

Study QUESTIONS

Ep.1353: Is It Ever Okay for a Christian to Lie?

<https://christianquestions.com/character/1353-lie/>

See:  CQRewind
SHOW NOTES

1. **God's perspective on truth and untruth:**
 - a. What was the purpose of the commandments in Hebrew society? (Example: Exodus 20:16)
 - b. What legal and moral truths do Leviticus 19:15-16 set up for Hebrew society?
 - c. How should we approach a disagreement with a neighbor? (Leviticus 19:17-18)
 - d. What is God's stand on respect and honesty? (Proverbs 6:16-19)
 - e. How do our actions reflect on God? (1 John 1:5-10)
2. **Telling a partial truth and withholding the truth:**
 - a. How did God allow Samuel to use a partial truth to accomplish what needed to be done? (1 Samuel 16:1-5)
 - b. How did Jesus use partial truths to protect those not yet ready for his great sayings? (John 16:12)
 - c. How should we be when speaking to others? (Ephesians 4:14-16)
 - d. *Which side of Proverbs 11:13 do you fall under?*
3. **Is it appropriate to lie to evil people?**
 - a. How did God use military deception to help Joshua conquer Ai? (Joshua 8:2,12-15)
 - b. How did Jesus answer the high priest during his trial? (Matthew 26:62-64)
 - c. *Do you defend yourself when accused by telling partial or untruths? Did Jesus? (1 Peter 2:21-23, Luke 12:11-12)*
4. **Exaggeration verses lying: Principles based on Ephesians 4**
 - 1) *Do you use exaggerations as leverage to press your point?*
 - 2) *When you use exaggerated words or phrases, are you speaking pure truth?*
 - a. **Principle 1:** Self-assess: What would be a better approach to this discussion? (verse 25)
What is necessary when we get into a heated discussion with a neighbor or brother?
 - b. **Principle 2:** Acknowledge weaknesses and reactions – work on control. (verse 26)
Why are “You ALWAYS” and “You NEVER” not good ways to get our point across?
 - c. **Principle 3:** Be ALERT and on guard against Satan exploiting every opportunity. (verses 27-28)
How can exaggeration steal goodness from our neighbor? What can we do instead?
 - d. **Principle 4:** Words of untruth and exaggeration versus words that build up truth. (verse 29)
How can we change the tenor of our statements during a disagreement?
 - e. **Principle 5:** Be aware of how we treat and speak to others. (verse 30, 2 Corinthians 5:17)
How can we “grieve” God's spirit?
 - f. **Principle 6:** Evict: Remove bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, slander and malice. (verse 31)
What can we put in the place of these once we succeed in rooting them out?
 - g. **Principle 7:** Embrace: Be kind, tenderhearted and merciful. (verse 32)
Are you kind, tenderhearted and merciful to others even when frustrated and angry?
5. **Examine yourself:** *Are your words helpful or harmful? Do you feel you are a truthful, righteous representative of Jesus Christ? Do you honor God in what you say and do? Do you take truth-telling seriously? How?*