



# **Tell the Truth**

**Exodus 20:16**

***Doug Sachtleben, Lead Pastor***

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The Ninth Commandment forbids boosting or protecting ourselves or hurting others with dishonest words.

**Satan lies from the beginning of creation** (Genesis 3)

**God hates lying and He built protections into His law to guard against it.**

**God is truth. His person and character are rooted in absolute truthfulness.**

**God's people are to emulate Him in our disdain for lying** (Psalm 15)

## **Examples of ways we are tempted to break the Ninth Commandment:**

- **Exaggerating our own achievements**
- **Exaggerating the failures of others**
- **Misquoting other people or mischaracterizing their volume or tone**
- **Misleading answers**
- **Polite dishonesty**

**Is it ever right to lie? Consider the Hebrew midwives (Exodus 1) and Rahab (Joshua 2)**

### **Questions to Consider**

1. What are some of the ways that our culture makes lying seem acceptable? What are some passages of scripture that describe God's view of dishonesty?
2. How did lying figure into man's fall into sin in Genesis 3?
3. Read Psalm 15. What are some ways that God's redeemed people are to live out the righteousness that we possess in Christ?
4. In what way(s) are you most commonly tempted to violate the Ninth Commandment? What do you need to put on in place of that action?
5. Read James 5:7-12. What priority does God put on honesty? What are some practical examples of obeying James 5:12, and how you most commonly tempted to violate this verse?
6. With your Home Group, discuss the ethical dilemmas presented by Rahab and the Hebrew midwives? What wisdom do you glean from these stories?
7. In what area of applying the Ninth Commandment do you need the most help?

***Next Week's Sermon Text: Exodus 20:17***