



BECOMING A PERSON OF YOUR WORD
Living The Sermon On The Mount - Wk 14

ICEBREAKER: Why should God let you into heaven?

OVERVIEW: In the 18th century, merchants did not need written documents to complete a business deal. Big money transactions were made just on the basis of the parties' word of honor and a handshake. Today things are radically different. Words can mean whatever the speaker wants them to mean. A simple "yes" or "no" is not enough. We need contracts signed in the presence of lawyers, notarized documents, oaths in court, and promises between friends and family. And even all this may not be a guarantee of complete truthfulness and faithfulness. People break contracts and promises all the time. In today's study we are going deeper with the topic of faithfulness. The goal is to become a person of your word.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Define faithfulness in your own words. Why is it important to you?
3. To be unfaithful is to be unworthy of confidence or belief (Tyndale Bible Dictionary). How does faithfulness glorify God and make you a more effective witness?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 1:9 and 2 Corinthians 1:19. What can we learn about God's faithfulness? How does God's faithfulness impact your relationship with Him?

5. Read Ephesians 4:5 and Colossians 4:9. Unfaithfulness is a form of lying — even when it is unintentional. How does faithfulness strengthen relationships? How does unfaithfulness break down relationships?
6. At Church Acadiana one of our core values is excellence — doing the best we can with what we have in the pursuit of flawless execution, presentation, and service to the glory of God. How is our excellence as an organization related to our faithfulness to one another?
7. Read Galatians 5:22-23. Where does our power for faithfulness come from? What does this mean that you need to do if you want to grow in faithfulness?
8. How should you handle it when you are unfaithful to someone (how would you like others to handle it when they are unfaithful to you)?
9. Faithfulness means to follow through on your word; to keep your word. When you say "yes," you mean "yes." And when you say "no," you mean "no." When you say you will show up, you do; when you say you will do something, you do it. When you make a commitment or accept a responsibility, you follow through. To be faithful is to be reliable, to be dependable, to be trustworthy. What changes do you need to make to grow in faithfulness — at home; at work; at church; at school?

"The greatest ability is dependability."