

Intro

10 commandments – God talking to us
They are signposts to help us live God's way

Recap

Commandments 1 - 8

9th Commandment:

“You must not tell lies about other people” “Do not tell lies” - “Speak what is true”

Lies are common-place – lots of people lie about lots of things.

“Economical with the truth!

“White lie”

“Facts are massaged”

“Spin is put on things”

“We say what people want to hear”

What Is A Lie?

Is saying something that is not true. Saying that something happened when it did not, saying that something did not happen when it did .. and ...

Lies affect other people not just us.

We like lies. Gossip is lies and we love to hear and tell the latest gossip. We seldom stop to work out if they are true. Gossip can hurt people.

We need to look for truth. There is real truth, and where there is truth there can be lies. God is truth – there is nothing false in Him.

Nothing is hidden from God – He knows everything about everything! This means that if you tell a lie, or gossip and do not get found out, God will still know! Scary stuff!!

Why Do We Lie?

Do not want to admit where we are wrong. - We can choose to do right or wrong. If we choose to do wrong we need to take responsibility for it!

Read Genesis 3:8-13. (Explain who is who - the man – Adam, the woman – Eve, the snake – the devil.)

In this story both the man and the woman blamed each other – they did not want to admit that they had done wrong! Adam says it was Eve's fault, and Eve says it was the snake's fault!

Sometimes we lie to make us look “big” - and perhaps make others look small.

If we start to lie we often have to go on to tell even bigger lies! **** TIE example****

Lying Is Very Serious

What we say is so very important. It affects other people.

The tongue: Paul Brown explained last week that the tongue could do a lot of harm to people – remember Paul's pictures!!

If you lie about others you begin not to trust others. The more we lie the more we are unable to work out what is wrong in what we do – the sin in our lives.

What To Do

1. Be an honest person. “If you cannot improve the silence, then say nothing!” When you talk tell the truth.
2. Do not gossip. Do not listen to gossip
3. Encourage each other. This is the opposite of gossip.
4. THINK before you speak

T – is it TRUE?

H – will it HELP?

I – is it INSPIRING? Cheer you up, make you feel good, encourage you.

N – is it NECESSARY?

K – is it KIND?

5. Be true to your word – do what you promise. Broken promises hurt people, and cause mistrust.

Summary:

8th Commandment:

“You must not tell lies about other people” “Do not tell lies” - “Speak what is true”