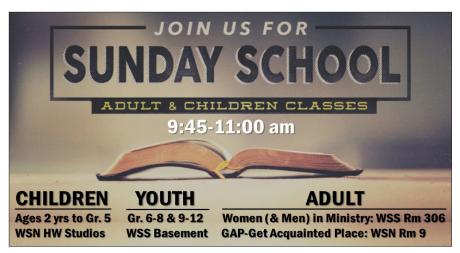
Looking for more info? Go to westsidechurchrichland.org







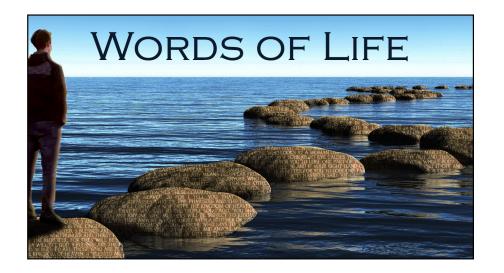
Join us for a memorial service as we celebrate and remember Roberta.

Sat., Jan. 11 • 2:30 pm • WS North









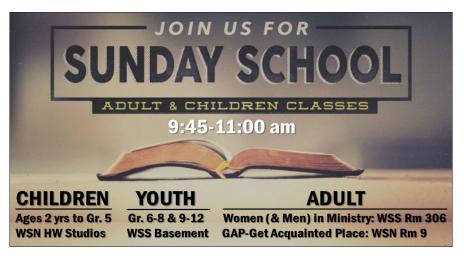
#### THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE:

## Speak Truth

Matthew 5:33-37 (NIV)

33 "Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made." <sup>34</sup> But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; 35 or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. <sup>36</sup> And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. 37 All you need to say is simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.









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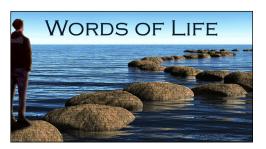




and for lunch at 12:45 pm







Jan. 5, 2020 • 11:15 am

**Prelude** 

Kay Johnston

#### **Greetings & Life in the Church**

Joe Engel

#### Call to Worship

Psalm 15

Leader: LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy

All: The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart; whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others; who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the LORD; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind; who lends money to the poor without interest; who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

Leader: Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

#### Songs of Worship & Praise

Glorify, Thy Name Majesty No. 9 No. 10

### First Scripture Reading

James 3:1-12

# Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Song of Thanksgiving

O For A Heart To Praise My God

No. 650

## Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:33-37

Message

Speak Truth

Rev. Ralph Kieneker

The Lord's Supper

Patty Niccoli

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Offering

**Doxology & Celebration of Life** 

# Speak Truth

## SERMON NOTES AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

I. Introduction: Living in the age of Truthiness

Question: Why do we lie?

- II. Refuse to Manipulate
  - a. The OT guidance
  - b. The Problem with Oaths
    - i. Now you can trust me, really
    - ii. Let me use God to get my way
- III. Speak Truth: Let your "yes" be "yes" and your "no", "no."
  - a. Recognize it is a heart issue
  - b. Choose honesty (with love)
  - c. Keep your word even when it hurts
  - d. Build deep friendships
- IV. Conclusion:

Living by Faith: Trusting Jesus with the outcome

## **Discussion Questions**

## Sharing Life Together

- 1. Share a time when you felt betrayed by someone's dishonesty. What was the hardest part of the betrayal?
- 2. Share a time when you were impressed with someone's integrity.

## Reflecting on the Message Together

- 1. Why does Jesus do away with oath-making?
- 2. Is there a difference between an oath and a promise? Should we be promise-makers but not oath-makers? Why or why not? Try to explain your answer in light of biblical teaching.
- 3. Read James 3:1-12. What do you think is the hardest part of letting your "yes" be "yes" and "no", "no"?
- 4. There are three levels of speech: Level 1 Command/ Request, Level 2 - Description, Level 3 - Persuasion. Why do you think it is good advice to avoid Level 3 language when we pray? When is it appropriate to persuade? What is the difference between persuasion and manipulation?
- 5. When was a time you kept your word even when it hurt? What do you think is your biggest challenge to have more integrity between what you say and what you do?
- 6. Do you tend to find it easier to speak the truth or speak with love? Why is it important that we hold together truth and love in our speaking?
- 7. How did God speak to you through this teaching?
- 8. How can we pray for one another?