Ethics for Congregations
Bible Study #2

Instructions

Rather than expect one person to be an expert in reading the Bible, we believe the Holy Spirit guides each of us to understand the scriptures together.

This Bible study is designed so that small groups of 3-5 people will prayerfully listen to and discuss the passage. The passage will be read a total of three times by a different person in the group. A focusing question has been provided to guide the conversation after each reading.

Matthew 5:33-37

Again, you have heard it was said to those of ancient times, 'You should not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' But I say to you, do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make our hair white or black. Let your word be 'Yes,' Yes,' or 'No, no;' anything more than this comes from the evil one.

Discussion Questions

First Reading— What word, phrase, or image stands out to you?

Second Reading— Why are good deeds so important for the Christian community?

Third Reading— What are you invited to do, be, or change through this passage?