

Back to Basics - Week 06

September 10, 2023

Speaker - Chris Sloan

Exodus 20:14

A **Covenant** is a relationship in which two parties make binding promises to each other.

Exodus 19:5 says, "If you will obey my voice and keep my covenant, then you shall . . .
" experience all these divine blessings.

1. **Israel will be God's special possession,**
2. **Israel will be a kingdom of priests to God.**
 - a. intimate access to God (royal)
3. **Israel will be a holy nation.**
 - a. set apart and distinguished from all the other peoples.
4. **God will fight for Israel and overcome all her enemies.**
5. **God will treat Israel with grace and mercy and forgive her sins.**

Israel upholds her side of the covenant **by loving God and by not putting any other value where God belongs** in her heart.

Commandments 5 to 9 all deal with issues of the **covenant in the community.**

- The concern is those things that would jeopardize **the covenant's continuing from generation to generation.**

Exodus 20:14

You shall not commit adultery.

Exodus 20:15

You shall not steal.

The **fundamental condition** that Israel had to meet in order to enjoy God's blessing was **trust.**

Exodus 20:16

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Six Reasons We Lie

1. We lie to **avoid negative consequences.**
2. We lie to **create or protect an illusion of who we are.**
3. We lie to **get what we want.**
4. We lie to **remain in control of a situation.**
5. We lie to **punish others.**
6. We lie about someone else **to be accepted by others who despise them.**

Am I being honest with myself . . . really?

- Why am I doing this . . . **really?**
- Why am I avoiding him . . . **really?**
- Why am I postponing this . . . **really?**
- Why did I say yes . . . **really?**
- Why did I move in . . . **really?**
- Why am I moving out . . . **really?**

A practical step before you speak:

Does this **exact information** . . .

need to be communicated . . .

by me . . .

to **this person** . . .

at **this time** . . .

with **this motive** . . .

through **this medium?**”