

Do Not Lie to One Another



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Selected Scriptures

#10 in a series on the *One Another* Statements

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Theme: **Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.**

What is a *Lie*?

1. Some definitions of lying.
2. Some ways of lying.
3. Some numbers on lying.

Why not lie?

1. God is truth, cannot lie, and we are to be like Him.
(Exodus 20:16; 23:1, 7; Numbers 23:19; 1 Samuel 15:29; Psalm 12:6; Proverbs 30:5; John 8:42-47; 14:6; 17:3, 17; Ephesians 4:29; Colossians 3:9-10; Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:17-18)
2. God hates lying. (Proverbs 6:16-19; 12:22; Zechariah 8:16-17)
3. God judges lying.
(Deuteronomy 19:16-21; Proverbs 21:28; Matthew 12:36; Acts 5:1-11; Revelation 21:8; Hebrews 12:4-11)

How do we develop a truthful, lie-free character?

1. Realize that building character begins with the heart and mind.
(Proverbs 4:23-24; 19:14; 23:7; Matthew 12:34; 15:18-19)
2. Feed on the truth.
(Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 4:1-2; Philippians 4:1-9; James 3:1-12)
3. Be accountable to one another.
(James 5:16; Matthew 3:6; 5:23-26; Mark 1:5; Acts 19:18; 24:16)

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. Lying can be a slippery and uncomfortable subject, especially when it is about ourselves. Think through some of the definitions and ways of lying we talked about yesterday. Do you see some of, any of them in yourself? If so, why do you think that is the case? Has it been on your radar as something that shouldn't be there?

Tuesday. Lying is easier to think and talk about when framed in terms of others than when in terms of ourselves. We noted the disconnect between high school students agreeing that good character is important (99%), while 76% of them said they had lied to a parent about something significant and also copied another's homework in the last year. Why do you think that happens? Is it something you know *up close and personal* in our own experience? Remember that the greater the gap between what you know or accept and what you do, the greater is the danger for your character and spiritual vitality.

Wednesday. Why not lie, at least in some ways at some times? Review the partial list of reasons we covered on Sunday, each one relating to God and ourselves. Yes, when you placed your faith in Christ as Savior, your sins were forgiven and God gave you everlasting life. But God disciplines us (see Hebrews 12:4-11) and our goal is to be like Him. So anything short of a truth-filled character and life should be totally unacceptable to us.

Thursday. We need to build a truthful, lie-free character. God the Holy Spirit will build it in us as we work with Him, as we submit to His direction and leadership. Review three of the important parts we have—realizing that character begins with the heart and mind, that we need to feed on the truth and be accountable to one another. How have you been doing on those this week?

Friday–Saturday. On Sunday we plan to explore *Let me serve you!* as we continue our *One Another* series. Read and think through Matthew 20:20-28 to begin preparing for our time together.