

October 9, 2013

EXTREME FAITH

How Honest are You?

"Honesty always telling the
truth and living
out of the truth?"

Who's Fooling Who?

the liar or the one who is being lied to?

SO MANY LIES...

Who's Fooling Who?....

Who's fooling Who? When we lie who are we fooling? Are we fooling the person that we are lying to or are we really fooling ourselves? Yea that is a big question to chew on, but I think that it is an important one. Cause I never ever want to fool myself. I would also hate it if any of you my friends were in the practice of fooling yourself.

Lying is a funny thing, because it always sets us up for failure, and drama. But at the time that we are in the process of lying it seems like the smart thing to do and it seems like it is full proof. But it never is.

So why do we lie, in the last article I explained that we lie because we don't truly like who we are. This problem comes from us not having a deep relationship with God. As we draw closer to God we learn who we are and we love the us we are and we find less reasons to lie. In this article I want to break it down more and look at the fact that we all lie because that is who we were before we allowed God to enter into our life. So you might say that it is our old fashion and our old operating system. This is how the Bible puts it. In **Colossians 3:8-10** **8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off**

your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

So in our life before God entered we would lie to better ourself, it was the only way we could better ourselves. But as we mature and grow a deeper relationship with God we are losing and getting rid of the old operating system. The more we move into the new the less we need to lie. The new is better than the lies that we would make up to make us feel better about ourself.

Think of it as getting continual updates for your life. The more time you spend getting to know God the more updates you get to your life. Things that were habits before don't come in the new update, so you can walk away from them easily. So look at it this way as you trust God more you do what He says. You get busted by your parents for something that you were not suppose to do. Before you would lie to try to get out of it. But now as your life has been updated, you trust God and you own up to the thing you did. Your still busted but the way that you handle it is completely different. You are learning to put on your new self. You are growing with God into a person who does not need to lie! That's awesome.

CAN A LIE BE WHITE?



Nice Shirt!

Really I mean have you see yourself in the mirror? We lie every time that we give a compliment that we don't really mean. We mean well and I hope that we are just trying to make someone feel good. I hope that we are not doing to hurt them behind their back I mean would any of us do that? Of course not, not that we would admit it. White lies, the little lies that can easily be covered. Not so no lie can be white, all lies come from the darkness and we must be honest. The way to compliment someone is to be tight with God and ask Him what we should compliment someone about. Then we are honest and we are speaking for God. And our words have true meaning!

When we know who we are we don't need to lie!

"Boys Lesson One " by Jars of Clay

"Boys (Lesson One)"

Lesson one - do not hide
Lesson two - there are right ways to fight
And if you have questions
We can talk through the night

So you know who you are
And you know what you want
I've been where you're going
And it's not that far
It's too far to walk
But you don't have to run
You'll get there in time

Lesson three - you're not alone
Not since I saw you start breathing on your own
You can leave, you can run, this will still be your home

In time, to wonder where the days have gone
In time, to be old enough to wish that you were young
When good things are unraveling, bad things come undone
You weather love and lose your innocence

There will be liars and thieves who take from you
Not to undermine the consequence
But you are not what you do
And when you need it most
I have a hundred reasons why I love you

If you weather love and lose your innocence
Just remember - lesson one



This song is featured on
The Long Fall Back to Earth album
by
Jars of Clay

Real Life Heroes

"We are only here for a few days"

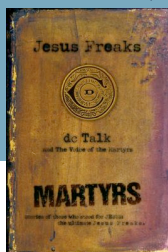
Mira Jarli

Mymensingh, Bangladesh

Bangladesh 1997

The thirty Christian families stood in front of the mosque, surrounded by five hundred Muslims. "You'd better leave Christianity and become Muslim again," the crowd yelled. "If you do, we will help you. If not, we will beat you" Mira Jarali and his family stood with the others. "We were all new converts from Islam, which makes them really angry" he said. "Second-generation Christians do not upset them as much." On that morning, every believer, including women and children, had to stand before the Muslim leaders for four hours while each family was questioned. When Mira's turn came to stand before the court, he said, "In your religion there is no salvation, no hope for going to heaven. I have Jesus, and now I am whole. Now Jesus has forgiven my sins and I have hope for heaven." Following the hearing, all of the Christian families were forbidden to get water from the village well. From that day on, they have had to walk and carry their water more than a mile every day. Then the villagers accused Mira and several others of stealing water. "The police beat me, kicked me, and put me in prison for thirty days. I was tied to the back of another Christian man. We were beaten for four days then locked in a cell with sixty Muslim prisoners." The Muslim prisoners were sympathetic. "It is better that you are Christians" they told Mira. "It is a good life. Muslims are not at peace; they are always fighting each other." Mira's land was confiscated by the village Muslim leader, even though Mira's wife was expecting a baby. Members of his family have been beaten several times. When they walk through the village, people throw mud at them. The Christians have also been attacked in their little house church. Even though they are all new believers, they are not shaken by this harsh treatment. "We give thanks to God that these things cannot destroy our spirit," Mira said. "Jesus told us that we are only here for a few days. We have eternal life and will stay with Him in heaven. He will take care of all of this."

We're not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without his unfolding grace. These hard times are small potatoes compared to the coming good times, the lavish celebration prepared for us. There's far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever. Paul the Apostle Martyred In Rome, 65 AD (2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18 THE MESSAGE)



Featured Story
from the book
Jesus Freaks do
Talk and the
voice of the
Martyrs

HONESTY

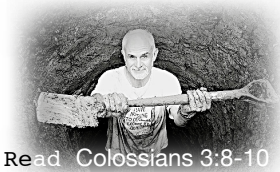
EXTREME APPLICATION

What is extreme? Always telling the truth or sometimes telling lies when you think it is safer to lie. What do you see when you look into your own eyes as you stare into the mirror each morning. Someone who always tells the truth or do you see each and every lie that you have told. Then you remind yourself to keep up the lies. Extreme is living each day to never tell a lie! Living each day as the person that you are and the person God tells you you are! Be extreme and go for it live in Honesty!

Think About it (Living in the new update)

What is your new update? How are you a person who changes and grows better at being you each day. That one sentence comes with tons of tension and pressure. Like when we play sports we practice each day to get better at what will lead us to victory. But every day that we practice we may not see improvement. That is true, but we practice harder and harder if we want to be the best. We may not see improvement everyday, but we want it.

So what about your character, do you want it to improve or stay the same. In our new self we can grow each and every day, and it is us spending time with God that leads us to that better person. But not just better, but improved, new, and changing. When you get an update, sometimes there are only small changes, and then there are those updates where everything changes. I love it when the apps that I use everyday get a fresh new and improved look and function. I think the app is perfect and then the new version comes out. I am blown away and I use the app more than ever before. Check out verse 10 from Colossians 3 "and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator." It says that we are being renewed each day. Each day something new can change in us and we can grow and become something better. That is pretty awesome. Who would have thunk it that Apple did not invent the update, but that it was God who invented the update. Each day you must live in the tension and the passion to hit the update button and allow God to change you and develop you into something new. Take the challenge and hit the update button today.



Read Colossians 3:8-10

DIE IN

8 But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. 9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

1. What was the worst thing that happened to you because you lied?

2. Who do you lie (or have you lied) to the most?

3. What do you think—Y (yes) or N (no)?

- ☐ Boys lie more often than girls do.
- ☐ It's easier to tell the truth than to lie.
- ☐ It's easier to lie than to tell the truth.
- ☐ You can get more from lying than from telling the truth.
- ☐ Most lies don't hurt anyone.
- ☐ There's a difference between a white lie and a big lie.
- ☐ Lying is a sin just like any other sin.
- ☐ There are times when a teenager has to lie.

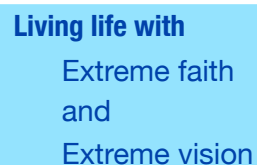
4. How right or wrong are each of the following lies? V (very wrong), W (wrong), S (semi-wrong), or A (all right)?

- ☐ You lie to your parents about finishing homework to get them off your back.
- ☐ You lie to your friend's parents to keep the friend from getting into trouble.
- ☐ You lie to your boyfriend or girlfriend about cheating on him or her.
- ☐ You lie yourself into an Internet chat room.
- ☐ You lie to a teacher so that you'll be given an extra day to finish a report.
- ☐ You lie to your parent about where you've been so you won't get into trouble.
- ☐ You lie to a friend to avoid hurt feelings.
- ☐ You lie about your age to get into a movie theater.
- ☐ You lie to a stranger about where you live.

5. Read the five verses below and connect them to the matching phrases. Then cross out the extra one.

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|-------------------|--|
| a. Exodus 20:16 | 1. The Lord hates it when we lie, but he loves honesty. |
| b. Psalm 5:9,10 | 2. God approves of lying when you have to do it. |
| c. Proverbs 12:22 | 3. One of the Ten Commandments says not to lie. |
| d. Proverbs 19:9 | 4. Some people are full of deceit. |
| e. Colossians 3:9 | 5. Christians are brand new people who do not need to lie. |
| | 6. Bad stuff happens when you lie. |

Look it over, read the story again, dig into the questions and write out your thoughts...

[illegible]

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