

LYING - DEATH IN THE POWER OF THE TONGUE... PART I

Focus Text: Exodus 20:16

INTRODUCTION

Lying is one of those sins that many people tend to rationalize. How many times have you heard the following statements?

- “Well, she did not ask me that particular question?”
- “I didn’t lie. I just left out some information.”
- “I didn’t lie. I just didn’t tell the entire truth.”
- “I lied to keep peace.”
- “It was just a little white lie. It won’t hurt anyone or no one will ever find out.”
- “I lied because they are too young to understand.”

Too many times we rationalize lies because we are afraid of the consequences of the truth. We may fear that people will walk away from, not accept, or disagree with us. As people of God, lying in any form, should not be a part of our character. Lying on documents, lying in conversations, committing plagiarism, and being deceitful and dissembling are just a few examples of common lies performed on a daily basis.

Tool #1 - Define lying

1. How did Abraham lie to king Abimelech? **Genesis 20:2**
2. How did Isaac lie to the men in Gerar? **Genesis 26:7**
3. How did Cain lie to God? **Genesis 4:9**
4. How did Joseph’s brothers lie to their father? **Genesis 37:32, 33**
5. Name one example of how we lie with our actions. **I John 1:6**
6. Liars are also associated with what other types of people? **I Timothy 1:9-11**
7. Describe a liar. **Proverbs 17:4**
8. Define lying.

Lying in any form, whether with or without words, is the intent to deceive.

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Tool #2 - Know the causes one to engage in lying

9. Why did Abraham lie to king Abimelech? **Genesis 20:10, 11**
10. Why did Isaac lie to men in Gerar? **Genesis 26:9**
11. Why did Cain lie to God? **Genesis 4:8**
12. Why did Joseph's brothers lie to their father? **Genesis 37:24, 28**