



# Heart-to-Heart

## God's Blueprint for Living in Truth: "I'm Fine!" and Other Lies We Tell in Church

Week 3 | Feb. 16 (PM) | Feb. 18 (AM) | 2015

"Our iniquities, our secret heart and its sins [which we would so like to conceal even from ourselves], You have set in the [revealing] light of Your countenance." Psalm 90:8 (AMP)

John 8:44  
1 John 3:8  
Ephesians 6:10-18  
Hebrews 4:12

There are both external and internal motivators that compel us to abandon truth, and live in deceit and/or lie.

External Motivator: \_\_\_\_\_

Internal Motivator: \_\_\_\_\_

**What are the internal motivators compelling us to abandon truth?**

"People with a biblical worldview see things the way God sees them, thinks the way He thinks, and then adjusts their living accordingly." – Kay Arthur

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

## Teaching Children To Be Honest:

"In order to build the character trait of honesty into the hearts of our children, we need to make telling the truth, even with the negative consequences, more attractive than telling a lie. Teaching our children to be honest is the compassionate response of a loving parent because we know it will save them from the high cost of making bad choices in their relationships, their jobs and their walk with the Lord." -

Darcy Kimmel, *Family Matters*

Creating a safe environment for children to be honest, requires us as parents to be firm with their dishonesty but gentle with their heart.

## For Further Study

- Exodus 33:12-34:6
- John 1:1-14
- Psalm 15
- Ephesians 4:17-32
- The Bible has many names for Satan to describe his true nature, below are a few of them:
  - Matthew 10:25 ("Beelzebub" – the ruler of demons)
  - John 8:44 (murderer, liar, father of lies)
  - John 10:10 (thief)
  - John 12:31 (ruler of this world)
  - 2 Corinthians 4:4 (god of this age)
  - 2 Corinthians 6:15 ("Belial" - wicked)
  - 1 Thessalonians 3:5 (tempter)
  - Revelation 10:12 (accuser of God's people)
  - Revelation 12:9 (deceiver)

Reflect on the internal motivators that compel you to abandon truth. Which one most often drives you to be deceitful and/or lie? Meditate on the verses listed for each one:

### Condemnation

John 3:16-18

Romans 7 (the whole chapter) – Romans 8:2

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

### Perfection

Ephesians 2:4-10

Psalm 139:13-18

1 John 4:15-19

## Comparison

Proverbs 29:25

Romans 12:1-3

Jeremiah 17:5-10

## Teaching Kids to Be Honest

### **1. Talk about how much you value honesty in your family.**

If there's not honesty between parents and children, there won't be trust or closeness in your family either.

### **2. Ensure your own words and your own lifestyle is truthful.**

We can't expect children tell truth if we're not honest with them-even when they ask you awkward question. Offer an honest answer in a simple and age-appropriate way.

### **3. Focus on your child's honesty rather than the consequence for their dishonest behavior.**

Impose consequences for their lie every time, but children need to know there's a benefit for them in being honest!

### **4. Explain the destructiveness of lying on your child's heart and character.**

Tell your child that once they lie, they have to tell more and more lies to cover up the last one and soon, no one believes anything they say. Talk to them about character and the importance of being a trustworthy person. Compare lying to fire and explain that one "little" lie is like lighting a match and dropping it on the floor in your house. If it's not put out right away, soon there will be a huge out-of-control fire burning your house down.

### **5. Never ever laugh at your child's lying at any age whether it's one time or chronic.**

Lying should never be considered "cute" even though your child may be while doing it; don't confuse the two! Lying is serious; it's destructive and a habit that can quickly get out-of-control.