

Proverbs in Practice: Love Truth

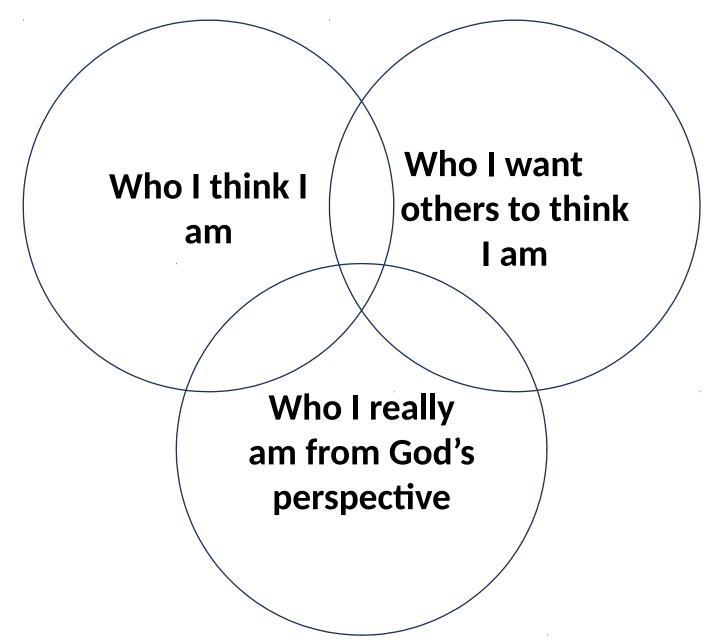
Self Test

Am I a Truthful Person?

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Too Embarrassed to Say
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All the time

Circles of Identity



Wisdom and Understanding is INHERENTLY TRUTH

- Pro 8:1 Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice?
- Pro 8:6 Hear; for I will speak of <u>excellent</u> things; and the opening of my lips *shall be* <u>right</u> things.
- Pro 8:7 For my mouth shall **speak truth**; and wickedness *is* an abomination to my lips.
- Pro 8:8 All the words of my mouth are in <u>right</u>eousness; there is <u>nothing froward or perverse</u> in them.

"An Abomination" - Disgusting

Pro_11:20 They that are of <u>a froward heart are abomination</u> to the LORD: but *such as are* upright in *their* way *are* his delight



Pro_12:22 Lying lips are abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight.

Pro_11:1 A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight.

Pro 6:16 These six *things* doth the LORD hate: yea, seven *are* an abomination unto him:

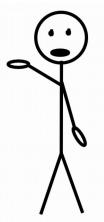
Pro 6:17 A proud look, <u>a lying tongue</u>, and hands that shed innocent blood,

In Thought 6:17, 12:22 In Tongue 11:20, 12:20 In Action 2:8, 2:18

Truth in Justice True and False Witness

12:17,19,<u>22</u> 14:5,25

19:5, 21:28, 24:28



Deu 25:15 *But* thou shalt have a perfect and **just** weight, a perfect and **just** measure shalt thou have:

• • • • • • • • • • • • •

Deu 25:16 For all that do such things, *and* all that do unrighteously, *are* an abomination unto the LORD thy God.



Truth in Exchange
True and False Weights
& Balances. 11:1,

16:11, <u>20:10</u>,20:23

Untruth & Deceit - in 1st Century Ecclesias....

Rom 16:17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. Rom 16:18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple. KJ

2Co 4:2 But have renounced the <u>hidden</u> things of **dishonesty,** not walking in **craftiness**, **nor handling the word of God deceitfully**; but by <u>manifestation</u> of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. KJ

Eph 4:14 That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of **doctrine**, by <u>the sleight (Kubiah)</u> of men, *and* **cunning craftiness**, whereby they lie in wait **to deceive**; KJ

2Pe 2:18 For when they **speak great swelling** *words* **of vanity**, they (**entrap**) through the lusts of the flesh, through much **wantonness**, those that were clean escaped from them who live in **error**. KJ

TRUTH & THE WISE

Their Characteristic of Truth and Honesty:

- Love truth
- Hate lies and deceit
- Truth is a way of life for them
- God's Truth appeals
- Deal truthfully with God's word

Today we want to examine this quality and make it real for us

A Few Things about Lying

- Children by age 2 are accomplished liars
- They lie to embellish or to conceal (add to or take away)
- We are natural liars and dishonesty is a habit learned from childhood
- A bunch of self reporting academic studies conclude that the average person is aware that they lie 2 or 3 times a day
- Dishonesty is NATURAL to the Flesh

What is a Lie?

"to make a <u>false statement</u> with the intention to deceive" (OED)

"A lie is <u>a statement</u> made by one who does not believe it with the intention that someone else shall be led to believe it" Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy

Academic attempts to define a lie have generally settled on four elements:

- 1) There is a statement
- 2) That statement is not true
- 3) The statement is made to someone else
- 4) There is an intent to deceive the person into believing the statement to be true

What is Deceit?

"dishonest behaviour that is intended to make someone believe something that is not true"; Oxford English Dictionary

"(an act of) **keeping the truth hidden**, especially to get an advantage:" Cambridge Dictionary

We may do this by hiding information, inventing information, saying things that are false or by creating impressions that are not true, through innuendo or misrepresentation.

PART TWO – How God Understands Lying and Deceit

it is much broader than just telling a lie and is whenever false is presented as truth.... Let's take a look....

TRUTH & God TRUTH & Christ

Jesus Christ is TRUTH

John 1:14 - Full of Grace and TRUTH

John 4:24 - Worship him in spirit and in TRUTH

John 8:32- You shall know the TRUTH and the

TRUTH shall set you free (from sin)

John 14:6 I am the way, the TRUTH and the life Verily Verily

God is TRUTH

IAM

John 1 Full of Grace and TRUTH

Titus 1:2 God who cannot lie

James 1:17-18 In whom is no

variableness of shadow of turning

TRUTH in the Disciples

1 Cor 13:6 Love rejoices in the TRUTH

Eph 4:15 Speak the TRUTH to each other

Col 3:9 - Speak TRUTH in love

<u>John 3:21</u> - He that doeth TRUTH comes

to the Light

2 Cor 4:1 – Renounced dishonesty

Amen

God is TRUTH

That means

Everything he says is true

He cannot lie

Truth is inherent in everything he does, ever.

Why this is important?

Because with no TRUTH there is only chaos

With no TRUTH nothing can exist

If there is no TRUTH you cannot KNOW anything

You cannot BELIEVE in ANYTHING and you cannot have the

concept of FAITH

The Origin of Lying

Joh 8:44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. **ESV**

The Origination of Lying

Gen 3:4 But the serpent said to the woman,

"You will not surely die."

God is a Liar
There is no consequence for Sin

Gen 3:5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

False ideas will follow the same general process as the first false idea and lie. It will inherently be about **manipulation of words** so that the hearer is persuaded that something is true when it is false or something is false when it is true.

Speed Read: Biblical lying courtesy of John

We LIE when we SAY we are in fellowship with Christ but our walk doesn't match

1Jn 1:5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

1Jn 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

We LIE when we justify ourselves

1Jn 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We lie when we say we "know Christ" but on't do what he asks

1Jn 2:3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

1Jn 2:4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

We lie when we deny doctrinal truth

1Jn 2:21 I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

1Jn 2:22 Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.

"Jesus is not the Christ" - is the untrue statement - the "lie"

2Jn 1:7 For many **deceivers** are entered into the world, who confess not that **Jesus Christ is come in the flesh**. This is **a deceiver** and an antichrist.

We lie when we SAY we love God but behave badly towards others

1Jn_4:20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

If we <u>don't</u> believe something that God says, we are saying he is a LIAR (because he said something and we don't believe it is True)

1Jn 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, (because he said that we HAVE sinned) and his word is not in us.

1 John 5:10he <u>that believeth not God hath made</u> **him a liar**; <u>because he believeth not the record</u> that God gave of his Son.

- 2Th 2:8 And then shall **that Wicked** be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:
- 2Th 2:9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,
- 2Th 2:10 And with all <u>deceivableness</u> of <u>unright</u>eousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.
- 2Th 2:11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:
- 2Th 2:12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in <u>unright</u>eousness.

God's Definition of Lying and Deceit

Is Based on the Essential and Absolute IDEA that GOD IS TRUTH.

A Lie is anything at all that is not "TRUE" as defined morally or materially by God. It is "UN -Truth" in all of its forms.

It is the **defining characteristic** of the serpent, the "diabolos" (human nature) and there is NO truth in it.

It is THE defining characteristic of the EVIL MAN and the STRANGE WOMAN

THE Father of all Lies is that there is no consequence for SIN – "Thou Shalt not Die"

UNLOCKING PROVERBS

- TRUTH is at the centre of DISCERNMENT between Good and Evil
- TRUTH is at the centre of JUSTICE and RIGHTEOUSNESS
- TRUTH is at the centre of JUDGEment
- DECEIT and LYING is a core characteristic of Sin from the beginning

This is why the Proverbs spends so much time there

Understanding our problem with Lying and Deceit

Fostering a Culture of Truth and Honesty

Telling lies and being dishonest.....

Groups of 2 or 3

Discuss and prepare to share KUW with the group:

- 1. WHAT do we lie about?
- 2. WHO do we lie to?
- 3. WHY do we lie

Some of the reasons why we may lie and deceive....

- To gain approval and acceptance of others
- To gain some personal benefit
- To avoid a consequence
- To avoid shame or embarrassment
- To hurt someone
- To protect someone
- To avoid facing reality
- To avoid conflict
- Out of habit
- To gain control over someone
- etc

Circles of Identity



Overcoming Lying and Deceit

LOVE TRUTH

- Because God IS Truth
- Because Truth will set us free
- Because Truth is excellent and perfect and beautiful
- Because Truth is the path to happiness and peace
- Admire it, aspire to it, hold in highest regard

Put it Off

Col 3:9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; Col 3:10 And have put on the new *man*, which is **renewed** in **knowledge** after the image of him that created him:

Stop Pretending

Jas 5:12 But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but **let your yea be yea; and** *your* **nay, nay**; lest ye fall into condemnation. (Hypocrisy – Hupokrisis) Pretending.

Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt **perform unto** the Lord thine oaths:

Mat 5:34 But I say unto you, Swear not at all; Mat 5:37 But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.

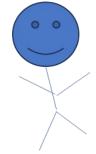
The Good Intentions Lie

"Yes I will do that in 2 weeks time"

"Great, Simon will do it!!" "On time, good quality, meeting expectations"



Ecc 5:4 When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that Late, po which thou hast vowed.



4 weeks later

was agreed after 3 follow ups

are you ng about

Simon?

Stop looking for Status

....sold a possession,

Act 5:2 And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Act 5:3 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back *part* of the price of the land?

Act 5:4 Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? **thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.**

Act 5:8 And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much.

Act 5:9 Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord?

The Lie at the Centre of the Laodicean Problem

These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; (Prov 8:22-23)

Rev 3:15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. (YEA or NAY)

Rev 3:16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. (An Abomination – disgusting)

Rev 3:17 Because **thou sayest**, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and **knowest not** that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

Confession is Truth Saying

- 1Jn 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- 1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is <u>faithful and just</u> to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all un**right**eousness.
- 1Jn 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

LIVE TRUTH

- Come to the Light (God's KUW) his Word is TRUTH
- Confess Admit TRUTH
- Create the habit of Truth and break the habits of deceit
- Practice Truth as a WAY of Life
- Model it to our children & Train our children to be true
- Be Truth tellers
- Be Truth thinkers
- Understand the immense Power of Two and make our communication TRUE

ostering a Culture of Truth and Honesty

"put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

Therefore, putting away lying, "LET EACH ONE OF YOU SPEAK TRUTH WITH HIS NEIGHBOR," for we are members of one another. NKJV Eph 4:24-25



ostering a Culture of Truth and Honesty

Eph 4:13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

Eph 4:14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

Eph 4:15 But **speaking the truth in love**, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, *even* Christ:



- 1Jn 5:17 All **unright**eousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.
- 1Jn 5:18 **We know** that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that **wicked one** toucheth him not.
- 1Jn 5:19 And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness.
- 1Jn 5:20 And **we know** that the Son of God is come, and hath given us **an understanding**, that **we may know** <u>him that is true</u>, and we are <u>in him that is true</u>, *even* <u>in his Son</u> Jesus Christ. **This is the true God, and eternal life.**

- Pro 1:1 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;
- Pro 1:2 **To know wisdom** and instruction; **to perceive** the words of **understanding**;
- Pro 1:3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;
- Pro 1:4 **To give** subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.
- Pro 1:5 A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:
- Pro 1:6 **To understand** a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.
- Pro 1:7 The fear of the LORD is <u>the beginning</u> of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.
- Pro 1:8 My son, hear the instruction (Chastening) of thy father,



Proverbs in Practice: Love Truth

Understanding the bag of TRICKS

- Appeal to Extra-Biblical authority
- Generalise, narrow or remove key passages
- Loose or changing definitions
- Adding or Taking away from the text
- Arguments from silence
- Ignoring context
- False cause
- False dilemmas
- Fallacy of the missing middle
- Non Sequitors (this follows this.. but it doesn't)
- Straw Man

