursday

Please read Ephesians 4:15, 29. We need to do two things: Both “speak the truth” AND do so “in love”. Why is this so difficult at times? In some dysfunctional families, one wins out to the exclusion of the other: Either the truth is spoken harshly and hurtfully, or, in the name of “love”, the real truth is simply never brought up. Have you ever been in a situation where the Lord enabled you to speak the truth in a loving way? Explain. Is there anyone you may have recently hurt—instead of built up—by an unwise choice of words? *Ask God to help you reconcile that relationship. Ask him to help you tell the truth consistently, completely—and in love! Thank the Lord that he is completely truthful yet also completely loving! Ask for his truthful AND loving nature to be exhibited through you as well!*

Friday

Please read Matthew 15:17-29 and Matthew 12:33, 34. What is the point of these two passages, and how is it similar to the Sermon on the Mount? Look back at the list of motives for the various types of lies. Which of these motives do you sometimes struggle with? Why do these vices motivate us to lie? How can an understanding of who you are in Christ help to change your heart so that you no longer feel the need to lie? *Ask God to change you from the heart so that you are a person of loving integrity! Ask him to help you remember your new identity in Christ!*

Saturday

Please read Matthew 6:1-18 to prepare for tomorrow’s message. *Ask God to prepare your heart so that you can worship him in Spirit and truth tomorrow. Pray that both worship services will point people to God and help them to become more fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.*



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The King’s Speech

Message by Rick McRostie on Sunday, February 19, 2017

On Honesty

5 Common lies:

- _____ **lie; Motive:** _____

Matthew 5:33-37

“Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord.’ But I tell you, Do not swear 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. Simply let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.”

How to tell the truth:

1. I will tell the truth _____

- ◆ _____ commitments
- ◆ _____ commitments
- ◆ _____ commitments

2. I will tell the truth _____

3. I will tell the truth _____

"...speaking the truth in love..." Ephesians 4:15

The solution is _____ **not** _____

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." Ephesians 4:29

You can make a _____ **without**
making an _____

Ask yourself, "Why am I about to say what I'm about to say?"
"Am I saying this to build the other person up?"

"For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks."
Matthew 12:34b

"For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander." Matthew 15:19

The bottom line:
The heart of the issue is the _____
of the _____

Daily Meditations

Take some time each day to read the suggested passage, pray, and answer the questions pertaining to this week's topic.

This week's memory verse:

"Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one." Matthew 5:37

Monday

Please read Matthew 5:33-37. How did Jesus update the ancient proverb about oaths? Look over the 5 types of lying from your notes. Which type of lie do you struggle with most? Often our society's version of oath-taking involves phrases like: "Trust me"; "Would I lie to you?"; "I really mean it this time." What would Jesus say about these phrases (see verse 17)? At first glance, this seems to be the easiest part of the Sermon on the Mount to apply: "Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.'" But in what circumstances might this be difficult?

Ask God for his strength to be a person of integrity!

Tuesday

Please read Exodus 20:16 (part of the Ten Commandments). Compared to the rest of the Ten Commandments, lying seems so minor. Why is lying included with all these other "major" offenses like murder and adultery? Why is it so important to society, to our families, and even for our own sanity, not to lie? What unfulfilled promise have you made that you need to carry out this week?
Ask the Lord today to help you tell the truth! Thank him for being a truthful, loving God!

Wednesday

Please read Psalm 34:12-13. What are the rewards of telling the truth consistently, according to this verse? Why are these the natural outgrowths of consistent truth telling? In which of these situations is truth telling difficult for you? Explain why.

- _____ Casual commitments and conversation
- _____ Corporate commitments (at work)
- _____ Kingdom commitments