**Q53. Why does God give the ninth commandment: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor?**

So we will always tell the truth and not speak evil of others.

1. What stuck out to you tonight? Is there something that resonated with you or is not sitting well?
2. Why is the tongue dangerous?
3. When we speak untruthfully or unprofitably about another what does this ultimately point to?
4. Sin travels from the heart through thoughts and emotions into action (speaking/doing). Spend some time fleshing this out with your group. Make sure they understand this journey from a heart condition to action.
5. How has tonight’s lesson challenged or affirmed your prior understanding of the 9th Commandment?
6. Our speech reveals who we are. Does this truth encourage you, convict you, or both?
7. In what ways have you struggled to control your tongue?
8. Have you ever had a time where being honest cost you?
9. Have you ever justified dishonesty because it was practical, or a common practice in society?
10. Common areas of generally accepted dishonesty in our society are taxes, insurance forms, and loan applications. Can you think of other things that our society justifies as “white lies”?
11. Do you think it’s ok to talk about people negatively when it’s true? Why or why not?
12. How would you define gossip?
13. Have you ever relayed information in an incomplete way in order to deceive?
14. What are ways that we can be deceitful even when we are speaking true words?
15. How can we begin to deliberately change the focus of our conversations to be speaking the truth in love?