

telling lies

A Bible Study by
Blessed Magazine
Ministries

Are They Ever Okay?

Will God Ever Excuse a Lie?

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How many of us have told a lie? We either told a lie to get out of trouble, or to avoid an unpleasant situation or maybe to not hurt someone's feelings. No matter what the reason was behind the lie, do you feel it was justified? Would God overlook it?

Lying is probably one of the most common wrong acts that people carry out. Most people would say that lying is always wrong, except when there's a good reason for it - which means that it's not always wrong!

Whether people admit they regularly lie or stretch the truth or maintain a squeaky clean self-perception, most people tell lies on a daily basis, even though they know it's not ideal.

What is a Lie?

Lying is a form of deception. This definition says that what makes a lie a lie is that the liar intends to deceive (or at least to mislead) the person they are lying to. It says nothing about whether the information given is true or false.

What Does the Bible Say About Lying?

Just as you dislike when someone lies to you, so does the Lord. In fact, He is incapable of lying — “it is impossible for God to lie” (Hebrews 6:18).

The Book of John explains the history of lying. “You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do...he is a liar and the father of it” (John 8:44).

Even lying in life-or-death situations is opposed, as the Book of Matthew says, “do not fear those who kill the body, but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell” (Matthew 10:28). Your soul and salvation matter more than your body for you, and should not be traded for anything in this physical life (Matthew 16:26).

Some Don't Even Realize They're Lying When They Lie

People get in the habit of saying certain phrases not comprehending they are actually lying. For example, when asked, ‘How are you doing today?’, most will answer, ‘I’m fine or I’m okay’ even when their day isn’t fine or okay. Sound familiar? Or how about this one, your wife asks ‘Do I look fat in this dress?’ and to not make her feel bad, you answer ‘No, not at all’, when you really want to tell her yes. Or what about when your boss asks if you could stay a little while longer and you reply ‘Sure’, knowing deep down you don’t really want to.

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Let's Look at Some More Lies People Tell:

1. "I have read and agree to the terms and conditions" – How many of us have just checked the box to move to the next screen?
2. "Of course I remember you!" – How many would admit they're guilty of doing this?
3. "No, I won't tell anyone" – However, you do tell someone who you think would not reveal what you have been told
4. "Tell me the truth, I won't be upset." – But you actually do and your body language is probably letting the person know you are
5. "I won't laugh, I promise." – But in most cases, you do laugh
6. "I don't have anything to wear" – But you do. You just don't want to wear what you have
7. "I don't have anything to eat". – But you do. You just don't want to eat what you have
8. "I don't have any money". – But you do. Even if it's 1 penny, you have money

There Are Typically Five Types of Lies. These Lies Include:

1. **Lies of Denial.** This type of lie will involve an untruthful person (or a truthful person) simply saying that they were not involved.
2. **Lies of Omission.** A lie of omission is often referred to as the "lie of choice," as the person using this method will leave out truths and make others conclude a different outcome. *Remember Abraham when he told Abimelech king of Gerar that Sarah was his sister – Genesis 20:2*
3. **Lies of Fabrication.** Fabrication is typically the most difficult type of lie for an individual to tell; the dishonest person needs to make up their "facts" as they are telling them, which of course makes it harder to remember later.
4. **Lies of Minimization.** Minimization involves attempts to distort the truth by making statements like "It was an accident" or "It was already damaged, though" in an attempt to minimize what they've done.
5. **Lies of Exaggeration.** This type of lie is similar to the lie of minimization in that there is a distortion of the truth; however, the subject will overstate what happened. *Remember the Amalekite with David concerning the death of King Saul – 2 Samuel 1:1-16*

Will God Ever Excuse a Lie?

God hates lying, and lying always involves a person—a liar—who chooses to lie. Honesty as a character quality is a sign of the Spirit's work in a person's soul. God cannot lie (Hebrews 6:18); therefore, His presence in a person gives rise to truthfulness. God's people are honest and should be very cautious of common phrases used which are lies undetected in our daily lives.

When we lie whether it's deliberate or unintentional, we must remember the words in Proverbs 6:16-17 - These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud

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look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood.

Also in Psalm 101:7 - He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight.

And, in the book of Revelation, Revelation 21:8 - But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

We Must Be Careful For Nothing

Many lie on God especially on social media all to gain likes from their audience. God said this and God said that. While it might seem harmless, using His name with an encouraging message, to say it's from God would be lying and lying on Him!

Also, what about when someone asks you to pray for them and you have every intention of praying for them later, but end up forgetting. Or, what about joking around stating facts which are not true, but it's a joke. Guess what, if it's not true, it's a lie.

James stated in chapter 5, verse 12 - let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.

How to Break the Cycle of Lying

Confess and Repent - Seek God's help – Rely on God's help – Move forward in Jesus name

Helpful Suggestions

1. Instead of saying I'm fine or I'm okay when you're not fine or okay, may we suggest you say: 'I'll be fine in Jesus name, pray for me'
2. Instead of saying I don't have anything to wear or eat, may we suggest you say: 'I don't have what I would like to wear (eat)'.
3. Instead of saying of course I remember you, may we suggest you say: 'I'm sorry, but could you please refresh my memory?'

If you really want to stop lying 'unintentionally', you're going to have to be very conscious of what you say and not fall into the snares of the enemy

Notes Shared From: <https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-lying-sin.html> and Blessed Magazine Ministries

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