



t e l l t h e s t o r y

MAIN IDEA

INTEGRITY - RADICALLY RIGHTEOUS

Matthew 5:33-37; Psalm 15; 1 Chronicles 29:17; Proverbs 12:22

KEY THOUGHTS

- God is a covenant making and a covenant keeping God, He ALWAYS keeps his promises. (Ps. 138:2 NLT, Isaiah 55:11)
- Because we are made in His image, (“a chip off the ol’ block”) He expects us to be people of our word too.
- Without integrity, we have nothing to offer anyone. “A man is only as good as his word.”
- Jesus is saying that the radically righteous men and women of God's kingdom do not need to swear that they are telling the truth and in fact should refrain from using oaths and vows.
- Radical trust comes from radical truthfulness.
- Jesus calls us to a life of profound truthfulness. Our problem is that we live in a radically deceptive world,
- When people know that you do not lie, your testimony will have more effect than all the theology you could ram at them. What a difference a truthful life can make!
- Matthew 12:36 says we will give an account to God for every word that we speak.
- Samuel Johnson wrote: Accustom your children constantly to this [the telling of the truth]; if a thing happened at one window, and they, when relating it, say that it happened at another, do not let it pass, but instantly check them; you do not know where deviation from truth will end. . . . It is more from carelessness about truth than from intentional lying, that there is so much falsehood in the world.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does “Integrity” look like to you?
2. Have you ever been the recipient of a broken promise?
3. What was that promise?
4. How did it affect you?
5. Have you ever been in a situation where you gave your word and making good on it turned out to be a great personal cost to you?
6. Do you find it difficult to trust people when they talk to you- or people in general? Why?
7. Do you expect people to trust you when you talk to them? Why?
8. Read Psalm 15 and discuss what stands out to you.

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