

**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: **T**True **H**Helpful **I**Inspiring **N**Necessary **K**Kind