Title: Liar Liar

Text: Exodus 20:16: “you shall not bear false witness against your neighbor”

Target: To develop a checkpoint in our heart that prevents us from stating something that is not accurate or leaving out something that is accurate.

I. The Truth about Lying: “God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?” (Numbers 23:19)
   A. Goes Against the Character of God:
      1. God doesn’t Lie: “in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies.” (Titus 1:2)
      2. God detests Lying: “a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.” (Proverbs 6:19)
   B. Goes with the 3rd Commandment of God: “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain” (Exodus 20:7)
      1. Don’t Misuse His Name: To make empty
      2. Don’t Misrepresent His Name: To make evident

II. The Types of Lying: “A man who bears false witness against his neighbor is like a war club, or a sword, or a sharp arrow.” (Proverbs 25:18)
   A. Miscalculation: Misinformation given was not intentional.
   B. Distortion: Allowing personal bias to retell the story. (1 John 3:7)
   C. Omission: The intentional exclusion of details.
   D. Fabrication: The addition of information to change one’s perspective.
   E. Exaggeration: Making the outcome more favorable.
   F. Minimization: The downplaying of the current reality.
   G. Manipulation: The effort of selfish gain by flattery or slander.

III. The Tendency for Lying: “Do not lie. Do not deceive one another. Do not swear falsely by my name and so profane the name of your God.” (Leviticus 19:11-12)
   A. Selfish Outcomes: “Deliver me, O Lord from lying lips, from a deceitful tongue.” (Psalm 120:2)
      1. Self-Protection: In order to avoid the consequences.
      2. Self-Promotion: In order to make an impression on others.
      3. Self-Progression: In order to gain an advantage or control.
      4. Self-Provocation: In order to punish someone else.
   B. Sightless Outcomes: “Bread gained by deceit is sweet to a man, but afterward his mouth will be full of gravel.” (Proverbs 20:17)
      1. Reputation is Tarnished: (Proverbs 22:1)
      2. Reliability won’t be Trusted: (Proverbs 14:25)
      3. Relationships are Tested: (Colossians 3:9-10, Psalm 101:7)

IV. The Triumph over Lying: “Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit.” (Psalm 34:13)
   A. Recognize the Importance: “Truth will set you free” (John 8:32)
   B. Represent Integrity: “delight in truth in your inward being” (Psalm 51:6)
   C. Regard the Impact: “speaking the truth in love” (Ephesians 4:15)
Take Away: Is what we are saying: True Helpful Inspiring Necessary Kind