

## Faith That Works! (Series on the book of James)

### 14: Nothing But The Truth

James 5:12

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Bottom Line:

Followers of Christ are called to be people who can be trusted, people who keep their promises, and people who are committed to communicate the truth in love.

1. Be a person of your \_\_\_\_\_ - don't desecrate truth-living. James 5:12

A. Remember that oaths are to be taken seriously. v. 12

#### 1) What about oaths?

- The O.T. allows oaths. (Num. 30:2; Lev. 19:2; Dt. 23:21)
- Jews of Jesus' time had twisted oaths as a way to get out of commitments.
- Jews considered only vows made to the Lord were binding.

#### 2) What about oaths in legal proceedings?

- God swore an oath to us. (Heb. 6:16-18)
- Jesus answered under oath. (Mt. 26:63-64)
- Paul made oaths. (2 Cor. 1:23; Gal. 1:20)
- Angel swore an oath. (Rev. 10:5-7)

#### 3) What can we conclude about oaths?

- Jesus condemns the flippant, hypocritical oaths
  - Those made for "emphasis"
  - Those made to "spice up the conversation"
- Exceptions for
  - Solemn oaths in legal matters
  - Oaths on occasions of religious importance

B. Realize the \_\_\_\_\_ of doing what you say.  
v. 12

C. Reject ways in which you can mislead or misdirect.  
v. 12

2. Be a person who follows \_\_\_\_\_ - don't desecrate truth-living. James 5:12

*Why we break our oaths and promises...*

A. Not considering the \_\_\_\_\_ - overestimating.

B. Not evaluating our present commitments - overextended.

C. Not \_\_\_\_\_ others - overreaching.

D. Not having a high standard for honesty and follow-through - overlooking.

E. Not wanting to \_\_\_\_\_ anyone - overcompliant.

#### Conclusion - Now What?

1) Communicate \_\_\_\_\_ in all areas.

2) Consider promises prayerfully & thoughtfully.

3) Commit \_\_\_\_\_ to promises you keep - even when it costs you!