

## **Declaring War on Deceit**

Exodus 20:16

### **Series: God's Boundaries For Abundant Living - Part 9**

**Introduction** - The 9th Command: God's Boundary for Truth, Justice and Trust

◆ **"Then" . . .**

- Israel's Court System

*"You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor."*

*Exod 20:16 (NIV)*

- Israel's Code for Conduct

*"Do not steal. "Do not lie. "Do not deceive one another."*

*Lev.19:11 (NAS)*

◆ **And "Now" . . .**

- Integrity in Everything

*"Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body."*

*Eph. 4:25 (NIV)*

### **I. Examining the Problem: Why Do We Lie?**

## II. Pondering the Consequences: What Lying Does to Relationships

- It destroys our relationship with \_\_\_\_\_ .

*“The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.”* Ps. 145:18 (NIV)

*(Ps. 51:5, Jn. 4:24, Jn. 14:16)*

- It destroys our relationship with \_\_\_\_\_ .

*“The man of integrity walks securely, but he who takes crooked paths will be found out.”*

*Prov. 10:9 (NIV)*

*(Acts 5, Joshua 7)*

- It destroys our relationship with \_\_\_\_\_ .

*“Like a muddied spring or a polluted well is a righteous man who gives way to the wicked.”*

*Prov. 25:26 (NIV)*

*(Abraham, Jacob, Prov. 18:8)*

## III. Winning the War - How to Stop Lying!

## Conclusion - Four “Airtight” Truths You Can’t Afford to be Deceived On

1.

2.

3.

4.

### Discussion Questions

1. What was the original intent of the 9th Command? Why was obedience to this command essential for social justice?
2. Why is “telling” and “living” the truth so important? What impact do duplicity and deception have in our lives and relationships?
3. In what ways and for what reasons do you find yourself speaking and/or living in less than full integrity?
4. What practical suggestions do you think will most help you in “declaring war on deceit” in your life? Why? When and how will you start to put this into practice?