

HOW TO LIVE LIKE JESUS

Let Your Yes Be Yes

James 5:12

Week 13 September 11, 2022

Pastor Mike Popovich

But above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but your yes is to be yes, and your no, no, so that you do not fall under judgment.

James 5:12 NAS

An oath or a vow is a promise you make, then swear by someone or something greater than yourself, at the risk of punishment, to insure you keep your promise.

The Christian's word should be our bond.

For people swear an oath by one greater than themselves, and with them an oath serving as confirmation is an end of every dispute. 17 In the same way God, desiring even more to demonstrate to the heirs of the promise the fact that His purpose is unchangeable, confirmed it with an oath, 18 so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to hold firmly to the hope set before us.

Hebrews 6:16-18 NAS

YOU SHALL NOT MAKE A FALSE VOW OR OATH

“Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.’

Matthew 5:33 NIV

What we say matters.

When a person makes a vow to the Lord or takes an oath to obligate himself by a pledge, he must not break his word but must do everything he said.

Numbers 30:2 NIV

MAKING A FALSE VOW OPENS YOU TO EVIL

All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

Matthew 5:37 NIV

A lie creates a foothold in your life for Satan to use.

SIMPLY SAY YES OR NO

But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; 35 or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. 36 And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. 37 All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

Matthew 5:34-37 NIV

If our word determines our character, then you do not need to use elaborate oaths.

If you only tell lies sometimes, how do you ever expect to develop meaningful relationships?

GOD HAS PROMISED US LIFE

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 The one who has the Son has the life; the one who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. 13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

1 John 5:11-13 NAS

If God is working in your life and heart, respond now.