
C. STRENGTHENING CHARACTER

*C4: How do I build **honesty** in my character? [Ephesians 4:25]*

A STORY

I was meeting with a man for a year. He and I had agreed that if there was anything I said or did that was not helpful to his growth that he would tell me. I was trying to provide a coaching relationship with this brother. After a year, it seemed like he was very pleased with the time we had and was very grateful. We stopped our coaching and then later I heard that he was very displeased with my time with him. What was it that stopped him from being honest with me? How honest are you with those around you? How do we develop a standard of honesty? Let's look at two passages of scripture.

DIGGING INTO THE BIBLE

Ephesians 4:25:

Therefore, each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

DISCUSSION AND DISCOVERY

1. What has been your history of telling the truth and telling lies?
2. What gives you a basic conviction of being honest?
3. What does it mean to be honest?
4. How do you strengthen this character quality?

APPLICATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

5. What steps do you need to take to reconcile any situations where you have not been honest?
6. How can you move forward and insure that honesty is consistently a part of your character?
7. What other scriptures can you think of that will deepen your conviction about honesty?
8. When will you get started in these steps?

MORE DIGGING INTO THE BIBLE

Ephesians 4:15-16:

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

DISCUSSION AND DISCOVERY

1. How does honesty impact the unity of the body of Christ?
2. What can you do to speak the truth in love?

APPLICATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

3. What would be a practical place that you can apply this, this week?
4. When will you get started?

LIST ANY OTHER VERSES THAT YOU HAVE FOUND WOULD ADDRESS THIS ISSUE: