SERMON ON THE MOUNT

ELEVATE YOUR CHARACTER

Instilling Integrity Jesus's Way Matthew 5:33-36

- 1. When we <u>dilute</u> truth then <u>sprinkle</u> in God, we <u>rob</u> God of His truth. When we rob God of His truth, we make Him <u>untrustworthy</u>.
- 2. Where <u>truth</u> loses, <u>everyone</u> loses.
- 3. Ideas feel <u>stronger</u> than they are. <u>Relationships</u> feel weaker than they are.
- 4. Where truth <u>wins</u>, <u>Jesus</u> wins.
- When we speak <u>truth</u>, we <u>honor</u> God.
 We <u>remind</u> the world that God is truth.
 When we remind the world that God is truth, we make Him <u>trustworthy</u>.

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MY APPLICATION

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

- 1. It is easier to manage appearances than live from the heart. Why do you think Jesus wants full access to our hearts? Have you granted that?
- This weekend we learned that diluting truth, but adding God to compensate winds up hurting God's reputation. Have you seen this at work at all?
- 3. Jesus taught that associating yourself with God's authority is not something to take lightly. How can a Christian live a truthful life in a way that reflects God's truth without needing to endorse ourselves as truthful?
- 4. Tribes and narratives dictate the flow of truth in culture. But Jesus called for our character to speak truth in a way that is more compelling. What about character is stronger than narratives?
- 5. We discussed that speaking truth to our own tribes and preferences is a struggle. What makes it difficult to speak the truth to ourselves?

Memory Verse

Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil.

Matthew 5:37, ESV