

Living a Moral Life

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 5, Session 22**.

As Christians we are called to live moral lives, which commit us to truth in deeds and words.

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When we make selfish and sinful choices, we hurt our relationships with God and with others.

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Talking negatively about others and taking away their good reputation is a form of stealing.

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The Eighth Commandment tells us that we should not bear false witness against others.

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Slander is to say something about someone that we know is not true. Detraction is to say something about someone that is true but is harmful to their reputation.

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When we sin, we are called to repent and make reparation—make up for what we have done—as best we can.

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Sin has negative effects on society as a whole. The presence of sin helps explain why there are such things as war, violence, prejudice, crime, drug abuse, and unfair treatment.

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Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

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In a Jewish folktale about gossip, the rabbi, a Jewish religious leader, compares the effects of gossip to feathers blowing in the wind.

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Just as it is impossible to find every feather blown by the wind, the woman couldn't find everyone who had heard the false story about the shopkeeper.

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