

Passage: Exodus 20:16

Theme: Do not Bear False Witness

Old Testament Understanding of the 9th Commandment

- · False Testimony in legal contexts
- Extension to include lying more generally

Jesus' Teaching on Truthfulness for his Followers (Matthew 5:33–37)

- We shouldn't swear by oaths at all.
- Our words should be fully truthful.

Main Idea:

God's holy people should be marked by truth in all we say and do.

Discussion Questions:

• Take a look at the following passages to discuss how the OT extends the 9th commandment to include lying: Deut. 5:20; Lev. 19:16; Josh. 7:11; Hos. 4:

• What are the dangers of justifying false statements? Is it ever appropriate to lie?

• How do you apply Jesus' statements about truthfulness in Matt. 5:33–37?

• How can we use our speech to constructively build one another up through our speech (list scriptures that you can recall)?

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