

PROVERBS: Wisdom for Living

Study 13: The Deadly Sin of Lying

READ Proverbs 12:22 and Eph 4:17-32 and **LISTEN** to Pastor Craig Baxter's [sermon](#).

In our culture – even in our Christian culture – lying is often treated as harmless. Many people live by the ethical guideline, “If you don’t get caught, it’s okay.” And, “If you get caught, deny it.” Many of us have become so accustomed to lying that it is not given a second thought, or we may not even be aware of it. However, God looks at things differently. Despite lying being one of the most accepted sins in the church, God wants us to be people of integrity and honesty by telling the truth. That is the kind of person He delights in (Proverbs 12:22).

Main lesson: If we are to be a delight to God, and a gospel-transforming witness to the world, we must cease from all forms of falsehood and love truthfulness

Questions:

1. To lie is to intentionally deceive another person by words or actions. This deception can take various forms. From the following what type of lie is pictured ie. exaggeration, half-truth etc: Gen 4:9; 27:18-20; Proverbs 11:1; 26:24-26, 28.
2. Why do you think it is so common for people to lie or “stretch the truth”?
3. Are you tempted to lie? If so, when are you most likely to do this and what do you think is the underlying reason? Try and be specific.
4. Read John 8:44. Why is it important to know that the devil is the father of lies and how can this motivate you to tell the truth? See Acts 5:3

5. From Prov. 6:16-19 and 12:22 how does God view lying and why? See also Prov 30:5; John 14:6; Heb 6:18.
6. How does lying destroy community while honesty protects and builds it up? See Prov 25:18; 26:18-19, 28; 24:26; Eph 4:25.
7. Considering the current confusion over sex and gender how do you hold in tension the need to speak the truth while showing understanding, love, and grace? Eph 4:15; Rom 12:18.
8. What will happen to unrepentant liars and is it possible you will be among them? See Rev 21:6-8.
9. Are there lies you need to repent of and apologise to others for? If so, when will you do this?
10. From 1 John 1:9 and Ephesians 4:22-25, how can we be people who love truthfulness and are a delight to God (Proverbs 12:22b)?

STOP AND PRAY:

Adore: the Lord who is holy, truthful, righteous, and unchanging in all His ways

Thank: God that all He promises to you will come to pass and nothing will hinder this

Pray: that you will cease from all forms of falsehood and love truthfulness