

## **The 10 Commandments: How Life Works**

IX: Do not give false testimony against your neighbor (Exodus 20:16)

### **Ice Breaker Question:**

Who is the most truthful person you know? What do you like about him or her?

or

Describe an occasion (perhaps as a child or teenager) when you were caught in a lie.

### **Going Deeper from Sunday**

#### ***Sermon Synopsis***

The ninth commandment forbids us from bearing a 'false' or 'vain' witness against our neighbor. Because God is a God of truth, we are called to be people of truth in every aspect of our lives. Like God, our words should be congruent with our actions. The ninth commandment may highlight our fallen nature more than any of the other commands, as there are so many ways we can stray from the truth in our speech and conduct.

Share any reflections/questions that may have arisen from the sermon on Sunday.

#### **Going Deeper**

Compare lying, in its nature and consequences to some of the other commandments?

Read Proverbs 12:17-23.

The writer intermingles sayings about lying and reckless speech. What do they have in common?

Is it possible for someone to be reckless by being honest? Explain.

What point about honesty and lying is made in verse 19?

Verse 22 tells God's response to lying and to truth. how can this affect our commitment to honesty?

Read John 8:44

What is the source of all lies and falsehood?

What other passages in Scripture can you think of that relate the devil to lying (that may be informing Jesus here in this verse)?

When we lie, what 'language' are we using according to this verse?

When do you find yourself most tempted to "shade" the truth a bit or tell a "white" lie? What do feel is driving that temptation? i.e. why are we tempted to lie, what do we think it accomplishes (perhaps subconsciously)?

What are some practical ways we can work this week to be people of truth?

Prayer time: We all like to think of ourselves as honest. Ask God to shine a searchlight into your heart and expose any areas of dishonesty, whether with

yourself, with him or with others.

(Note, some questions are taken from Rob Suggs IV guide: The 10 Commandments)