



SERIES BIG IDEA:

Our words have power, and we are responsible to _____ them for the benefit of _____.

¹⁶There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him: ¹⁷haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, ¹⁸a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, ¹⁹a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.

Proverbs 6:16-19 (NIV)

- **Lies are _____.**
- _____ **destroys trust.**
- **Relationships need _____.**

²²"My master sent me to say, 'Two young men from the company of the prophets have just come to me from the hill country of Ephraim. Please give them a talent of silver and two sets of clothing.' "

²³"By all means, take two talents," said Naaman. He urged Gehazi to accept them, and then tied up the two talents of silver in two bags, with two sets of clothing. He gave them to two of his servants, and they carried them ahead of Gehazi. ²⁴When Gehazi came to the hill, he took the things from the servants and put them away in the house. He sent the men away and they left.

²⁵When he went in and stood before his master, Elisha asked him, "Where have you been, Gehazi?"

"Your servant didn't go anywhere," Gehazi answered.

²⁶But Elisha said to him, "Was not my spirit with you when the man got down from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to take money or to accept clothes—or olive groves and vineyards, or flocks and herds, or male and female slaves? ²⁷Naaman's leprosy will cling to you and to your descendants forever." Then Gehazi went from Elisha's presence and his skin was leprous—it had become as white as snow.

2 Kings 5:22-27 (NIV)

- **Lies are _____.**
- **When I think I am the only one who knows what is _____, God knows the _____.**
- **Lies are unloving and break _____ in the relationship.**

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

_____ **trust.**

Lies are a part of my _____.

⁹Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

Colossians 3:9-10 (NIV)

When the truth _____, I will speak the truth in _____.

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

Ephesians 4:15 (NIV)

_____ **compels me to tell the _____.**



Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.
1 Corinthians 13:6 (NIV)

Am I being honest with _____, _____, and _____?

MY NOTES:



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

It can be difficult to speak words in love. Love is honest even when being honest is hard.

We see this throughout the life of Jesus. To the woman caught in adultery, He spoke words of acceptance in the same moment that He recognized her sin. To the woman at the well, He acknowledged the sinful life she was living and also offered her the water of life.

Jesus didn't shy away from truth, but it was always delivered in love. We are called to do the same.

Jesus had an advantage. He is Love and He is Truth. He can never be less than those two things and so He can't exhibit anything less than both. We are fallen and this means we will regularly fall short of the standard of truth and love.

But when Jesus comes alive in us—as we accept Him as our Lord—a new life is created with a new power source. When Jesus becomes our power source, we have the power and the responsibility to always do the loving thing which is honoring others by being honest.

TALK IT OVER:

What makes the truth hard to tell at times?

Have you ever experienced a hard truth from someone else that built the relationship deeper? Have you felt the betrayal of dishonesty? What were those situations like?

How does knowing that the God who is love and is truth lives inside you help you with being honest?

Are there relationships that you need to begin to rebuild because of dishonesty? What is one step you can take to begin to rebuild what has been torn down?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

- Day 1) Acts 5:1-10
- Day 2) Joshua 6:15-19; Joshua 7:1-20
- Day 3) Psalm 34:11-14
- Day 4) Proverbs 19:1,5,9,22
- Day 5) 1 John 2:3-6
- Day 6) 1 John 4:19-20; Revelation 21:7-9