

WEEKLY GROUP GUIDE



Scripture: Exodus 20:16–17



Week of: October 13, 2025



Message Title: Words 9 & 10: Honoring Truth, Content in God



Speaker: Ps. Lenard Tavernelli

1. ICEBREAKER (5–10 MINS)

Think of a recent situation where you were tempted to “shade the truth” or to compare what you have with someone else. What pulled you in that direction, and what helped you resist (or what would have helped)?

2. READ TOGETHER

Have someone from your group read aloud Exodus 20:16-17.

Ask: Which everyday setting (home, work, school, online) most exposes you to (a) false witness—gossip, exaggeration, half-truths—or (b) coveting—wanting what someone else has? What one concrete step will you take there this week?

3. GROUP DISCUSSION (30–40 MINS)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: *(Use the most helpful questions for your group.)*

1. When have you experienced how someone’s honesty—or dishonesty—changed trust in a relationship? How does that help you understand why God cares so deeply about truth in His people?
2. Sometimes we shade the truth to protect our image or avoid conflict. What subtle ways are you tempted to bend honesty, and what usually lies underneath that impulse?
3. Ps. Lenard reminded us that God never lies and that Jesus is the “faithful and true witness.” How does remembering His truthfulness give you courage to live with integrity even when it costs you?

4. Who in your life might need a gentle, truthful word from you right now? What would it look like to speak honestly—but with compassion and humility—in that relationship?
5. Where do you most feel the pull to compare—your possessions, achievements, or relationships? What happens in your heart when you notice what someone else has that you don't?
6. Coveting shows we believe something good is being withheld from us. When have you wrestled with that feeling toward God, and how did His truth meet you there?
7. How does the gospel—Jesus' death for false witnesses and His promise never to forsake us—reshape what you want most? Where do you see Him teaching you gratitude or contentment lately?
8. Paul said he *learned* to be content. What helps you move from frustration to gratitude when life doesn't go your way?
9. Bethel's mission is "*to proclaim the truth of Jesus and grow mature disciples for the glory of God.*" How might your integrity and contentment this week make Jesus believable to the people around you? Who might glimpse His truth through your words and your peace?
10. Our core values—**worship, fellowship, service, evangelism, Bible knowledge, prayer, giving, and missions**—shape us as Christ's people. Which one connects most with this message for you, and what's one small step you can take this week to live it out with truth and contentment?

4. Prayer (10–15 mins)

Foster a spirit of integrity and contentment.

Prompt:

Thank God that in Christ, the true Witness died for false witnesses and the generous Son was forsaken so we never will be (Hebrews 13:5). Confess places where we've gossiped, shaded truth, or craved what God has not given. Ask for the Spirit's help to guard our words, speak truth in love, and learn contentment in every circumstance (Philippians 4:11–13). Pray for one another by name—especially for people and situations shared in discussion—where truth and contentment are most needed this week.