

KTFK: but speak / our culture / never testify / strong. / in everything / and make / to what / the truth / May we / we know / is wrong,

Song: “Spirit of the Living God”

Prayer: “LORD God, what a terrible injustice it is when innocent people are accused of crimes they did not commit. Help us to always speak the truth, especially when we are called to testify about others. And move within our culture, O God, to remove the corruption that often exists from every direction in court and at every level. Amen.”

### Tuesday, August 9

*The words of a whisperer are like dainty morsels, And they go down into the innermost parts of the body. (Proverbs 18:8)*

1. What do you think it means that the words of a whisperer (a gossip) are like delicious morsels?
2. Does a gossip normally spread good news about people or bad news?
3. How certain do you think people who spread this kind of news are that the information is fully true?
  - a. Do you think it matters to them much?
4. Why do we often enjoy hearing bad news about others?
5. How is the whispering of a gossip similar to someone being on trial?
6. How is it different?
  - a. Does the testimony of the gossip need to go through cross examination?
7. What do you think the overall effect is on our communities and culture when people are spoken of in these kinds of ways?
8. Does this mean that speaking about people to others is always bad or wrong?
  - a. What makes the difference?
9. What role and responsibility do news sources have in this?

KTFK: find delight / through town. / bring another / never whisper / spreading them / them and / things that / down, nor / in hearing / Let us

Song: “Bind Us Together”

Prayer: “LORD, forgive us for actually enjoying hearing bad news about others. Forgive us for thinking that their being brought down elevates us somehow. May we trust the best about others without ignoring bad things when they are obvious. Help us to speak of others in the best way possible – in the way that we would have them speak about us. Amen.”

### Wednesday, August 10

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. <sup>43</sup>Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. <sup>44</sup>You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. <sup>45</sup>But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. <sup>46</sup>Which one of you

*convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? <sup>47</sup>Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.” (John 8:42-47)*

1. How close a relationship does God have with the truth?
2. Why is this important? How important is it to you?
3. What does God use the truth to do?
4. How close a relationship does the devil have with lies?
5. Why is this important?
6. What does the devil use his lies to do?
7. Who does the devil tell lies about most often?
8. How successful do you think the devil is in the lies he tells about God?
  - a. What does it do to people’s lives when they believe lies about God?
9. How much of a role do you think God intended for lies to have in his world?
10. How much of a role do lies have in your life?
  - a. Do they make your life better or worse?

KTFK: will lead / and ever / the things / deepening strife. / that bring / give birth / us life, / us to / to brokenness / Only truth / for lies

Song: “Take My Heart”

Prayer: “Forgive me, LORD, for ever allowing lies of any kind to have any place in my life. Help me to draw nearer to you and farther from the evil one by drawing closer to truth in everything. Help me, especially, never to believe any lies about you, but to spread the life-giving truth that only you provide. Amen.”

### Thursday, August 11

<sup>10</sup>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth...

1. What truth do you think Paul is referring to when he tells us to put on the belt of truth?
  - a. Is it the truth about God?
  - b. Is it the truth about us?
2. In what way is the truth about these things a kind of armor against the schemes of the devil?
3. How does the truth of God help us to deal well with the truth about us?
4. Do you think it is possible to bear false witness about ourselves?
  - a. How and why might we want to do that?
5. Does this help us in our spiritual journey?
6. Does it make our experience of life better or worse?
7. How fully do you think you are able to apply the truth of God to the truth of who you are and the situations that you struggle with?

KTFK: behind a / grace. / truth that / admit the / find his / Let us / to hide / we might / lying face, / not attempt / but openly

Song: "Just As I Am"

Prayer: "Lord Jesus, help me to live well within the armor you give, and may I always seek to first put on the truth, applying your truth to mine, that I might find the peace and strength of your forgiving grace and not be easy picking for the schemes of the evil one. Amen."

### Friday, August 12

<sup>11</sup> "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you. (Matthew 5:11-12)

1. Why is Jesus saying that we should rejoice when false things are said about us?
2. How do we know when these things are happening "on his account" or because of our identity in him?
3. How is this kind of thing connected to the lies that the evil one tells about God?
4. How should this fact naturally create the rejoicing that Jesus points us toward here?
5. What kinds of lies do people tell about Christians?
6. Does Jesus' teaching here mean that we shouldn't attempt to correct lies that are told about us?
7. Has this kind of treatment ever been a cause for rejoicing for you?
  - a. If yes, when and how?
  - b. If no, why not?

KTFK: it in / that in / spread, let / the joy / lies of / his steps / Even though / we must / us they / us do / respond to / we tread.

Song: "Blessed Assurance"

Prayer: "LORD God, I praise you for this great truth. May all of your faithful children find great strength and true rejoicing as they are lied about because of their connection to you. Amen."

### Saturday, August 13

Read the entire passage again and review the key thoughts from each day. Which did you find most important for you this week?

Aug 8 - May we / never testify / to what / we know / is wrong, / but speak / the truth / in everything / and make / our culture / strong.  
Aug 9 - Let us / never whisper / things that / bring another / down, nor / find delight / in hearing / them and / spreading them / through town.  
Aug 10 - Only truth / will lead / us to / the things / that bring / us life, / for lies / give birth / to brokenness / and ever / deepening strife.  
Aug 11 - Let us / not attempt / to hide / behind a / lying face, / but openly / admit the / truth that / we might / find his / grace.  
Aug 12 - Even though / we must / respond to / lies of / us they / spread, let / us do / it in / the joy / that in / his steps / we tread.

## Family Worship 2022

August 8 - 13

Deuteronomy 5:20

Kids and Parents: See if you can unscramble the daily  
**KTFK - Key Thought for Kids** (Answers on back page)

*And you shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. - Deuteronomy 5:20*

This week we reflect together on the 9<sup>th</sup> commandment (the 5<sup>th</sup> commandment of the second table of the law, the table governing our relationship to the gift of human life). As we reflect on this commandment, let us consider the power our words have to either protect others and their reputations or to harm them. Obviously, God condemns all lying in this commandment, but the fact that he uses as the chief example in this area of life any lying we might do about other human beings underscores that the overall purpose of this second table of the law is how we are to live with others in a way that contributes to human flourishing.

### Monday, August 8

<sup>15</sup> "A single witness shall not suffice against a person for any crime or for any wrong in connection with any offense that he has committed. Only on the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses shall a charge be established. <sup>16</sup> If a malicious witness arises to accuse a person of wrongdoing, <sup>17</sup> then both parties to the dispute shall appear before the LORD, before the priests and the judges who are in office in those days. <sup>18</sup> The judges shall inquire diligently, and if the witness is a false witness and has accused his brother falsely, <sup>19</sup> then you shall do to him as he had meant to do to his brother. So you shall purge the evil from your midst. <sup>20</sup> And the rest shall hear and fear, and shall never again commit any such evil among you. <sup>21</sup> Your eye shall not pity. It shall be life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot. (Deuteronomy 19:15-21)

1. Why do you think God didn't allow anyone to be convicted on the testimony of only one witness?
2. In what sense did this constitute a "right" that an accused person had?
3. Do accused people have similar rights in our society?
4. What do we call societies that do not have such rights for accused people?
5. What was the punishment for a malicious witness (one who sought to convict someone by lying about them)?
6. Why do you think God made the penalty for this so significant?
7. If an innocent person is falsely convicted of a crime, what happens to the one who is actually guilty?
8. When someone is accused of something, do you normally assume they must be guilty?
9. In what sense is speaking the truth life-giving in situations like this?