



# Why Would I Lie to You?

## Outline Plan



### Aim/s

- What is a lie? To consider the many ways in which it is possible to lie
- To understand why people lie
- To look at the consequences of lying
- To consider the challenge of being truthful

### Resources - optional

#### Videos/ DVD's

Larry boy and the Fib from Outer Space  
Larry boy and the Rumour Weed  
Chicken Run clips

**Book:** J. John 'Ten'; chapter 2, pages 47-71

### Key Bible verse

If you are doing a series on the Ten Commandments you may want to use Exodus 20:16. Otherwise you may prefer to choose a verse from Proverbs, perhaps 18:21 or 15:4.

### Bible references

Exodus 20:16: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour. NIV

1 Kings 21: Naboth was falsely accused and stoned to death so that the King could obtain his vineyard.

James 3 is about the tongue in general

Proverbs 6:16-19 There are six things the Lord hates. There are seven things he cannot stand: a proud look, a lying tongue... a witness who lies, and someone who starts arguments among families. NCV used here for all Proverbs verses

Proverbs 15:4 As a tree gives fruit, healing words give life, but dishonest words crush the spirit.

Proverbs 18:21 What you say can mean life or death. Those who speak with care will be rewarded.

Proverbs 26:18-28 ...Liars hate the people they hurt,

Proverbs 12:17-22; Proverbs 17:7; Proverbs 19:5; Proverbs 21:6; Proverbs 30:5-9

Philippians 4:8-9 think about the things that are good ... true... beautiful... And the God who gives peace will be with you.

### Starters/games

#### True/false game

You can make up different versions of this.

Members take it in turns to tell the group something about themselves. It can be true or it can be a lie. The rest of the group has to decide whether to believe them. This can be played in teams if you wish.

#### Let the Court Decide

Have a question master and 2 advocates. The question master makes a statement about something. (This could be about anything but you will probably want to prepare this beforehand). Advocate A has to persuade the group that this is true. Advocate B has to persuade the group that it is false. Everyone then votes on which version they believe.

**Call my Bluff.** (A long game)

This is the game where you have 3 definitions for a word, one true and two false. The aim of the game is to try to fool the opposing team who have to guess which is the true definition. This works well in youth groups where you have more time. It can also be used as a party game. Older groups may like to make up their own definitions. Younger groups will need to have them pre-prepared.

**Story: Naboth's vineyard 1 Kings 21:1-26**

Tell the story with volunteers miming it out. You will need Naboth, Ahab, Jezebel, 2 liars, 2-3 town leaders and townspeople.

**Discussion** stimulated by clips/ quotes from Chicken Run, Star Trek & elsewhere. See leader's notes. Perhaps use a flip chart or board to write key words

**1. What is a lie?**

How many different ways can you describe a lie?

"I wasn't lying I was....."

Which type of lying does the commandment in Exodus 20 focus on?

**2. Why do we lie?**

- We don't want to get into trouble
- Avoid consequences
- To get our own way.
- Fear of rejection. We want to be liked and accepted.
- To evoke sympathy
- To manipulate people, either thorough flattery or intimidation.

**3. What are the consequences of lying?**

- Destroys trust
- Undermines relationships
- Stores up trouble for the future
- Damages others
- Slander and libel are legal offences
- Can damage your own health and personality

**Application**

- How can we avoid lying when dealing with a difficult situation?
- Think of some situations where they find it particularly hard to tell the truth and discuss how they might be able to handle these.
- Invite the group to share/discuss some situations where they have found this a problem.
- Share any of your own experiences that may be helpful.
- Is there anything you need to put right?
- Is there anything else you might want to change about the way you speak?
- Is it **always** right to tell **all** the truth?

THINK: Is it **True?** **Helpful?** **Inspiring?** **Necessary?** **Kind?**