

Discussion Questions
"Sermon on the Mount: Oaths"
Matthew 5:33-37

To be used in groups or personal devotions

1. When we talk about oaths, or vows; what kind of oaths and vows do we normally make in life today? Often we make promises or vows with the intent of keeping them, but sometimes we fail, why is that?
2. Verse 34-35 tell us not to swear by heaven, earth, or Jerusalem? Why?
3. Read Psalm 104:5-9. The Lord is the Lord of all creation. Can we swear by something we are not owners of, or something we cannot control? Even our own bodies (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) are not our own. If we do not own these things, how can we swear or make oaths by them?
4. What does it mean to you to let your yes be yes? Can you think of a time recently when you made a promise you had no intention of keeping? What keeps us from being honest and truthful; and letting your yes be yes, and your no be no? (expectations of others, fear of judgement, indecisiveness?)
5. Deuteronomy 23:21-23 describes the Old Testament law concerning vows or oaths. What vows have we made to the Lord? Think about the vows you have made to the Lord over the years: have you kept them? Why or why not?
6. Consider what might be better than making vows and promises - how can we be truthful, honest people and let our yes be yes? What should we, today, be focusing on as followers of Jesus?