

## Small Group/Sermon Notes for High Ways Part 8: No Lies

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- Make sure everyone knows each other's names. Have everyone share a little about themselves and how life is going right now.
- Key Scripture **Isaiah 55:6-9**
  - God's ways are higher than our ways x2:
    - First, God's ways can be hard to understand sometimes.
    - Second, God's ways are much much better than our ways.
- **This week: No lies.**
- Our God is a God of truth. We must live in the truth if we are to follow Christ.
  - No end to the Scripture references: **Exodus 20:16, Proverbs 6:16-19, Revelation 21:6-8, etc.**
- We need to speak truth.
  - Why do people tell lies or believe lies? Some reasons:
    - To get what you want, to manipulate others, to get out of trouble, to please people, to fit in, to not appear stupid, justify yourself, to win the argument, to hurt people, out of fear, to cover insecurity, etc. What else can you think of?
  - Have you ever wanted to tell the truth but you knew it wouldn't go well?
    - Speaking truth isn't all there is to it. We must also...
- We need to be able to hear the truth.
  - You still need to say things nicely! **Ephesians 4:14-16.**
    - Truth brings stability, unity, and maturity. That's what we want!!
    - Head knowledge vs heart knowledge. How about head truth vs heart truth?
  - What stops people from being able to hear the truth? (ears to hear)
    - Pride: can't be corrected – can't hear truth – doomed to believe lies.
    - Insecurity: can't face truth – can't hear truth – doomed to believe lies.
      - If you can't face it you'll never get your balance in life.
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> level mistake from 7 Habits.
    - Pretending: Parents? Dream chasers? Etc. Reality contradicts this.
    - Bias: love is blind – can't hear truth – doomed to believe lies.
      - Many forms of this. Political, family, racial, etc.
    - Dogmatism: Religious spirit – can't look for truth – believes lies.
      - Compare that to faith when we don't understand. Difference?
- We must believe the truth.
  - Have you ever believed a lie? Are there head lies and heart lies? Difference? Examples?
  - Big lie I believed was that I didn't belong. Just a faint shadow remains
    - What are some lies you have believed?
  - Faith is a huge key to believing the truth. **Titus 1:15-16**
    - Who are those who claim to believe but their minds and consciences are corrupted?
      - These are church people. Even ministers. Don't let yourself get jaded.
- We must live the truth.
  - Now it's time to live it out. There is power here. **John 8:31-32**
  - Living a double life is a house built on sand. It can all come crashing down.
  - One more! **1 John 1:5-7**
    - Walk in the light, not the darkness. It can be done. This brings fellowship and forgiveness!
- Sometimes it is hard to face the truth, but sometimes the truth is on your side.
  - Here are two of them: **John 5:24-25.**
- Pray for each other before you finish up!