

CALVARY CHAPEL OF PHILADELPHIA

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**  
**3RD-5TH GRADE**  
**TEACHER'S PACKET**

**SUNDAY MORNING**

Study 11

*Truth and Lies*



# Truth and Lies

The Objective is the key concept for this week's lesson. It should be the main focus of the study.

These are the key verses that you will find helpful in teaching your study this week. The "Main passage" is the basis of the study, where the other verses support the objective of the lesson.

There is a memory verse for the students that relates to every study. If a student can memorize the verse for the following week you may give them a prize from the "reward box" found on your cart.

An introductory activity or question that will settle the class, draw their attention to the study and prepare their hearts for God's Word.

**Objective** To explore how telling the truth is of great value, and lies are worthless and hated by God.

## Key Verses

Proverbs 12:17-22—Main Teaching Passage

Psalms 34:13

Hebrews 6:18

Isaiah 53:9

Luke 6:45

**Memory Verse** - Proverbs 12:22

"Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who deal truthfully are His delight."

## Hook

Review last week's memory verse, Proverbs 12:18.

Ask the students, "Has anyone ever lied to you or lied about you to someone else? When you found out they were lying, how did this make you feel?"

"Have you ever lied to or about someone? When it was found out that you were lying, how did that make you feel?"

"How do you think God feels when we lie? Have you ever thought about that? Lying is actually one of the things the Bible says He hates!"

What does the Bible say? This is where we will read a passage or series of passages that teach on the subject of the day.

# BOOK

As we saw last week, the tongue is powerful. With that power comes the ability to speak the truth or tell lies. Proverbs 12:15-22 is particularly helpful in guiding as we think about being truthful or telling lies. Consider the following:

Those Who Speak the Truth:

- Declare righteousness (12:17)
- Are established forever (12:19)
- Are God's delight (12:22)

Those Who Speak Lies:

- Speak to deceive (12:17)
- Are but for a moment (12:19)
- Are an abomination to God (12:22)

The way of wisdom is the way of truth. The opposite is true of foolishness and lies. Satan has been telling lies ever since the Garden of Eden. He is always trying to make God out to be a liar, but the Bible tells us that, "it is impossible for God to lie" (Hebrews 6:18; Titus 1:2) and that Jesus is the truth (John 14:6). So when we tell the truth and are honest with one another, we look more like Jesus. That means that speaking lies not only goes against what God says, but against who God is. Lying is sin!

The Bible takes lying very seriously. You will never find an innocent or a small lie in the Bible. Lying is an abomination to God, and liars are even among the group of people that are thrown into the lake of fire, along with murderers and idolaters (Revelation 21:7-8). Lying is what Satan does. He is a deceiver and the father of lies. There is no truth in him (John 8:44). But don't lose heart, there is hope!

While the Bible is full of examples of people who lied, there was one Person who perfectly walked in wisdom, only ever telling the truth. Jesus never said anything to deceive anybody (Isaiah 53:9). Not only that, but Jesus knows what it's like to be lied about. He was falsely accused by people who wanted to kill him, and they succeeded in putting Him to death. They literally killed the Truth through their lies.

# LOOK

There are many reasons why we might be tempted to lie. Maybe we are trying to get out of trouble. Or maybe we might lie to make ourselves look better/cooler/more important than we actually are. We might even lie because we think that if we tell the truth, it might make someone uncomfortable or hurt someone's feelings. No matter our reason, the Bible makes it clear that lying is wrong.

The interpretation/exegesis of the passage. What does this passage mean? How does this passage apply to my life?

## LOOK (Continued)

All lying is repulsive to God. Lies are actually one of the things God hates! He hates lies because He hates sin and what sin does to His people. He hates lies because lies are worthless, and everything God is and does has value. Proverbs 10:20 says, “The tongue of the righteous is choice silver (valuable); The heart of the wicked is worth little.” The truth is good, honorable, valuable and right. We honor God and reflect Him when we speak the truth. While lying may seem like a “quick fix” to problems that we face, in the end, it always causes more trouble and more pain than if we had just told the truth in the first place.

There are several stories in the Bible that we could look at where we see how dangerous lying can be. When David was running from King Saul and Saul was killed in battle by the Philistines, one of David’s men thought that he could gain favor in David’s eyes by lying and saying that he had killed Saul. Little did this man know that David did not want King Saul to die. David looked at Saul as God’s anointed king. David had this liar killed as punishment for doing what he was lying about!

Joseph’s brothers lied to their father when they sold Joseph to the slave traders. They hated their brother but didn’t want their father to know what they had done. They told their father that Joseph had been killed by wild animals in the field. Even people of faith who loved God lied at times. Abraham lied about who his wife was on two separate occasions, then his son Isaac told the same lie about his wife years later! But God remained faithful.

There was one Man who never lied. Jesus is the way, the TRUTH, and the life. He walked in wisdom and lived a perfect life. Many lied about Jesus, saying things that weren’t true about Him because they hated Him and wanted Him put to death. Jesus died, taking the punishment for our sin (for the lies we have told) so that He could forgive us and give us a new heart! You see, if you have a problem with lying, or you have trouble saying things that you know are worthless, the problem isn’t with your tongue, it’s with your heart! Jesus told us that out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks (Luke 6:45). Thanks to Jesus, God can change our hearts. We can pray, “Create in me a clean heart” (Psalm 51), knowing that, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (I John 1:9). God not only forgives us for being foolish but gives us what we need to walk in wisdom and in truth.

What is my response to this passage of Scripture? How should my life change according to what this passage teaches me? What are the practical things I can do throughout the week to make this true in my life.

# TOOK

As a class, memorize Proverbs 12:22.

Encourage the students to speak to their parents about anything that they might have going on in their hearts that needs to be cleansed. Encourage them to pray with their parents, asking God to forgive and cleanse them.

**Pray:** Ask the Lord to help us guard our tongues, especially to “keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit” (Psalm 34:13).

Praise God for His faithfulness to forgive us and for giving us clean hearts.

**Family Activity:** As a family, read Psalm 51 and talk about what it means to repent and ask forgiveness for sin.

# FURTHER STUDY

## Commentary on Proverbs 12:17-22 by David Guzik

### [Proverbs 12:17](#)

**He *who* speaks truth declares righteousness,  
But a false witness, deceit.**

- a. **He who speaks truth declares righteousness:** The words of the wise are filled with **truth** and therefore reflect God's **righteousness**.
- b. **But a false witness, deceit:** The **false witness** doesn't speak the **truth**, and promotes **deceit** instead of **righteousness**.

### [Proverbs 12:18](#)

**There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword,  
But the tongue of the wise *promotes* health.**

- a. **There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword:** Some people have the terrible ability to speak in a manner that stabs and slices others. Their words are like the slashing and **piercings of a sword**, bringing hurt instead of healing.
- i. "How keenly have the servants of God suffered from this sword! Many will speak daggers without compunction who would be afraid to use them." (Bridges)
- b. **The tongue of the wise promotes health:** **Wise** men and women are able to bring **health** and healing from the words they speak.

### [Proverbs 12:19](#)

**The truthful lip shall be established forever,  
But a lying tongue *is* but for a moment.**

- a. **The truthful lip shall be established forever:** God looks after those who love the truth and speak the truth. Under His blessing, they will be **established forever**.
- b. **The lying tongue is but for a moment:** It often seems that the **lying tongue** wins the day and is stronger than the **truthful lip**. The judgments of the God of truth will show how temporary the success of the **lying tongue** is.
- i. **But for a moment:** "The lying tongue may continue to utter its falsehood for long years by the calendars of men, but when you place those years by the side of the ages of God, they are as a moment, as the winking of the eye, as nothing." (Morgan)

- ii. “*Truth* stands for ever; because its *foundation* is indestructible: but *falsehood* may soon be detected; and, though it gain credit for a while, it had that credit because it was supposed to be *truth*.” (Clarke)
- iii. “It is truth which abides. A lie must perish. In a world still largely mastered by lies, it is difficult at times to believe this. Yet to review the history of the race is to have evidence of it. Lies are always perishing.” (Morgan)

### Proverbs 12:20

**Deceit is in the heart of those who devise evil,  
But counselors of peace have joy.**

- a. **Deceit is in the heart:** Those who **devise evil** and practice it have **deceit** in their heart before it is ever evident in their actions. There is something corrupt in their core that finds expression outwardly.
- b. **Counselors of peace have joy:** There is a happiness and contentment (**joy**) that comes to those who speak words of peace. This *shalom* is within the **counselors of peace**, and so they are able to give it to others.
- i. “Significantly, Proverbs always represents counselors as in a group ([Proverbs 11:14](#); [15:22](#); [24:6](#)).” (Waltke)

### Proverbs 12:21

**No grave trouble will overtake the righteous,  
But the wicked shall be filled with evil.**

- a. **No grave trouble will overtake the righteous:** God’s **righteous** men and women will certainly experience trouble. Yet God promised to manage the degree of trouble, the duration of trouble, and the depth of the trouble. Especially seen in light of eternity, **no grave trouble will overtake the righteous**.
- b. **The wicked shall be filled with evil:** In contrast, the **wicked** will receive the result of their wickedness. They will not be rescued from their trouble; because they pursued **evil**, they will be **filled with evil**.

### Proverbs 12:22

**Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord,  
But those who deal truthfully are His delight.**

- a. **Lying lips are an abomination:** The God of truth loves the truth, and regards the **lips** that spread lies as offensive, an **abomination**.
- b. **Those who deal truthfully are His delight:** The same God who regards lies as an **abomination** takes **delight** in those who value and tell the truth. Wisdom’s lesson is plain: *stop lying and start telling the truth*.