

# Chain Of Command

Matthew 5:-31-37



## ***Matthew 5:31-37***

“You have heard the law that says, ‘A man can divorce his wife by merely giving her a written notice of divorce.’<sup>32</sup> But I say that a man who divorces his wife, unless she has been unfaithful, causes her to commit adultery. And anyone who marries a divorced woman also commits adultery.

<sup>33</sup> “You have also heard that our ancestors were told, ‘You must not break your vows; you must carry out the vows you make to the LORD.’<sup>34</sup> But I say, do not make any vows! Do not say, ‘By heaven!’ because heaven is God’s throne.



## ***Matthew 5:31-37***

<sup>35</sup> And do not say, 'By the earth!' because the earth is his footstool. And do not say, 'By Jerusalem!' for Jerusalem is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup> Do not even say, 'By my head!' for you can't turn one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup> Just say a simple, 'Yes, I will,' or 'No, I won't.' Anything beyond this is from the evil one.





***Deuteronomy 24:1***

Suppose a man marries a woman but she does not please him. Having discovered something wrong with her, he writes a document of divorce, hands it to her, and sends her away from his house.





***Luke 17:1-2***

One day Jesus said to his disciples, “There will always be temptations to sin, but what sorrow awaits the person who does the tempting! 2 It would be better to be thrown into the sea with a millstone hung around your neck than to cause one of these little ones to fall into sin.



## ***Matthew 5:33-37***

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**Swearing by heaven  
and earth**

**Not Permanently Binding**

**Swearing by  
Jerusalem**

**Not Permanently Binding**

**Swearing TOWARD  
Jerusalem**

**Permanently Binding**





**Jesus is challenging us to  
become people of our word—to  
keep the vows, and commitments,  
and promises we make.**





# Stop Looking For Loopholes

## *Matthew 5:28*

But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.



# Stop Looking For Loopholes

His point in this passage is not to help us find a back door to getting out of our vows; his point is that we need to take our vows more seriously.



# Stop Looking For Loopholes

## *Ecclesiastes 5:4*

When you make a promise to God, don't delay in following through, for God takes no pleasure in fools. Keep all the promises you make to him.



# Stop Looking For Loopholes

**There's no point in looking for loopholes; if you've made a promise, you've obligated yourself.**



# Live With It Till You Live Up To It

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# Live With It Till You Live Up To It

You have to live with your promises until  
you've lived up to them.



# Live With It Till You Live Up To It

## *Psalms 15:4*

Those who despise flagrant sinners, and honor the faithful followers of the LORD,  
and keep their promises even when it hurts.



# Live With It Till You Live Up To It

**If you make a promise, you can't break it.  
You have to live with it until you live up to  
it. It's not always easy, but it's right.**





# Quit Making Careless Promises

***Ecclesiastes 5:5***

It is better to say nothing than to make a promise and not keep it.



# Quit Making Careless Promises

**Make fewer promises. Be careful  
before you commit.**



# Quit Making Careless Promises

"If asked when you can deliver something, ask for time to think. Build in a margin of safety. Name a date. Then deliver it earlier than you promised."



**The key is not to get them to believe the promises you make, the key is to only make promises you have the power to keep.**

