Some excerpts from a 1916 address by Gandhi:

The Vow of Truth

Not truth simply as we ordinarily understand it, not truth which merely answers the saying, 'Honesty is the best policy,' implying that, if it is not the best policy, we may depart from it. But here Truth as it is conceived means that we have to rule our life by this law of Truth at any cost;

The Vow of Ahimsa

Ahimsa really means that you may not offend anybody; you may not harbour an uncharitable thought, even in connection with one who may consider himself to be your enemy. For one who follows this doctrine there is no room for an enemy.. But there are people who consider themselves to be his enemies. So it is held that we may not harbour an evil thought even in connection with such persons.

The Vow of Non-thieving

If I take anything that I do not need for my own immediate use and keep it, I

thieve it from somebody else. It is the fundamental law of Nature, without

exception, that Nature, without exception, that Nature produces enough for

our wants from day to day; and if produces enough for our wants from day to

day; and if only everybody took enough for himself and nothing more, there

would be no pauperism in this world, there would be no man dying of

starvation.

The Vow of Celibacy

Those who want to perform national service, or to have a gleam of the real

religious life, must lead a celibate life, whether married or unmarried.

Marriage only brings a woman closer to man, and they become friends in a

special sense, never to be parted either in this life or in the lives to

come.

The Vow of Non-possession

I dare not possess anything which I do not want. In India, we have got many

millions of people who have to be satisfied with one meal a day, and that

meal consisting of a chapati containing no fat in it and a pinch of salt. You

and I have no right to anything that we really have until these many million

are clothed and fed.

(Address at YMCA Auditorium, Madras, 1916)