

1. What is His main point?
2. Do you think this injunction forbids the taking of oaths in court? Why/why not?

[illegible]

Jesus seems to want His followers to be such men and women of their word that oath-taking would be superfluous.

1. Outside of legal circumstances (see Discussion), why do people feel the need to use oaths to support their claims?
2. In your experience, are Christians famous for being men and women of their word? Why is this so?
3. One of the requirements of those who would dwell with God is the willingness to keep their word, even when it hurts (see Psa 15:4b).
 - What does it mean to “swear to [one’s own] hurt”? What are some of the factors that make it tempting for people to fudge on their commitments?
 - Was there a time when you backed out of a serious commitment because keeping it turned out to be too costly? How did you explain that decision to yourself and the person you let down?
 - Although this text speaks to the matter of keeping our word, what does it suggest about the way we make commitments in the first place? Have you ever made a commitment without counting the cost? How did that turn out?

[illegible]