

**Series "Ten Commandments"**  
**"Speaking The Truth"**  
**Exodus 20:16**  
**Part-10**

**Exodus 20:16 – "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."**

**John 18:38 – "Pilate said to Him, 'What is truth?'"**

**Active form – Proverbs 6:16-19**

**Passive form – James 1:26**

**Commandment #9 (Truth): Exodus 20:16 – "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."**

**Commandments 1-4 – Reverence for God; Commands 5-10 – Respect for man.**

**1. What This Commandment Teaches**

**2. Those That We Lie To**

**3. Examples Of Lying**

**4. God's Answer To Lying**

**1. What This Commandment Teaches:**

Exodus 20:16 – "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."

"You shall not bear false witness" – This statement is negative, but at the same time, is positive. It is saying that lying is out (not to be), but that means that truthfulness is to be the way.

"bear false witness" – speaks of giving false testimony under oath, "in the name of God;" to lie is to lie against the name of God.

Lying – "to make a statement that one knows to be false with the intent to deceive," or "anything that gives a false impression;" "lying by my actions, and by word; it can be by silence, which is a wordless lie."

Leviticus 19:11-12

Hebrews 6:18 – "it is impossible for God to lie,"

Exodus 20:7 – This commandment speaks of us using God's name in truth.

This 9<sup>th</sup> Commandment deals with our respect and love for others.

Genesis 2:17; Genesis 3:1-5

Jesus said that Satan is “the father of lies,” John 8:44 (The source of lies).

## **2. Those That We Lie To:**

- 1. We Lie To Ourselves**
- 2. We Lie To God**
- 3. We Lie To Other People**

**1. We Lie To Ourselves** – We can deceive ourselves.

Romans 12:3; James 1:26

**2. We Lie To God** – Acts 4:36-37

Acts 5:1-11 – Ananias, with his wife Sapphira did not have to sell their land and give but it was a choice they made to do. They said they gave all hypocritically but kept back for self.

**3. We Lie To Other People** – Leviticus 19:11

Ephesians 4:21-25

**3. Examples Of Lying:** There are 3 categories that deception falls into:

- 1. Lying:** Active.
- 2. Distortion:** Adding and subtracting info.
- 3. Exaggeration:** Saying more.

**1. Lying:** Active – Destructive lying that is malicious; intent to hurt.

Slander: false statement about a person’s character and conduct in order to do them damage or harm.

Ahab wanted Naboth’s vineyard, 1 Kings 21.

Joseph with Potiphar’s wife.

Gossip/Slander: The unnecessary bearing of information that may or may not be true and is harmful to the subject. Slander – lying about another’s character, or conduct.

Leviticus 19:16; Proverbs 16:28; Proverbs 17:9

Lying With Malice: The tongue has lethal power: Proverbs 12:18

Proverbs 25:15; Ephesians 4:31-32

Backbiting, Whispering.

Proverbs 18:8; Proverbs 26:20

Using the word **THINK**, we have a helpful acronym:

**T** – True: Is it true?

**H** – Help: Is going to help?

**I** – Inspiring: Will it motivate?

**N** – Necessary: Is important to say it?

**K** – Kind: Is it kind?

- 2. Distortion:** Quote – Misquote; this is a subtle form of lying. We just twist the truth for our own purposes.

The most common form of distortion is misquoting.

It is one thing to distort the words of a human being, it is another to distort the words of God, Galatians 1:6-8.

Jehovah's Witnesses – Theocratic Warfare – justified to lie, Romans 3:8.

Galatians 3:28

- 3. Exaggeration:** The Superlative Syndrome.

James 5:12

False Flattery: Proverbs 28:23; Proverbs 29:5;  
1 Thessalonians 2:5

False Boasting – Name dropping to impress others.

Making Excuses.

Why do we lie?

1. We do it to impress people.
2. We lie to get revenge.
3. We lie to make a profit.
4. Fear: don't want to face consequences.
5. We lie for convenience.
6. We lie to escape punishment.

Ephesians 4:25

#### **4. God's Answer To Lying:** Knowing The Truth: Speaking the truth!

1. The truth is that all of us are moral failures – Romans 3:23.
2. The truth is that all of us will stand before the God of Holiness.
3. The truth is that all that have rejected Jesus Christ will be condemned to eternal separation in the lake of fire – Revelation 20:15.
4. The truth is that all that realize their condition can flee to Jesus and receive forgiveness and spend eternity with Him in heaven.

Positive – Speaking the truth in love, brings glory to God, the family, Church and society.

#### **Application:**

1. Pray: Ask God to watch over our mouth: Proverbs 24:26.
2. Meditate: Think on Scripture, that which speaks of truth, so that we can turn from that which is false to guard against lying.
3. Examination: Look at the list that we covered this evening and let us ask ourselves “am I knowingly not being truthful?”
4. Amends: Whenever possible.
5. Vows: Psalm 39:1