



Day One

Listen to the episode. Read the following questions, and write your answers in the box provided.

Should a spy lie, cheat and kill for the greater good? Or are there limits? You don't kill (at least I hope you don't!), but do you sometimes lie and later justify it? Between you and God, write down what causes you to "fudge" the truth. Be honest before God.

Reflection: We are making use of people, trying to bypass their understanding and judgement to trigger their will and possess them for our purposes. Dallas Willard. What does "swearing" reveal about a person? Do you ever swear to try and convince someone that you will do something? Do you ever manipulate people with your language. If you're a person in a position of responsibility, then take some time to consider how you use your power and how you use your language to achieve your goals. Either confess any sin you're aware of **OR** offer the power you have in your job to the Lord for his greater glory. Ask God to show you opportunities this week to serve and encourage your staff this week, using language that demonstrates love for those you lead. Prayer.

Day Two

Listen to the episode. Read the following questions, and write your answers in the box provided.

When is it acceptable not to tell the truth and speak plainly, if at all? Consider the following dilemmas: To protect someone. For the greater good. To minimize someone's pain. To avoid betraying a confidence. Write some thoughts below.

Reflection: Jesus' disciples should be people of such integrity of character and truthfulness of heart that whatever they say is absolutely believable and dependable. Mike Wilkins. Take some time to think through what the word "integrity" means. Examine every area of your life where your integrity is put to the test. Your relationships. Your job. At church. Ask God for strength in those areas where you know you're under pressure to "bend" at times. Prayer.



deovox individual devotional guide

Mean what you say: Matthew 5.33-37 Week 6

Day Three, Four & Five

Next week, Jesus teaches on non-retaliation and love for enemies. They are extremely challenging passages of Scripture. During the rest of this week, take some time to read about love and peace. Allow yourself to be transformed by the Word.

Start by writing down your own ideas before reading. What is true love and true peace? In our world and in the eyes of God? Write some thoughts below.

Now, read some of the passages below . . .

Love: Matt 10.37; 22.37; Luke 6.27; 10.27; 16.13; Jn 14.15; 14.23; Jn 15.9; Rom 13.10; Eph 3.18; I Jn 4.8; I Jn 4.10 (Actually, read the whole of I John. It's a magnificent book on love)

Peace: Matt 5.9; Mark 9.50; Jn 14.27; Jn 16.23; Rom 5.1; Rom 12.18; I Cor 1.3; 7.15; I Cor 13; Gal 5.22; Eph 2.17; Col 1.20; Heb 12.14; Jas 3.17-18.

Now write in the box below what you believe God is teaching you through the passages you have read. What are the characteristics of God's love and peace as he reveals it in the Bible?