

CARTHAGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

FEBRUARY 9, 2020

Founded by Christ---Grounded in His Word---Committed to His Love

Honestly, Is Lying a Big Deal?

David Sproule

In the verb form, to “lie” means “to make an untrue statement with intent to deceive; to create a false or misleading impression.” A lie can be “spoken” or “written.” But, in the grand scheme of things, if I tell one little lie, or mislead someone to believe an untruth, or am dishonest in my financial dealings, is that really all that big of a deal?

One reality we must face is that our senses have been dulled by our culture today. We are, after all, living in what some call the “Post-Truth World.” Truth is not that big of a deal. (Look at the politicians.) Pure honesty is not demanded. (Look at advertisements.) We almost expect, these days, to be lied to on some level by almost everyone. So, if we fall in line and follow suit, where’s the harm in that?

The Bible commands us to abstain from lying. The Old Testament was clear, “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor” (Ex. 20:16). The New Testament is just as clear, “Do not lie to one another” (Col. 3:9).

The Bible discloses to us God’s view of lying. “Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord” (Prov. 12:22). “The Lord hates...A lying tongue...A false witness who speaks lies” (Prov. 6:16-19).

The Bible gives a vivid warning against lying. The story of Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5 is well known, as the couple “agreed together” to “lie to God” about the profit from their land sale. The fact that each of them was struck dead for lying was (and still is) a powerful lesson for those early Christians to learn.

The Bible reveals that lying is a heart issue. It is not just a matter of the words that come from our mouth (or from our pen). Jesus said, “For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts...false witness...” (Matt. 15:19). A man must look within his heart to change his outward habit of lying.

The Bible ties our lying to the ultimate liar. The very first lie told in the Bible was by the devil himself (Gen. 3:4). That lie changed the course of human history forever! Of the devil, Jesus said, “When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it” (John 8:44). Liars, therefore, are children of their father, the devil.

The Bible parallels lying with “the worst” of sins and shows forth its final end. In Revelation 21:8, “all liars” are listed right alongside other sinners like “murderers” and “idolaters,” all of whom (liars included) will be condemned to “the lake which burns with fire and brimstone.”

The Bible commands us to tell the truth (Eph. 4:25). May God help us to be people of truth...all the time!

Assignments for this week:

Sunday AM: 2-9-2020:

Announcements: Alan Cook

Greeter: Durham

Opening Prayer: Chandler Marks

Lord's Supper: Larry Lawhon

Gary Beach

Marty Block

Jeremy Jadwin

Scripture Reading: Nate Miller

Closing Prayer: Marty Block

Song leader AM: Alan Cook

Communion to Shut ins: Talley

Sunday PM: 2-9-2020:

Opening Prayer: Bill Talley

Closing Prayer: Kai Clements

Song Leader: Gary Beach

Wednesday: 2-12-2020:

Song Leader: Clay Johnson

Devotional: Charles Baker

Fair Havens Children's Home

Pantry List for February:

Juice, olive oil, soups, pie filling, salsa, tea bags, cooking spray, pop tarts, microwave popcorn, canned vegetables, canned fruit, spaghetti noodles, spaghetti sauce, and spam.

Also, remember to bring in used clothing for donation or to bale, money or gift cards to Walmart, and decent furniture/bedding (no TVs or mattresses).

Dates to Remember:

2/9 Fellowship Lunch

2/9 TSYS @ Vinita, OK

2/16 VBS Meeting

2/21 HS/College Girls

sleepover (Clements)

3/1 TSYS @ Choteau, OK

3/8 Fellowship Lunch

3/14 Youth: games and pie (5 pm)

In Our Thoughts and Prayers:

Ron Gibson: cancer

Lawson family: recent passing of Mike's mother and Becky's sister

Audrey Hoggatt: (Friend of Clements): Health concerns

Robin Thompson (sister of **Lindia Kisling**): blood cancer

Malcolm Scott: preacher at the Pea Ridge (AR) Church of Christ: cancer/heart issues

Emily Anderson's grandfather: Heart issues

Sharolet Trease (sister of Charlie Baker): cancer

Lorraine Moser: Heart and kidney issues

Laure Bryant (sister of Maureen Dunaway's daughter-in-law): undergoing cancer treatments.

Ben Quade (brother-in-law of Bev Baker) undergoing cancer treatments.

Priscilla Lorton: Health issues

Jo Shrum: illness/falls

Barb Durham's sister-in-law's sister: cancer and her (Barb's) sister.

Kathy Brewer: Health issues

Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters serving in the military and their families.

Elders:

Dennis Hartley 417-674-0018

Larry Lawhon 417-310-2107

JR Sampson 417-674-0980

Deacons:

Takota Anderson 417-389-7449

Charles Baker 417-673-5237

Marty Block 417-388-2147

Josh Clements 417-850-0654

David Lawhon 417-388-1232

Steve Teel 417-359-6958

Minister:

John Johnson 417-434-0754

Worship Times:

10:20 AM Sunday

6:00 PM Sunday

Bible Class:

9:30 AM Sunday

7 PM Wednesday

Address:

3122 S. Grand Avenue
Carthage, MO 64836

Phone:

417-358-3661

Website:

carthagecoc.org

Supported Works:

Fair Haven Children's Home

Search Program

Gary Reaves

House to House

Weekly Record:

Sunday AM Worship: 77

Sunday PM Worship: 42

Wed. Night Class: No service

Contribution: \$2514

LOVE

bears all things,
believes all things,
hopes all things,
endures all things.

-1 Corinthians 13:7

