

Lessons from a hill
“Acting with Integrity”
W/C 3rd Mar 2024

A few years ago, I received a call from someone who'd started coming to the church that I was in at the time. He told me that he was stranded in a nearby town and had no way of getting home, and asked if he could borrow some money to get a taxi. He sounded desperate, so I sent some money via my Paypal account - he promised to pay me back. Shortly after this, I got a message to say he'd moved out of the area. I never saw him again – nor the money - I'd been taken advantage of. How sad it is to live in a world where we cannot trust people.

The text for this week calls us to a people of integrity; people who say what we mean and mean what we say.

Welcome: Have you ever been taken in by a lie? Briefly, share your experience.

Worship: Spend some time in worship. Plan an act of worship that is appropriate to your group.

Word: Looking at God's word together:

Read: Matthew 5:33-37

1. How would you define an oath?
2. Why do people make oaths today?
3. Why does Jesus say that you shouldn't make an oath at all?
4. Do you think it's important to avoid phrases like “I swear on my mother's grave” or “cross my heart and hope to die”? Why?
5. Why is it important that we be people of integrity?
6. What does verse 37 mean by “anything beyond this comes from the evil one?”

Witness: People used to say, “my word is my bond.” Why do you think that people don't seem to live this way anymore?

Prayer:

- Pray that God will continue to build his holy character in your life.
- Pray for the witness of the church.
- Pray for those on the mission field.
- Pray for the testimony event on 24th March.