

## “STRONG FAMILIES: TELLING THE TRUTH”

**Introduction:** The Eighth Commandment

Exodus 20:16 (NIV) [God] “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.”

Martin Luther: What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

### THREE WAYS TO TELL THE TRUTH

#### 1. TELL THE TRUTH \_\_\_\_\_

Proverbs 10:10 (TEV) “Someone who holds back the truth causes trouble.”

- You get trouble by not saying what you \_\_\_\_\_ and not meaning what you \_\_\_\_\_

Proverbs 28:23 (LB) “In the end people appreciate frankness more than flattery.”

#### 2. TELL THE TRUTH \_\_\_\_\_.

Ephesians 4:15 ( Amplified Bible). “Let our lives lovingly express the truth in all things – speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly.”

- Integrity is not being honest \_\_\_\_\_ % of the time.

Proverbs 11:3 (TEV) “People who can’t be trusted are destroyed by their own dishonesty.”

- To be a good liar you need a good \_\_\_\_\_.
- Truth \_\_\_\_\_ produces trust \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 3. TELL THE TRUTH \_\_\_\_\_.

Ephesians 4:15 (TEV) “Speak the truth in a spirit of love.”

- Truth without love is perceived as an \_\_\_\_\_.
- Old proverb: When you shoot an arrow, dip it in \_\_\_\_\_ first.

Ephesians 4:29 (NIV) “Speak only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”

- Words can either \_\_\_\_\_ or can \_\_\_\_\_ people.
- Learn to make a point without making \_\_\_\_\_.
- Put your \_\_\_\_\_ in gear before you put your \_\_\_\_\_ in gear.

Matthew 12:84 (TEV) [Jesus] “For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.”

### FOUR TYPES OF LIES AND FOUR REASONS WE LIE

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ lie      MOTIVE: \_\_\_\_\_

- A lie to get \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ lie      MOTIVE: \_\_\_\_\_

- A lie to avoid \_\_\_\_\_.

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ lie      MOTIVE: \_\_\_\_\_

- A lie to \_\_\_\_\_.

4. The \_\_\_\_\_ lie      MOTIVE: \_\_\_\_\_

- A lie to \_\_\_\_\_ other people.

**CONCLUSION:** The \_\_\_\_\_ of the issue is the l \_\_\_\_\_ of the heart.

John 14:6 (TEV) [Jesus] "I am the ... truth..."

- Speak the truth

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_