

James: Faith at Work

"Truth Tellers"

James 5:12

Sunday, October 18th, 2026

~ **Picture This:** You're in a court room; you're on the stand about to give a statement in a highly important case; and you're asked *"Do you solemnly swear that the evidence you are going to present regarding the matter at hand shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?"*

~ **A Sad Reality** - truth telling has become a foreign concept. It is so easy to lie and to live in a lie. Telling the truth, or giving an oath doesn't mean as much as it use to.

~ **Sticky Statement:** James emphasizes the importance of honesty and integrity in communication, urging believers to let their 'yes' be 'yes' and their 'no' be 'no'.

Three Simple Truths from Verse 12:

I. _____ to Clear Communication

> Notice the word *"above all"* ... I see two possible meanings

a) a statement that sets off another solemn warning against what comes after it.

b) could also be seen as a *concluding statement*.

~ Communicating clearly is so important because it improves the integrity in the life of a believer; it can also reflect the teachings of Jesus in your personal witness.

II. _____ Tell the Truth

~ In Christ, we find the ultimate embodiment of truth, who lived a life of integrity and authenticity we are not only saved by God incarnate, we are saved by *truth itself*.

** Matthew 5:33-37 ... James references the teaching is Jesus **

~ We should not only speak the truth at all times, but we should want the truth at all costs.

III. _____ Under Condemnation

~ Remember James 1:5-7 - the unstable and double minded person is someone who does not let their yes be yes and their no a no!

~ Romans 8:1 = *"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."*

> We gather each week to sing praises to God for his forgiveness and glory and we know in the deepest parts of our hearts & minds that *we are no longer condemned!*

Practical Realities that Raise Important Questions | James 5:12

1. *Does this verse mean that we should not make any oaths or swear by the name of God?* Answer = _____

* Hebrews 6:13-17 - "For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear..."

* Revelation 10:5-6 - "and swore by him who lives forever and ever"

* Romans 9:1-2 - "I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit

2. *Does this verse teach that if we back out of a commitment (yes), does that mean we are now in sin?* Answer = _____