

**Sunday – May 18, 2025**  
**New Series: “The Flourishing Life”**



**“Words That Matter”**  
**Matthew 5:31-37**

Promises. We all make them. We all break them. We all have had them broken to us. “I promise I will be there for your game.” “I promise I will make this up to you.” “I promise I will never leave you.” We make promises with good intentions. We make promises to get our own way. The words we use matter. They define us. They define us to others. When God makes a promise He always it- and calls us to do the same.

**Key Verse.** *“It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce’ (Matthew 5:31) and ‘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’ (Matthew 5:33).*

In this section Jesus takes on the topic of oaths. There were two schools of thought at the time. The conservatives took the OT literally, the liberals tried to find reason to relax the rules so people could say they were godly, but do what they want.

One of the greatest human oaths is the one taken in marriage. Read *Matthew 19:1-8, Matthew 5:31, Deuteronomy. 24:1-4.*

From these passages, what do you see is God’s view of marriage?

How does scripture view marriage vs. how our culture views marriage?

Read *Matthew 5:33.*

How many times have you made a promise to someone, or had a promise made to you and it was broken? What did you do?

Read *Leviticus 19:12, Numbers 30:2, Deuteronomy. 23:21.*

How does God view oaths and promises?

“I will not violate my covenant or alter the word that went forth from my lips.” (*Psalms 89:34*)

How does God treat his promises?

God’s greatest promise is that He promised and delivered Jesus for us.

Am I known as a person who keeps their word? Do people trust me?

As I look at marriages around me, as I look at my own marriage, where am I in the “promise keeping” business?

Where do I need help in my promise keeping?

THIS WEEK:

- God always keeps his word. How will I keep my word to someone, to God this week?