

# FAST Lesson 1E: Real Men Don't Just Go Along With the World – A New Honesty

John Kain, 2009

- I. Why do people tell lies? (To avoid punishment, to make ourselves look good.) Why do people cheat? (To get more than we have earned.)
- II. Liars and cheaters are both dishonest – a foolish behavior that will always harm you in the long term. Dishonesty leads to failure and a poor reputation.
- III. Why should we be honest when so many people around us lie and cheat? (Because God hates all forms of dishonesty. Because dishonesty works against us.)
- IV. Sometimes we tell “white lies” because we don’t want to hurt the feelings of others, such as saying “you’re really good at that” when in fact someone has not performed well. It is usually possible to be positive and motivating without lying, such as saying “you’re improving” or “I’m proud of you.” People appreciate truth more than flattery - we should be loving and tactful without lying.
- V. Truth stands the test of time, in contrast to lies which are eventually exposed. And having a good reputation is more valuable than having the temporary success that can be achieved through dishonesty.

“**The righteous hate what is false**, but the wicked bring shame and disgrace.” (Proverbs 13:5)

“There are six **things the LORD hates**, seven that are detestable to him: **haughty eyes**, a **lying tongue**, hands that shed innocent blood, **a heart that devises wicked schemes**, feet that are quick to rush into evil, **a false witness who pours out lies** and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers.” (Proverbs 6:16-19)

“He who rebukes a man will in the end gain more favor than he who has a flattering tongue.” (Proverbs 28:23)

“He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but **whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy**.” (Proverbs 28:13)