



**Dr. Mike McNeff**  
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**What this message is about:**

Jesus challenges deceptive speech under the disguise of an oath or a vow.

**Purpose of this message:**

To encourage integrity in the way we speak to one another and to the world around us.

**1. Legal righteousness: Don't take false \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_**

Mt. 5:33  
Lev. 19:12  
Ps. 24:3-6

**2. Kingdom righteousness: \_\_\_\_\_ in speech.**

Mt. 5:34-37  
Mt. 23:16-22  
1Jn. 1:5-7  
Col. 3:9  
James 5:12

**Next Step:**

Make integrity a habit. Apply the gospel to your speech. When people ask you questions, answer honestly and directly. Tell difficult truths when needed. Be honest even when it hurts. Make Jesus' teaching about integrity a daily practice.

**Group Discussion:**

1. This one is for everybody in the group: define "integrity" in your own words.
2. Have someone read Mt. 5:33-37. Have someone **else** read Mt. 23:16-22. What is Jesus trying to correct about swearing oaths? What does this have to do with the central idea of integrity?
3. Should Christians feel free to take oaths when required by society (court of law, military service, etc.)? Have you sworn an oath? What was it for? What's a good Christian ethic regarding swearing oaths?
4. What are some ways you have seen a lack of integrity in a church family? What does integrity look like in the church?
5. Read and discuss Eph. 4:11-15 together.