

white flag

Small Group Questions: Part 1: Stop Lying

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Read

Ephesians 4:17-25

Reflect

For most of us, the tricky question isn't whether lying is ok – we know that we shouldn't lie. The tricky question is what counts as a lie. We would agree that a bold-faced lie is wrong, but is it wrong to tell a friend an encouraging white lie? What about when our spouse asks us one of those lose-lose questions like, "Do you think she's pretty?" Our response isn't really lying... right? The problem is that we are focusing on the wrong side of the equation. Rather than asking what is or isn't a lie, we should be trying to become better truth-tellers.

Pastor Greg gave us three steps towards becoming truth-tellers:

1. Admit that you have a problem
 - a. What are some examples of white lies that we all tell? Are they ok in some cases? Is it ever ok to lie?
 - b. Why do you think that everyone tells lies? Not everyone murders, or steals, but everyone does lie. Why is that? Why does it come so naturally to each of us? And if we know that everyone does it, why is it so hard to admit that we have a problem?
2. Ask for God's help
 - a. "Stop telling lies" sounds pretty straightforward. It sounds like just a matter of willpower. Either we will stop telling lies or we won't. Paul sees this as more than a matter of willpower, however. Take a moment and read Ephesians 4:17-24. Throwing off our old sinful nature is a matter not of our own willpower, but of allowing God to renew us.
 - b. Why are we so hesitant to ask for God's help in this (and any other) area? Why are we so determined to do it on our own?
3. Practice telling the truth
 - a. Telling the truth does take practice! What would it look like if we became a community of truth-tellers? How might that change our lives? How might it change the ways that we interact with and treat each other?

What was your biggest take-away from the weekend message?

Respond

- What do you feel like God is asking you to do in response to the weekend message? What is your next step?
- How can your Small Group support you and hold you accountable in this?