

## Fulfilled: Heart Deception

Matthew 5:33–37

### Opening Discussion:

1. Do we live in culture that keeps its word? Do you consider yourself a person who keeps his or her word? Have you ever broken a promise?
2. Have you ever signed a contract only to find out later that it wasn't what it was supposed to be?
3. What damage does dishonesty cause in society?
4. What would it look like if we were men and women who always kept our word?

Self righteousness requires \_\_\_\_\_ but true righteousness loves the \_\_\_\_\_.

### Explore the Passage

#### 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ commandment: you shall not swear falsely

*You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the Lord.*

**Leviticus 19:12**

*If a man vows a vow to the Lord, or swears an oath to bind himself by a pledge, he shall not break his word. He shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth. **Numbers 30:2***

#### 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ commandment: do not take an oath at all.

Was it and is it always wrong to swear an oath or make a vow? No.

*In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie! **Galatians 1:20***

**16** “Woe to you, blind guides, who say, ‘If anyone swears by the temple, it is nothing, but if anyone swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.’ **17** You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred? **18** And you say, ‘If anyone swears by the altar, it is nothing, but if anyone swears by the gift that is on the altar, he is bound by his oath.’ **19** You blind men! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? **20** So whoever swears by the altar swears by it and by everything on it. **21** And whoever swears by the temple swears by it and by him who dwells in it. **22** And whoever swears by heaven swears by the throne of God and by him who sits upon it. **Matthew 23:16-22**

#### 3. The \_\_\_\_\_: let your yes be yes and your no be no.

Honest \_\_\_\_\_ is always better than a passionate \_\_\_\_\_.

### Fill in the Blank Answers:

#### Opening Discussion

Self righteousness requires deception but true righteousness loves the truth.

#### Explore the Passage

1. original
2. full
3. Application

Honest character is always better than a passionate oath.