

**Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**1000 Oaks Bible Church**

**Cultivating Healthy Relationships:**  
**“HONESTY”**

## \* INTRODUCTION

A. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mKznhyEH0yE>  
(2:05-4:15)

B. A dishonest friend is trying to steal from you too. They are trying to steal your trust, your sympathy, your respect, etc.

C. Don't you greatly value the person who is entirely honest with you? That is the relationship trait we will be talking about today.

**D. Matthew 22:36-40 “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”**

**37 And He said to him, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’**

**38 This is the great and foremost commandment.**

**39 The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’**

**40 Upon these two commandments hang the whole Law and the Prophets.”**

# I. WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO HONESTY?

A. George Washington famously said, “Honesty is the best policy.” The regrettable state of politics today would say that policy is dead. It is now more surprising to hear the Truth than to hear a Lie.

B. The story of **Pinocchio** was first published in 1883. It related the story of a little boy whose nose grew every time he told a lie.



C. Dishonesty is in politics, scams, resumes, advertising... Pictures of food by restaurants of their food.



Commercial

Reality



**EXPECTATION**



**REALITY**



# Taco Bell Crunchy Taco



Advertisements



Actual Taco

**TO THE PEOPLE THAT COMPLAIN THAT FAST  
FOOD LOOKS BETTER IN ADVERTISEMENTS  
THAN IT DOES IN REALITY...**



**LOOK AT YOUR PROFILE PICTURE THEN LOOK  
IN THE MIRROR**

D. People caught in lies include: Lance Armstrong, Milli Vanilli, Bill Clinton, Richard Nixon, Brian Williams, Enron, Martha Stewart, Tiger Woods, Sean Combs, Pete Rose, Britney Spears, anyone arrested.

E. But problems with telling the Truth date back far before that. Just in Genesis here are a few examples:

1. Satan lies to Eve in Genesis 3:1-5 (John 8:44  
**father of lies**)

2. Sarah lies to God - Genesis 18:15

3. Jacob lies about his wife - Genesis 26:6

## II. ABRAHAM LIES ABOUT HIS WIFE

\* Genesis 20 (Abraham has been moving around after the events at Sodom and Gomorrah and he and his family come to Gerar. It could turn into a dangerous situation because of the power of the king there, Abimelech.

**V2 And Abraham said of his wife Sarah, “She is my sister.” So Abimelech king of Gerar sent men and took Sarah.**

A. Here you have a husband and a wife collaborating on a toxic lie that could lead to her having unwilling sexual relations with another man.

B. First question in my mind, if you knew going into this area was dangerous, why would you go? Instead you are going to lie and jeopardize your wife? If the real estate was so attractive there couldn't you have talked to Abimelech first to see if it was permissible?

C. Remember that Abraham had trusted God so much that he was prepared to offer his son to God. Reminds us to never **compartmentalize** your faith - let it be all inclusive to your life.

D. The two issues that I see that caused Abraham to lie were Fear and Selfishness; he was more concerned about his own well-being than his wife's.



### III. HONESTY MUST BE CULTIVATED

A. What would make you lie to a friend or to anyone? Certainly some people will lie for no real reason at all but what “reason” would you need to breach the Truth?

B. Honesty is the best way to prevent a mistake from turning into a failure. Honesty is well worth being cultivated and practiced.

## \* **CURBSIDE**

A. Honesty is especially for the Home.

B. The truth begins with **THE TRUTH** - John 14:6.

**C. John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us; and we saw His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

**D. Ephesians 4:25 Therefore, having laid aside falsehood, each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor...**

**E. III John 1:4 I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.**

F. Why should we cultivate Truth in all our relationships?

\* Jesus is The Truth, He is full of truth. Truth is a virtue drawn straight from our Savior. Truth reveals integrity and promotes trust. It is plainly taught in scripture, one example is Leviticus 19:11 **...you shall not lie one to another.**

