



JURISPRUDENCE AND TRUTH

STRENGTHEN YOUR PASSION FOR TRUTH

As you heard in **Episode 5: Jurisprudence and Truth** most people have seen enough courtroom dramas on TV or in movies to know some of the basics of justice in our legal system. Those basics show themselves especially when prosecuting a defendant in a jury trial. There must be, for example, multiple witnesses, no appeal to hearsay, and no unsupported assumptions of motive. But as the episode pointed out, all of these rules of presenting evidence originate from and are governed by a demand for absolute truth as described in the famous courtroom oath: *Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?* The exercises below help you practice staying more alert to the breadth of “truth-telling” and “truth-seeking” that justice requires.

- 1 Your 7-Day Prayer.** Say this prayer every morning for the next 7 days: *Lord, help me today to pursue and tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. Amen*
- 2 Almost Persuaded?** Take one of your opinions on politics, values, economics, foreign policy, race relations, climate change, immigration, etc. Then open your mind to at least two sources from another point of view to make sure you have heard their best arguments.
- 3 Scavenger Hunt.** Look for and check off examples of truth/justice violations in the following categories of people below. Try to come up with 10. Make notes on the back.

More witnesses needed

(The failure to cite enough evidence for a claim.)

- ☐ Media news
- ☐ Something overheard while out in public
- ☐ Advertisement
- ☐ Politician
- ☐ News media
- ☐ An authority figure (e.g. doctor, teacher etc.)
- ☐ A spouse or family member

Hearsay

(Information not validated from a source not verified.)

- ☐ Media news
- ☐ Something overheard while out in public
- ☐ Advertisement
- ☐ Politician
- ☐ News media
- ☐ An authority figure (e.g. doctor, teacher etc.)
- ☐ A spouse or family member

Unsupported Motives

(Unfair assumptions about a person's motives.)

- ☐ Media news
- ☐ Something overheard while out in public
- ☐ Advertisement
- ☐ Politician
- ☐ News media
- ☐ An authority figure (e.g. doctor, teacher etc.)
- ☐ A spouse or family member

- 4 Spot and stop.** As you are scavenging for examples above, ask the Holy Spirit to help you notice times when you may be committing one of the three violations above and stop. Pay extra attention to spot when you are making unfair assumptions about someone's motive. Use the back of this page to jot down your violation, confess to the Lord, and recommit to a passion for Truth.



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