

RECAP FROM LAST MEETING (2-3 min)

Spend a few minutes catching everyone up to speed from last week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (1-2 min)**PERSONAL FAITH STORY (3 min)**

Ask someone to share a brief faith story about how they see God working in their life this week.

PRAYER (8-10 min)

Split into groups of two or three.

LESSON (1 of 2) (30 min)

Spend five minutes on these two questions:

1. Why do you think it's so common for people to lie or "stretch the truth"?
2. Are you sometimes tempted to lie or "stretch the truth?" If so, when are you most likely to do this?

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-7. Verses four through six contain a list of several things love "does not" do. The final item in this list is that love "does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth." Love loves the truth! Let's look at how to build a culture of truth within your organizational structure. It is not possible to remove all temptations for evil from among the people of an organization. What may be possible is to build a culture built on truth, so that when employee judgment or behavior runs contrary to the truth, the truth backed by facts can be presented in a self-correcting way. Employees in such an environment will come to accept, trust and deal in the truth. If they can't operate in an environment of truth, honesty, and integrity, they will depart.

As we grow closer to God, we become more like Him. Telling the truth becomes second nature as His light replaces the darkness in our soul. We find ourselves lying less and less.

- How important do you think it is to God for you to be honest?
- Read out loud these verses (Proverbs 12:22; 1 Peter 3:10; Proverbs 15:4; Ephesians 4:25). Which one speaks to you personally? Explain why this verse has special meaning to you.

Peer pressure can be strong. If people around you are lying, you may feel pressured to lie, too. There's a dramatic example of this in the book of Acts. Ananias and Sapphira told everyone they were giving all the money from the sale of their house to God (Acts 5:1-11). But that wasn't true. They had agreed to secretly hold back some of the money for themselves. God struck them dead—not for keeping some of the money, but for lying about it. It's easy to think that "little" lies are harmless.

- Is it okay to tell "little" lies? Why or why not?

ACTION STEPS (4-5 min)

1. Are there any people to whom you should apologize to for lying? If so, make a plan and do it.

CLOSING PRAYER (5 min)