

# PREACHING CURRICULUM



SERMON TITLE: Avoiding Perjury

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 20:16

*"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."*

## 1 REVIEW THE SERMON

Read Exodus 20:16. What was God's primarily concern when he forbid bearing false witness against one's neighbour?

Why did God include this commandment in the Decalogue? Why is it so important to a nation's judicial system that witnesses be honest and truthful? What happens when they are not? See 1 Kings 21:13-14.

How would this commandment apply in personal and family relationships, in business, in society, and in the Church?

## 2 ASSESS YOUR LIFE

What standards of honesty and integrity does Christ expect from his disciples? See Matthew 5:33-37.

How much of a problem are lying, deceit, and falsehood in our culture today? What effect does this have on us as Christians?

Have you experienced situations in which a lack of honesty has had a harmful effect on others?

Are there situations in which you find it difficult to be completely honest with others? If so, why do you think that is?

## 3 APPLY THE TRUTH

How might Christians strive to be people of impeccable honesty and integrity? What might it look like for us to be courageous truth-tellers in all areas of our lives? How might we come to value knowing and telling the truth over gaining a personal advantage? What impact might this way of living have on others?

Are lying and deceit always wrong? Or are there occasions in which deceiving others is actually the right thing to do? If so, what might be some examples?

Is it ever acceptable to tell "white" lies? Why or why not?

## 4 COMMIT THIS WEEK

What might it look like for you to be a bold truth-teller this week? How might you cultivate a love for truth this week?