

The Foundation of Biblical Ethics**Session 1****Where Do Ethics Come From?**

After hearing Pastor's story about the Navy ethics class, where do you think ethics come from and how do you think the lecture hall full of new officers responded to the question?

A Biblical Response:

- Man is made in the _____ of _____.
- God's character is innately _____.
- Therefore, man is an innately moral being with a God-given awareness of right and wrong.

So, Where Do Ethics Come From?

The Primary Focus: The Foundation of a Disciple's Ethics

The Foundation of Biblical Ethics: The Character of God

Question: What characteristics of God reveal His moral/ethical character?

Bible Study: In the passage we learned with this truth, Isaiah 5:20-21, there are two "woes." A "woe" is a warning of God's judgment. How would you state each "woe" in your own words?

v. 20

v. 21

Deep Thinking: In the descriptive statement for our congregation, we learned that the foundation of a disciple's ethics is the unchanging, righteous character of God. How do these two key concepts relate to ethics and Isaiah 5:20-21?

The Focus of Biblical Ethics: 1 Corinthians 10:31

What is the focus of Biblical ethics according to 1 Corinthians 10:31?

What does this focus demand?

The Result of Biblical Ethics: Living by Biblical ethics will result in...

1. God-shaped Values: If it is important to God, is it important to me?

Group Application: Make a list of 3-4 things that are unquestionably important to God?

2. God-shaped Choices: What do my choices reveal about my values and my view of God?

Group Application: Based on the values you listed above, what are 1-2 choices that would reveal a person lives by that value?

Summary Truth: A disciple's calling to live to the glory of God requires the disciple's values and choices are based on God's character and Word.

Complementary Truth: The Enemy of Biblical Ethics**What is the enemy of Biblical ethics?**

Teaching:

1. The War Against the Spirit
2. The War Against the Flesh

Application:

- For a believer, is every ethical decision a spiritual battle? Why or why not?
- How do you explain times when unsaved people are more ethical than saved people?

The Final Thought on the Foundation of Ethics

To have true biblical ethics you need a true understanding of God. Be bold and brave enough to worship him in spirit and in truth. Each ethical decision you make is an act of worship.