

PART 2: The Integrity Question

DATE: 07-11-2021

START

The easiest person to deceive is the person in the mirror. We are masters at justifying, convincing, and selling ourselves on the decisions we make. Deceit is hard to detect, and that is why we need to press pause before we make decisions.

- Have you ever justified something? Buying a new pair of shoes... Deciding you need that new grill to compete with your neighbor...
- Have you ever asked yourself why you do what you do?

READ

[Jeremiah 17:9](#) (NIV)

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and beyond cure. Who can understand it?”

THINK

Whether we admit it or not we are masters at lying to ourselves. Justifying really means we are “just lying” to ourselves. That is why it is important that we get honest with ourselves, even if that makes us feel bad from time to time. You will never get to where you want to go unless you are honest about where you are.

- How honest do you think you are with yourself...really?
- Talk about a time when you were brutally honest about your motives? How did you feel? Did you make any changes?
- Do you find it easier to speak truth into someone else’s life rather than your own? Why do you think that is?

Sometimes the best thing we can do before making a decision is to hit pause. This gives us time to find out what our motives are and we can course correct if necessary. Taking time to pause can help us to ask good questions, which leads to good decisions?

- Do you ever pause before making decisions, or do you just jump right into action?
- What are some ways you can remind yourself to pause before making a decision?

PRAY

“Lord, I know that my heart can be deceitful. I know that I can convince myself even when I am wrong. Help me to pause before making decisions this week so that I can be honest with myself. Amen.”

ACT

Ask yourself the question, “Am I being honest with myself, really?” Try practicing asking this question in front of a mirror... Remember, the person in the mirror is the easiest person to deceive.

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ONE CHURCH. RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE.