

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: INWARD FAITHFULNESS

Matthew 5:33-37

MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. THE NEED FOR FAITHFULNESS
2. THE HEART OF FAITHFULNESS
3. THE SOURCE OF FAITHFULNESS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick two or three of these to talk about as a group

1. What was most helpful for you from this week's message? Why?
2. A faithful person is honest, reliable, loyal and they keep their word even when it is costly to do so. Faithful people are rare. Who is the most faithful person you know? What makes you confident you can trust them?
3. When faithfulness is lacking, even in the small things, it can lead to major breakdown at the personal and societal level. What are some examples you've seen where small acts of dishonesty or unfaithfulness have led to big problems?
4. Describe a time when someone broke your trust. How did that impact your ability to trust in the future?
5. At the heart of faithfulness is the idea of being reliable with anything placed under your care that belongs to someone else. Everything we have ultimately belongs to God. Do a life audit and make a list of 10 things God has entrusted to you (i.e. time, money, talents, opportunities, etc.)? What would it look like to faithfully invest and care for what God has given you?
6. We naturally don't like being under God's authority and we attempt to get out from under it in different ways. The Jews in Jesus' day were using "non-binding" oaths as a way to try to avoid God's authority. What are the techniques you use to try to get out from under God's authority?
7. What makes Jesus the proof of God's faithfulness? What makes Jesus the source of our faithfulness?

A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU: Jesus is the fulfillment of all God's promises, He is the final "Yes" that proves God's perfect faithfulness.