



Lesson #5: Life Lessons About Integrity (5:33-37)

As we have already seen in this series “Live it!” based on the greatest sermon ever preached, Jesus has shown us how ...

- ...uncontrolled _____ destroys relationships (5:21-26)
- ...uncontrolled _____ destroys relationships (5:27-30)

Now Jesus turns his attention to what is probably the most destructive force on earth – The _____ (5:33-37)!

People talk about “The _____,” the gap between what people say and what is really true. These gaps between what we do and what we say are not a new phenomenon. Satan, the prince of this world, is a liar. Indeed Jesus calls him “*the father of lies*” (John 8:44). It should come as no surprise then that the system he rules is one filled with lies and a lack of _____.

In these verses Jesus reminds us that _____ was always part of God’s plan. Though man is prone to perverting that teaching God is concerned that you become _____ truth-tellers.

THE _____ OF INTEGRITY EXAMINED

A. Practice of God’s Word: _____

“Oath” – making a statement and calling God to witness to the _____ of that statement. Involves invoking a curse from God if you are not telling the truth. Even a superficial reading of the commandments of Scripture indicates plainly their intention. Quite simply, they prohibit _____ swearing.

B. Practice of Man: _____

The Pharisees had twisted the meaning and importance of vows. They taught that only vows made in the name of the _____ were binding and everything else was not binding did not need to be kept.

THE _____ OF INTEGRITY ERADICATED

The teaching of the Pharisees sounded noble but like everything else they did it was an illusion.

A. _____ promises are to be eradicated

The problem was that the Pharisees went around making promises that they never had any intention of keeping. They went around swearing by this, and that, all the time promising randomly and without _____.

B. _____ promises are to be eradicated

Notice the phrase, “*unto the Lord.*” The Pharisee emphasized only this phrase in their promises. They taught that only promises made in God’s name had to be kept. If you didn’t say “in the Lord’s name,” you could lie and it was okay. The truth is, however, that making vows with our hands on the Bible or making vows at all should make no _____ in telling the truth.

THE RIGHT _____ FOR INTEGRITY ENCOURAGED

The Christian is to be controlled by _____.

Just say “yes” or “no” says Jesus. The _____ of words to get your own way is absolutely wrong! Jesus does not separate things into secular and sacred categories. All truth is God’s truth, therefore, every lie is a lie against God and every false promise dishonors His name. You cannot use one kind of language in the _____ and another kind in your _____ life. All promises are sacred because all promises are made in the presence of God.

So why is integrity so vitally important?

- 1) Because it affects our relationship with _____
- 2) Because it affects our relationship with _____

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

Being a man or woman of integrity is essential to a right walk with God. So let’s do it. It’s time you made every word you speak a _____ word. May your word be as good as your _____. Mean what you say and say what you mean whatever the cost.

“Who shall dwell in the Holy Temple?”

Answer: ...he that sweareth to his own _____ and _____ not”
(Psalm 15:1-1-4)