

Study Questions for the September 26, 2021 Sermon:
“Your Word is Your Bond”
Matthew 5:33-37

1. Pastor Don's opening prayer referenced James 1:22: *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.* Then we heard a sermon on honesty. Name one area of your current life where you can be more honest.
2. Psalm 58:3 states: *...from the womb they are wayward, spreading lies...* If children have a natural predisposition to lie, what things can we do so that they will grow up to be honest?
3. We encounter deceitfulness much more frequently than lies. How can we protect ourselves from deceitful religious doctrines?
4. Pastor Bill cautioned us that simply being honest is not enough. People who pride themselves in being brutally honest are often more brutal than honest. According to Ephesians 4:15, what element, besides honesty, does the scripture mandate that we bring into our speech?
5. In verses 34-37, Jesus commands his disciples to not take vows/oaths.
 - a. Why not take vows/oaths?
 - b. What should we do instead?
6. Is it wrong to:
 - a. Take an oath in court?
 - b. Make a vow during a marriage ceremony?
7. Jesus was condemning the idea that commitments for which we made vows held a greater moral imperative that we fulfill them? WHY is that idea wrong?
8. Bible versions are evenly split as to whether Matthew 5:37 ends with: *comes from evil, or comes from the evil one.* Both interpretations are valid. If you ever have a sense that a devil is placing a lie in your mind, what is a good response.