

The Ninth Commandment—Don't Lie (Exodus 20.15) *Love is Truthful*

**I. WHAT IT MEANS**

The immediate context for this commandment is a court of law. A lying witness could often turn the case. God forbids every form of falsehood. The heart of the ninth commandment is "don't lie."

**II. WHY IT IS IMPORTANT**

It is important because the Trinity is truth. We serve a truth telling triune God.

- A. God the Father is true. Romans 3.4
- B. God the Son is true. John 1.14
- C. God the Holy Spirit is true. 1 John 4.6
- D. God's word is truth. John 17.17b

**III. BIBLICAL EXCEPTIONS**

**IV. HOW WE BREAK IT**

**V. When the flesh comes out in the church:**

- A. Galatians 5.19-20—
- B. Ephesians 4.31—
- C. 2 Corinthians 12.20—

**VI. \_\_\_\_\_**

Gossip steals the treasure of a good name (Proverbs 22.1), and assaults the character of a brother or sister

- A. Gossip is such a common sin that we forget how ungodly it is, but before we open our mouths and start talking about someone else, we need to ask:
  - 1. Is it--
  - 2. Is it--
  - 3. Is it--
  - 4. Would I say it the same way if the--
- B. You know, this is starting to sound like gossip; we need to talk about something else.
- C. Wait, before you say anything more, we should pray about this. Then, "Now what was it you wanted to talk about?"
- D. Have you spoken to so and so about this? If not, it would not be right for us to talk about it.

**VII. \_\_\_\_\_**

Jesus deals with this are in Matthew 7, verses 1 – 5.

John 8.32.—"You will know the truth and the truth will set you free."

### VIII. THE POSITIVE SIDE OF THE NINTH COMMANDMENT

The ninth commandment is about controlling what we say about others. Love is truthful. To love our neighbor is to speak good to them and about them. The third command protects God's name; the ninth protects our name and our neighbor's name.

A. **Tell the \_\_\_\_\_**...About ourselves and others.

- Matthew 5.37—Let your yes be yes and your no be no.

- Philippians 2.3:

Telling the truth also means thinking and saying the best about people. Rather than being suspicious of their motives, we should put the best construction on what they have said or done.

B. \_\_\_\_\_ **for the Truth**

Leviticus 5.1: Paraphrased says, if you sin by not stepping up and offering yourself as a witness to something you've heard or seen in cases of wrongdoing, you'll be held responsible.

C. **Speak the \_\_\_\_\_ Truth with a Soft \_\_\_\_\_**

- Ephesians 4.15—speak the truth in love. Saying the honest thing in a loving way.
- Matthew 18 tells us how to do that.

D. \_\_\_\_\_ **before you Speak**

Proverbs 29:20 cautions against speaking in haste.

Ecclesiastes 3.7 tells us there is a proper time to speak, and also time when we should just be quiet.

Alan Redpath, former pastor at Moody Memorial Church, recommended giving yourself "think" time before you speak:

T—is it true

H—is it helpful

I—is it inspiring

N—is it necessary

K—is it kind

E. \_\_\_\_\_ **for Perspective**

Psalm 141.3 New Century Version— Lord, help me control my tongue; help me be careful about what I say.

F. **Trade \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_**

- Proverbs 12.18—the tongue of the wise brings healing
- Proverbs 25.11—The right word at the right time is like precious gold set in silver.
- Ephesians 4.29 from the Amplified Version:

Let no foul or polluting language, nor evil word nor unwholesome or worthless talk ever come out of your mouth, but only such speech as is good and beneficial to the spiritual progress of others, as is fitting to the need and the occasion, that it may be a blessing and give grace to those who hear it.