

The Importance of Honesty (two part study)

(appropriate for High-Schoolers and older)

Michael R. Daily July 2018

Other youth bible studies by Michael Daily available at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

What is Honesty?

Honesty: *fairness and straightforwardness of conduct; adherence to the facts*

People who are known for their honesty are people who are careful to make statements that are accurate and trustworthy about themselves, about life, about others, and about God.

Being honest does not mean that everything that is true has to be shared, but that everything that we choose to share should be true. Our motivations for deciding what we share with others and what we don't are based on what would be in the best interests of other people.

Ephesians 4:29

Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a *word* as is good for edification according to the need *of the moment*, so that it will give grace to those who hear.

(Ephesians 4:15)

but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, *even* Christ,

(Proverbs 19:22)

What is desirable in a man is his kindness, And *it is* better to be a poor man than a liar.

Key Point: *We choose what we will share in order to provide the most benefit to the hearer. But once decided, what we say must be the truth.*

Types of Honesty

Let's look at some of the areas of life where God tells us to be honest.

Proverbs 20:23

Differing weights are an abomination to the LORD, And a false scale is not good.

In business transactions there are widely agreed upon standards used for making comparisons of value or for setting expectations for the behaviors of each party. It is important to God that we not intentionally violate these standards in order to benefit ourselves in some way.

Many times when my wife goes shopping the clerk she is transacting business with will forget to charge her for one of the items. It was the clerk's mistake and few would find fault with my wife if she walked out of the store with her merchandise without paying for some of it. But that would be violating the agreement to pay for all the items. So, she stops, goes back to the clerk, and points out the error where she was undercharged. This happens to the clerks so rarely that they often ask her why she came back. She tells them that she is a Christian and that she is not going to sell her soul for a few dollars! What would happen if every Christian did that? When those clerks came to a difficult point in their lives who do you think would come to their minds as someone they could turn to for spiritual help? It would be the Christians!

Proverbs 26:18-19

**Like a madman who throws Firebrands, arrows and death,¹⁹ So is the man who deceives his neighbor,
And says, "Was I not joking?"**

Some people will try out evil ideas on someone to see how they respond. If they seem open to the idea they continue to work the deception. If the other person responds very negatively (ex: "I can't believe you would even consider such a thing!") they cover their intent by saying, "I was just joking!" This is a form of dishonesty.

Psalm 5:9

There is **nothing reliable in what they say**; Their inward part is destruction *itself*. Their throat is an open grave; They **flatter with their tongue**.

Flatter: *to praise excessively especially from motives of self-interest*

Flattery is a deadly form of dishonesty. Its OK to genuinely complement someone in order to encourage them, but the one who flatters exaggerates the complements and has their own self-interest as the primary intent.

Jude 1:16

These are **grumblers, finding fault, following after their own lusts; they speak arrogantly, flattering people for the sake of gaining an advantage**.

This verse indicates that while the person speaks flattery to you for you to hear, out of your hearing they are actually grumbling and complaining about you! They also tend to speak arrogantly about other matters and are motivated primarily by their own lusts. They are not reliable and cannot be trusted. Don't be that person!

Proverbs 7:5 & 21

That they may keep you from an **adulteress**, From the foreigner **who flatters with her words**.

21 With her many persuasions she entices him; With her flattering lips she seduces him.

If a woman speaks admiringly to you (a man) and complements you excessively, you are being seduced! Don't wait, take appropriate action to end the relationship or at least have others present at all times.

Zechariah 8:16-17

These are the things which you should do: **speak the truth to one another; judge with truth and judgment for peace in your gates.** ¹⁷ **Also let none of you devise evil in your heart against another, and do not love perjury; for all these are what I hate,' declares the LORD.**"

Perjury: *the voluntary violation of an oath or vow either by swearing to what is untrue or by omission to do what has been promised under oath : false swearing*

Be careful to limit the promises you make because if you make them you must keep them. God hates perjury!

Psalm 15:1-5

O LORD, who may abide in Your tent? Who may dwell on Your holy hill? ² **He who walks with integrity, and works righteousness, And speaks truth in his heart.** ³ **He does not slander with his tongue**, Nor does evil to his neighbor, Nor takes up a reproach against his friend; ⁴ **In whose eyes a reprobate is despised, But who honors those who fear the LORD; He swears to his own hurt and does not change**; ⁵ **He does not put out his money at interest, Nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.** He who does these things will never be shaken.

Slander: *the utterance of false charges or misrepresentations which damage another person's reputation*

How we speak about other people is important. We must be careful to not misrepresent them. One way misrepresentation can happen is if we share only part of the story, which leads people to the wrong conclusion.

Also, if we make promises we must keep them, even if it ends up costing us more than we thought it would when we made the promise.

Bribe: *money or favor given or promised in order to influence the judgment or conduct of a person in a position of trust; something that serves to induce or influence*

If you are in a position of authority taking money or favors should be avoided even if it would have no effect on the outcome of your decision. Why? Because its not obvious to others that it had no effect!

Even as a customer, bribes should be avoided. Sometimes I go to a restaurant and the people working there make an honest mistake that negatively affects my service in a small way. Because of the immediate hostility the workers are used to receiving from customers, they have the habit of offering something free (a soft drink or side dish) so that I will not complain. Is this a special blessing from God? No, it is essentially a bribe to keep me from complaining, so I politely refuse it. I don't need to be bribed to have patience, that is a fruit of the Spirit (**Galatians 5:22**)!

This is not the same as the situation where someone made a serious mistake that cost me a lot of time or money. In that case, their provision of restitution to me is appropriate.

Restitution: *restoration of something to its rightful owner; making good of or giving an equivalent for some injury; a legal action serving to cause restoration of a previous state*

When I, in a pleasant way, turn down the bribe, people often want to know why. I then tell them it is because I am a Christian and that we all make mistakes. If the circumstances are appropriate I might also then say, "May I share with you how I became a Christian, it only takes 5 minutes?" If every Christian did this, who would these people turn to when they need to understand God? The Christians!

For a detailed study on how to witness effectively please see, "Good Works, Witnessing, & Evangelism" at: <http://qciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

Proverbs 22:13

The sluggard says, "There is a lion outside; I will be killed in the streets!"

Sluggard: *a habitually lazy person*

We also need to be careful not to exaggerate when we describe things. If we make a habit of exaggerating, people soon learn that what we say is not reliable or useful. So, why would they want to listen to us when we try to share the gospel?

Proverbs 14:23

In all labor there is profit, But mere talk *leads* only to poverty.

(I John 2:4)

The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him;

Dishonesty can also come in the form of talk without action. Let's be careful to talk less about what we plan to do and actually do more.

Jeremiah 26:2

Thus says the LORD, 'Stand in the court of the LORD'S house, and speak to all the cities of Judah who have come to worship *in* the LORD'S house all the words that I have commanded you to speak to them. Do not omit a word!

In some churches there are topics that will never be taught, even though God teaches them in the Bible. What are some of those topics (ex: divorce, giving, exercising discipline in obeying God)? We think not talking about these topics is somehow preserving unity or preventing conflict but, in reality, it is causing spiritual damage and encouraging disobedience. If we are going to teach the Bible, it's important that we not omit what God has said. For example, one of the reasons teens stop going to church is there are questions they have that no one at church ever talks about. The teens assume the Bible does not have the answers to these challenging questions, so they go to other places to find them.

Proverbs 30:6

Do not add to His words Or He will reprove you, and you will be proved a liar.

Honesty requires that when we teach the Word of God we are careful to make clear what exactly God has said and not said and what things we are adding as suggestions for applications. Legalism is when a person replaces a command of God with their own man-made tradition. Let's be careful to not be that person.

God Commands Honesty

Proverbs 12:22

Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, But those who deal faithfully are His delight.

Abomination: *something regarded with disgust or hatred; extreme disgust and hatred*

Although we may not view lying as particularly serious, God views it as being very serious. Lying is something He regards with extreme disgust and hatred.

(Leviticus 19:11)

You shall not steal, nor deal falsely, nor lie to one another.

(Ephesians 4:25)

Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE of you WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we are members of one another.

How Important is Honesty?

Proverbs 6:16-19

There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: ¹⁷ Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood, ¹⁸ A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that run rapidly to evil, ¹⁹ A false witness who utters lies, And one who spreads strife among brothers.

Out of this list of 7 things that God hates, 2 of the 7 are related to lying! Its listed along with pride, murder, premeditated evil, eagerness to do evil, and causing conflict in human relationships.

I Timothy 1:9-10

realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers¹⁰ and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching,

Liars are put in the same category as murderers, kidnappers, and the sexually immoral! Lying is a big deal!

Revelation 21:8

But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part *will be* in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

Sorcerer: *one who uses power gained from the assistance of evil spirits*

Add sorcerers and idolaters to the list of those compared to liars!

Luke 16:10-12

He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much.¹¹ Therefore if you have not been faithful in the use of unrighteous wealth, who will entrust the true riches to you? ¹² And if you have not been faithful in *the use of* that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?

Faithful: *steadfast in affection or allegiance, loyal; firm in adherence to promises or in observance of duty, conscientious*

You may argue that lying isn't that big of a deal, but it is to God because if you can't be faithful in a very little thing, like telling the truth, then you can't be trusted with much bigger things.

Luke 19:17

And he said to him, 'Well done, good slave, because you have been faithful in a very little thing, you are to be in authority over ten cities.'

Faithfulness in a very little thing results in a large eternal reward, such as being the governor of 10 cities. It's a big deal to God.

Genesis 42:14-16

Joseph said to them, "It is as I said to you, you are spies; ¹⁵ by this you will be tested: by the life of Pharaoh, you shall not go from this place unless your youngest brother comes here! ¹⁶ Send one of you that he may get your brother, while you remain confined, that your words may be tested, whether there is truth in you. But if not, by the life of Pharaoh, surely you are spies."

People who are experienced in exercising authority over other men quickly learn that everyone has a natural tendency to lie. **(Psalm 116:11) - I said in my alarm, "All men are liars."**

As a result, they have many ways of testing what you have said to see if what you say is trustworthy and reliable. Based on these tests of the things you have said they will decide how much they can trust you with greater responsibility and with less oversight.

II Kings 12:11&15

They gave the money which was weighed out into the hands of those who did the work, who had the oversight of the house of the LORD; and they paid it out to the carpenters and the builders who worked on the house of the LORD;

¹⁵ Moreover, they did not require an accounting from the men into whose hand they gave the money to pay to those who did the work, for they dealt faithfully.

People in authority spend a lot of effort testing the words observing the actions of those under them in order to determine how trustworthy and reliable they are. Why? Because a trustworthy employee makes their boss's job much easier because the boss doesn't have to check everything the employee does. By comparison everything an unreliable and dishonest employee says and does, has to be double checked and corrected.

I was once asked what the secret to being an excellent manager was. My response, "Hire people who don't need a manager". In other words, invest the time and effort to find and recruit excellent people who are honest, reliable, and willing & able to learn. They will make your life a lot easier and you will have time available that you can invest in other things.

Another form of honesty at work is when you make a mistake. Instead of not mentioning it and hoping no one finds out, immediately inform your boss and customers as appropriate. Eventually they will find out that the error was made and that you made it. If they find it before you tell them, you have lost your reputation for honesty. Instead, inform them immediately along with your plan on how you will correct it.

(Matthew 5:25)

Make friends quickly with your opponent at law while you are with him on the way, so that your opponent may not hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the officer, and you be thrown into prison.

END OF PART 1

START OF PART 2

If You Sow Honesty, What Do You Reap (Galatians 6:7)?

Proverbs 3:3-4

Do not let kindness and truth leave you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart. ⁴ So you will find favor and good repute In the sight of God and man.

As people test your words and find you to be honest in your words and deed you will tend to find favor and gain a good reputation in the eyes of both men and God.

Exodus 18:17-21

Moses' father-in-law said to him, "The thing that you are doing is not good. ¹⁸ You will surely wear out, both yourself these people who are with you, for the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone. ¹⁹ Now listen to me: I will give you counsel, and God be with you. You be the people's representative before God, and you bring the disputes to God, ²⁰ then teach them the statutes and the laws, and make known to them the way in which they are to walk and the work they are to do. ²¹ Furthermore, you shall select out of all the people able men who fear God, men of truth, those who hate dishonest gain; and you shall place *these* over them as leaders of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties and of tens.

(Nehemiah 13:13)

In charge of the storehouses I appointed Shelemiah the priest, Zadok the scribe, and Pedaiiah of the Levites, and in addition to them was Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah; for they were considered reliable, and it was their task to distribute to their kinsmen.

God's selection criteria for those who would lead His people include those who fear God, love truth, and hate dishonest gain. Honesty is foundational to being a spiritual leader.

Psalms 24:4-5

He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood And has not sworn deceitfully. ⁵ He shall receive a blessing from the LORD And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

(Psalm 40:4)

How blessed is the man who has made the LORD his trust, And has not turned to the proud, nor to those who lapse into falsehood.

Those who trust in God and avoid falsehood do receive blessings from God.

Blessing: *something conducive to happiness or welfare*

Genesis 31:4-9

So Jacob sent and called Rachel and Leah to his flock in the field, ⁵ and said to them, "I see your father's attitude, that it is not *friendly* toward me as formerly, but the God of my father has been with me. ⁶ You know that I have served your father with all my strength. ⁷ Yet your father has cheated me and changed my wages ten times; however, God did not allow him to hurt me. ⁸ If he spoke thus, 'The speckled shall be your wages,' then all the flock brought forth speckled; and if he spoke thus, 'The striped shall be your wages,' then all the flock brought forth striped. ⁹ Thus God has taken away your father's livestock and given *them* to me.

One of the ways God blesses those who are honest is that even when others try to use your honesty against you God takes care of you and you come out ahead. Its always best to obey God and let Him do the fighting for you (**Deuteronomy 20:4**)!

Daniel 6:4

Then the commissioners and satraps began trying to find a ground of accusation against Daniel in regard to government affairs; but they could find no ground of accusation or evidence of corruption, inasmuch as he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption was to be found in him.

Honesty will help protect you when the accusations of those opposed to God come against you.

If You Sow Dishonesty, What Do You Reap?

Proverbs 20:17

Bread obtained by falsehood is sweet to a man, But afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel.

Lying is attractive to the flesh because its easy to do and appears to provide immediate benefits. But these benefits don't last long and result in long term loss.

Proverbs 12:19

Truthful lips will be established forever, But a lying tongue is only for a moment.

The influence of the honest grows with time. Those who lie may seem to start well, but they quickly lose their influence.

Proverbs 13:11

Wealth *obtained* by fraud dwindles, But the one who gathers by labor increases *it*.

The wealth from honest labor grows with time. But those who gain from fraud see their gain dwindle over time.

Proverbs 19:5

A false witness will not go unpunished, And he who tells lies will not escape.

Dishonesty is always found out and its price extracted.

Proverbs 6:12-15

A worthless person, a wicked man, Is the one who walks with a perverse mouth, ¹³ Who winks with his eyes, who signals with his feet, Who points with his fingers; ¹⁴ Who *with* perversity in his heart continually devises evil, Who spreads strife. ¹⁵ Therefore his calamity will come suddenly; Instantly he will be broken and there will be no healing.

Things will seem to be going along just fine. Then, one day, the dishonesty will result in a sudden calamity that will not heal.

Amos 8:1-6

Thus the Lord God showed me, and behold, there was a basket of summer fruit. 2 He said, "What do you see, Amos?" And I said, "A basket of summer fruit." Then the Lord said to me, "The end has come for My people Israel. I will spare them no longer." 3The songs of the palace will turn to wailing in that day," declares the Lord God. "Many will be the corpses; in every place they will cast them forth in silence." 4Hear this, you who trample the needy, to do away with the humble of the land, 5 saying, "When will the new moon be over, So that we may sell grain, And the sabbath, that we may open the wheat market, To make the bushel smaller and the shekel bigger, And to cheat with dishonest scales, 6 So as to buy the helpless for money And the needy for a pair of sandals, And that we may sell the refuse of the wheat?"

Notice what the price is that the people of Israel had to pay because of their love of dishonesty. In verse 2 God says that the end has come for them. A whole nation can be destroyed by dishonesty. There are many nations in the world today that have extensive natural resources and hard working people and yet remain poor nations. Why? Because of rampant corruption and dishonesty. Dishonesty economically destroys nations!

I Samuel 8:1 & 3-5 & 7

And it came about when Samuel was old that he appointed his sons judges over Israel.

3 His sons, however, did not walk in his ways, but turned aside after dishonest gain and took bribes and perverted justice. **4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah; 5 and they said to him, “Behold, you have grown old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint a king for us to judge us like all the nations.”**

7 The Lord said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them.”

Why did the elders of Israel demand a king? Because Samuel’s sons loved dishonest gain, took bribes, and perverted justice. Because of the dishonesty of these few leaders, the course of the nation was directed away from God’s will to become more like the other nations of the world. They rejected God from being king over them! Their lack of honesty distorted the form and effectiveness of their nation’s government!

Psalm 101:7

He who practices deceit shall not dwell within my house; He who speaks falsehood shall not maintain his position before me.

Finally, spiritual leaders who are dishonest will be removed from their positions of leadership by God.

Antidote for Dishonesty

Hosea 7:2

And they do not consider in their hearts That I remember all their wickedness. Now their deeds are all around them; They are before My face.

Jeremiah 23:24

“Can a man hide himself in hiding places So I do not see him?” declares the Lord. “Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?” declares the Lord.

(II Chronicles 16:9)

For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His. You have acted foolishly in this. Indeed, from now on you will surely have wars.”

Even if you have no concern about what men think of you, remember that God sees all your deeds, including your honesty and dishonesty – there are no hiding places.

II Corinthians 5:9

Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him.

(Acts 24:16)

In view of this, I also do my best to maintain always a blameless conscience both before God and before men.

(I Thessalonians 2:3-7)

For our exhortation does not *come* from error or impurity or by way of deceit; ⁴ but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who examines our hearts. ⁵ For we never came with flattering speech, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God is witness— ⁶ nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, even though as apostles of Christ we might have asserted our authority. ⁷ But we proved to be gentle among you, as a nursing *mother* tenderly cares for her own children.

Our goal is to be pleasing to God. As a result, we teach the Word of God accurately, we don't flatter people or seek money, or seek praise from men. Instead, we do and say what pleases God and is beneficial for others.

Psalm 119:36

Incline my heart to Your testimonies And not to *dishonest* gain.

Psalm 19:14

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer.

We meditate on God's testimonies and focus on His ways instead of the ways of men.

Conclusion

God wants us to be people who speak accurately and trustworthy about ourselves, other people, and Him.

Being honest does not mean that everything that is true has to be shared, but that everything that we choose to share should be true.

Our motivations for deciding what we share with others and what we don't are based on what would be in the best interests of other people. This means that our words and actions have to match.

Honesty is much more important in God's eyes than it tends to be to us. God gives blessings and protection to those who are committed to being honest.

Honesty makes us much more valuable employees and is a foundational criteria for leadership, particularly spiritual leadership.

Lying may provide some short term benefits at first but over time the benefit disappears and is replaced with loss. Dishonesty is always found out and its price extracted.

Dishonesty in leaders can cause great economic, political, and spiritual damage to a nation as well as to them personally.

Even if you have no concern about what men think of you, remember that God sees all your deeds, including your honesty and dishonesty – there are no hiding places.

Our goal is to be pleasing to God. As a result, we teach the Word of God accurately, we don't flatter people or seek money, or seek praise from men. Instead, we do and say what pleases God and is beneficial for others.

We meditate on God's testimonies and focus on His ways instead of the ways of men.

Appendix - Honesty & Discretion

The Bible recommends Discretion rather than radical openness or excessive transparency.

Discretion: *Showing discernment or good judgment, the quality of not being noticed by many people, cautious reserve in speech.*

Proverbs 3:21-24

My son, let them not vanish from your sight; Keep sound wisdom and discretion, 22 So they will be life to your soul And adornment to your neck. 23 Then you will walk in your way securely And your foot will not stumble. 24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid; When you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.

Proverbs 2:11-17

Discretion will guard you, Understanding will watch over you, 12 To deliver you from the way of evil, From the man who speaks perverse things; 13 From those who leave the paths of uprightness To walk in the ways of darkness; 14 Who delight in doing evil And rejoice in the perversity of evil; 15 Whose paths are crooked, And who are devious in their ways; 16 To deliver you from the strange woman, From the adulteress who flatters with her words; 17 That leaves the companion of her youth And forgets the covenant of her God

Proverbs 5:1-4

My son, give attention to my wisdom, Incline your ear to my understanding; 2 That you may observe discretion And your lips may reserve knowledge. 3 For the lips of an adulteress drip honey And smoother than oil is her speech; 4 But in the end she is bitter as wormwood, Sharp as a two-edged sword.

Proverbs 11:22

As a ring of gold in a swine's snout So is a beautiful woman who lacks discretion.

Proverbs 19:11

A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, And it is his glory to overlook a transgression.

Appendix - Is There Ever A Time When It Is God's Will For Us To Be Dishonest or to Lie?

The Bible never advocates lying.

Proverbs 12:22

Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, But those who deal faithfully are His delight.

However, there are two instances in the Bible where a good result occurred after a lie. One was the lie the Hebrew midwives told Pharaoh in order to save the lives of the male Hebrew babies (**Exodus 1:15-21**). In this case their motivation was a fear of God and their lie increased the risk of death for themselves while reducing it for the babies. Another example is Rahab's lie to protect the Hebrew spies (**Joshua 2**). Once again Rahab's motivation was a fear of God and her lie increased the risk of death for herself in order to save the lives of the spies. During World War 2 the Nazi's were hunting down Jews for extermination so some Christians would hide Jews in their houses. When the Nazi's knocked on the door it was already well-known that they intended to kill any Jews they found so the Christians would lie. But by doing so these Christians were putting their own lives at risk in order to protect their Jewish neighbors. So, I would answer this question by saying that it would not be right to lie except, perhaps, in the rare situation where a lie could be told in order to increase your own risk of being killed while reducing that risk for someone else.

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *The Importance of Honesty*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Ephesians 4:29, Ephesians 4:15, Proverbs 19:22*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Proverbs 20:23, Proverbs 26:18-19*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Psalm 5:9, Jude 1:16*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *The Importance of Honesty*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Proverbs 7:5&21*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Zechariah 8:16-17*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Psalms 15:1-5*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *The Importance of Honesty*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Galatians 5:22*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Proverbs 22:13, Proverbs 14:23, I John 2:4*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Jeremiah 26:2, Proverbs 30:6*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *The Importance of Honesty*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Proverbs 12:22, Leviticus 19:11, Ephesians 4:25*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Proverbs 6:16-19*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Timothy 1:9-10*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *The Importance of Honesty*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Revelation 21:8*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Luke 16:10-12, Luke 19:17*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Genesis 42:14-16, Psalm 116:11*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *The Importance of Honesty*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *II Kings 12:11-15*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Matthew 5:25, Proverbs 3:3-4*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Exodus 18:17-21*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *The Importance of Honesty*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Nehemiah 13:13*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Psalms 24:4-5, Psalm 40:4*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Genesis 31:4-9, Deuteronomy 20:4*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *The Importance of Honesty*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Daniel 6:4*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Proverbs 20:17, Proverbs 12:19, Proverbs 13:11, Proverbs 19:5*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Proverbs 6:12-15*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *The Importance of Honesty*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Amos 8:1-6*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Samuel 8:1-7*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Psalm 101:7, Hosea 7:2*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *The Importance of Honesty*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Jeremiah 23:24, II Chronicles 16:9*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *II Corinthians 5:9, Acts 24:16*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *I Thessalonians 2:3-7*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: *The Importance of Honesty*

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Psalm 119:36, Psalm 19:14*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Proverbs 3:21-24, Proverbs 2:11-17*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: *Proverbs 5:1-4, Proverbs 11:22, Proverbs 19:11*

How does this passage relate to the theme?

When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?