

## Be True to Your Word

### Scripture

“But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God’s throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.” (Mt 5:34-37 AV)

### Commentary

I was recently asked to participate in an activity. On the front end I was a little concerned about how things might go. Therefore, I laid out the parameters under which I would be involved. Having the assurance I was looking for, I forged ahead.

The very first event realized all my concerns about the endeavor. The guidelines I had established on the front end were completely ignored, and I was forced to deal with the unpleasantness of quitting.

I am so very thankful that God is not like that. There is no shadow of turning in Him. What the Lord says He will do, He will do. Imagine what it would be like to serve a god that kept changing the deal.

Thankfully, our God is truthful. “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” (John 17:17 AV)

As a believer, we need to be true to our word. The verse above talks about swearing. Men would do this to prove to others what they were saying was indeed true. Jesus makes the point that you shouldn’t need to swear, but that your yes should mean yes, and your no should mean no.

If you feel the need to swear, in order to get someone to believe you, then ask yourself this question. Have I been guilty of not keeping my word, or exaggerating the truth to make an impression on others? My character should be such, if I told you I had a flying penguin in my garage, you would be at my door to see it. Not to see if I was lying, but to see an unusual creature.

We live in a time when lies are more common than truth. What an opportunity to be different. Be true to your word, and it could be that the Lord will open the door for you to tell someone about His Son.

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Mt 5:16 NKJV)

### Prayer

Father, the words we testify to are so very precious. Keep us from tarnishing our believability by telling half-truths and lies. We want to honor and glorify you. We know this is done by reflecting your character. Have your way in our lives, and fill us with your Holy Spirit that we might always be a beacon of truth, and a testimony to your life-changing power, amen.