

## *To Vow or Not To Vow!*

Pastor Aaron Paul  
November 9, 2014

Text: \_\_\_\_\_

### 1. The Command Given In The \_\_\_\_\_ Testament (v. 33)

#### 1. When & Where?

**Numbers 30:2** - *A man who makes a vow to the Lord or makes a pledge under oath must never break it. He must do exactly what he said he would do.*

#### 2. A vow was a freely chosen \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

#### 3. In OT times an oath or vow taken in the name of the Lord was considered to be \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. "as the Lord \_\_\_\_\_"
- b. "by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord"

#### 4. What does it matter?

- a. It matters because God \_\_\_\_\_ a lying tongue.

**Proverbs 6:16-17** - There are six things the LORD hates - no, seven things he detests: haughty eyes, a lying tongue...

### 2. Do Not Make Vows By Anything? (v. 34-36)

#### 1. Jesus comes onto the scene

- a. Vows have become a means to \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. Various \_\_\_\_\_ of truth involved
    - i. I swear by the dome of the temple
    - ii. I swear by the gold on the dome of the temple.

- b. Our modern day \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. A little white lie
  - 2. I crossed my fingers
  - 3. Cross my heart and hope to die
  - 4. I swear by God

### 3. Jesus Wants Us To Be Honest With What We Say And Do (v. 37a)

- 1. As Christians we should be known by our ability to keep our \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ to something that you know you might not complete
- 2. Don't be afraid to say the word \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Don't tell a white lie to make someone feel good.
- 3. Mean \_\_\_\_\_; say what \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Jesus Wants Us To Be Honest With What We Say And Do (v. 37b)

- 1. When we add a vow or an oath, we are admitting
  - a. We are not \_\_\_\_\_  
Illustration –
  - b. We as Christians are no \_\_\_\_\_ then the rest of the world.
- 2. This does not mean that we should \_\_\_\_\_ out all vows or oaths in the context in which we live.
  - a. Wedding vows
  - b. Soldiers vow
  - c. Court oath
  - d. Organizational Documents

## Study Questions

### Fall 2014 Week 10 of 12

#### Ice Breaker:

Thanksgiving is right around the corner, what is your favorite food item at the Thanksgiving table?

#### Getting Started:

1. On a scale of 1-10, 1 being the lowest and 10 the highest. What do you feel your level of yes being yes, and no being no in your life is?
2. Take some time and think back over the last few months and try to recall moments when you have given your word to someone and have qualified it with a vow. What was the qualifier that you used? Do you find yourself doing this frequently?
3. Describe a time when you gave your word to do something, yet you knew inside that you would not be able to accomplish it? What was the driving force that compelled you to give your word in the first place?

4. In Numbers 30:2 it says, *“A man who makes a vow to the Lord or makes a pledge under oath must never break it. He must do exactly what he said he would do.”* If we make a vow, but do not make it to God, does that let us off the hook to make sure we don’t break it? Why or why not?

#### Let’s Do Something:

5. How did the group application from last week work out in your life, and what’s one thing your group can do this week to apply this week’s sermon focus?

#### Digging Deeper:

6. Look at the following verses and determine where each verse lines up with the different verses that the sermon was based on, and briefly describe how they support the verse from the message.  
Deuteronomy 23:31, James 5:12, Psalm 48:2, 1John 5:18-19

#### Looking Ahead:

7. Read Matthew 5:38-42. How does this set of verses speak to you? Do you find it easy to turn the other cheek?