

## Lying

Kris Brenes

The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in those who tell the truth.  
Proverbs 12:22 NLT

### Why do we lie?

- **A main reason many of us lie: we don't completely trust God.**

### The devil's trap – 2 Samuel 11:1 – 12:7

When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.  
John 8:44

- **To get you to tell a lie.**
- **To get you to believe a lie.**
- **To get you to live a lie.**

### What's wrong with a little lie?

- **Lies break trust.**
- **Lies bring bondage.**
- **Lies oppose truth.**

### God's path to freedom

Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. John 8:32

- **Confess to God for forgiveness**

But you desire honesty from the womb, teaching me wisdom even there. <sup>7</sup> Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean... Psalm 51:6-7 NLT

- **Confess to others for healing**

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. James 5:16

## Connect

Share about a time you got caught in a lie. What happened? How did you feel?

## Word and Reflection

Our words are powerful and should be used with great care and consideration. Sadly, we are a people who lie a lot – we deceive, shade the truth, exaggerate and mislead. God detests lying because it is completely contrary to his nature. When we lie, we break trust in our relationships and bring bondage upon ourselves. God desires for us to live in truth and freedom. This is experienced through confession – confession to God for forgiveness and confession to others for healing.

Proverbs 12:22, 2 Samuel 11:1-12:7; John 8:32, 44; Psalm 51; James 5:16

- Which part of the message made an impact, caught your attention or challenged you?
- Read Proverbs 12:22. Why do you think God hates lying so much? How have you seen yourself justify or make excuses for times you've "bent the truth"?
- Pastor Kris mentioned the common reasons people lie are to protect themselves, promote themselves and also because they don't trust God in that situation. For what reason do you find yourself tempted to lie, deceive, mislead or shade the truth?
- Read 2 Samuel 12:1-7. Who is your *Nathan*? Who do you have in your life to challenge you and speak truth to you?
- Read Psalm 51:1-12 and James 5:16. What do you need to get honest about? Share what you can with your group or a friend you're close to.

## Action

- Take the challenge: Declare a lying-free week. Ask God to reveal to you situations where you're tempted to deceive, exaggerate and shade the truth.
- If you're carrying a lie, confess to God for forgiveness and confess to someone for healing.
- Cook and prepare for this Sunday's chili cook-off!

## Prayer

- Ask God to convict your heart when you are tempted to lie.
- Pray for the people you're inviting to the chili cook-off.