

10 Words of Grace. A Study of the Ten Commandments.

Week #10: Exodus 20 - Do not lie about your neighbour.

November 18, 2018

Questions: #9 - Lying.

1. If you played a board game where success depended on lying, would you win?
 - What's the dumbest lie you ever told as a kid?
 - How did your parents and those in authority handle the issue of lying with you and each other?
2. What would life look like if no one lied?
 - In the courts? In business? In education? In politics?
3. Ken addressed the common reasons why we lie: fear; shame; embarrassment; self-gain; cultural expectations; hatred for one another.
 - Which of these have been your struggle over your lifetime:
4. Ken talked of how slander, gossip & flattery are especially prevalent and accepted forms of lying, even in our churches.
 - Read Proverbs 10:18, 20:19, 26:20 & Psalm 5:9.
 - Why is it so easy to slander, flatter and gossip about others?
 - How do you feel when you've been wronged in this way?
5. Lying destroys *trust* - the foundation of every healthy relationship.
 - How healthy are your relationships today? Are there cracks in some of them because of dishonesty? Do you want to fix them, or are you finding it easier to live in isolation, conflict & factions?
6. The solution for lying is to practice speaking the truth in love.
 - Are you better at telling the truth without love, or loving without telling the truth?
 - Who do you need to speak the truth in love to, today?
 - Who do you need to hear it from?
7. Ken instructed us to practice the "Thumper Rule" - If you can't say something nice (truth & love bundled together), don't say anything at all!
 - Where do you need to "*sit down & be quiet*"?
 - Is there someone that you need to go to and ask forgiveness from because you've failed to keep this rule?
 - Spend time this week in prayer examining your relationships, and asking God to restore the ones that have been badly damaged through dishonesty and an absence of love & truth.