

Weekly WorkPlace Wisdom

A Weekly Service To The Business Community From Saddleback Church

TRUTH DECAY

By Rick Warren

A young man was caught lying. His dad lectured him saying, "Son, there are no liars in heaven." The kid asked, "Dad, have you ever lied?" "Yes, son." "Then I guess the only people who are going to be in heaven are God and George Washington!"

A recent cover of TIME stated "LYING...everybody's doing it!" Are they? Here's a list I've collected of **TEN GREAT AMERICAN LIES**:

- #10 "Your table will be ready in a minute."
- #9 "One size fits all."
- #8 "This will hurt me more than it hurts you."
- #7 "I'm sorry I'm late. I got stuck in traffic."
- #6 "The check is in the mail."
- #5 "This offer is limited to the first 50 people who call in."
- #4 "It's not the money. It's the principle of the thing."
- #3 "I just need five minutes of your time."
- #2 "I'll start my diet tomorrow."
- #1 "I'm from the IRS and I'm here to help you."

The Bible says "**Would you like to enjoy life? Do you want long life and happiness? Then keep from speaking evil and from telling lies.**" Ps. 34:12-13 (GN)

Yes, it sometimes costs to be honest. But in the long run maintaining your integrity pays. You cannot put a price tag on the joy and freedom that comes with a clear conscience. And no amount of profit will eliminate the pain of a guilty one.

On top of that, customers flock to companies with a reputation for honesty. They want to deal with people they can trust. Proverbs 11:3 (GN) says "**People who can't be trusted are destroyed by their own dishonesty.**" In other words, you'll reap whatever you sow. Proverbs also says "**Respected people do not tell lies.**"

There's third reason for honesty: God is watching!

- I may be able to fool you.
- I may even be able to fool myself into believing a lie.
- But neither you nor I can lie to God and get away with it.

"The man of integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out." (Prov. 10:9) Fight truth decay this week!

Until next week...

Discussion Questions:

1. Is there something in your work life that has been comprised and not consistent with the Bible's teachings?
2. How do you effectively work with people who you may not respect nor trust?
3. Who can you acknowledge this week for their character and honesty?