

STONEBRIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Note to the Host: *Thanks for leading your group, creating community, and caring for your people! Remember, this is your group, and you have the freedom to navigate the conversation that best fits your group's dynamic. People come first!*

ICEBREAKER:

Share a time when you told the truth in a demanding situation and the result was better than you expected.

TALK IT OVER:

These questions are based off the sermon that took place on Sunday. Feel free to revisit any of the scripture Mark mentioned in his message. Answer as many questions as your time allows; do not feel pressed to get through them all!

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, how honest would you have to be for others to consider you truthful? (Hint: Yes, it is a trick question.)
2. Read Proverbs 19:1–5. What are the contrasts you see between people who have integrity and those who do not? What are the other prominent contrasts besides that between truth and falsehood? What has been your experience with people who are dishonest?
3. **Satan Is a Liar.** Read John 8:43–47. “Devil” comes from the Greek translation of the Hebrew name “Satan,” which means “accuser,” “adversary,” or “slanderer” (See Job 1:6

and the footnote or study Bible note.)? On a scale of 1 to 10, how much do you have to lie to be a liar? If you try to maintain a lie is the truth, what typically happens the longer the lie persists? How do you think the Pharisees (see 8:13) felt when Jesus read them the riot act on being liars? Do you think the Pharisees considered themselves liars?

4. **Jesus Tells the Truth.** Read John 14:6 and Titus 1:1–2. What do John and Paul reveal about the character of God and Jesus to their readers in these verses? What do you suppose is Jesus’s state of mind when he confronts the religious leaders of his day about what they say about him and his father or how they treat the temple?
5. Read Acts 5:1–10. What happened to Ananias and Sapphira? (Go ahead and sing the song if you know it; you want to, right? 😊) Did they have a way out? How would you feel if someone caught you in a lie?
6. **Truth-Telling Brings Harmony.** Read Proverbs 3:27–30. The last two verses represent the Tenth and Ninth Commandments, respectively: “Don’t covet” and “Don’t bear false witness.” What is the key in these verses that brings harmony with our “neighbors”? How could you live out that key?
7. **Trust Is Always Built on Truth.** Read 1 Timothy 4:12 and 2 Timothy 3:16. What are the “sources of truth” you can rely on to get going and stay on the path of truthfulness and trustworthiness?
8. Read John 8:31–32 and James 1:19–21. How can you be “set free” from the bondage of sin and lying? What practical steps can you take this week to turn things around if you need to?

PRAYER:

Please do not stress about the time of prayer, pray however your group feels comfortable. This can either be one person pray, or you can go in a circle and have each person pray a few sentences. Be sure to change it up so your prayer time stays fresh in your group!

- Make sure that everyone has a chance to share!
- Encourage all praise reports! Celebrate what God has done!
- Have someone record and distribute the requests to your group, to pray over throughout the week.