

## **COVENANT LIPS**

Honesty is not just the best policy but the 'only' policy!

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## **SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION** - Speaking Truth

Exodus 20:16 - You shall **not give false testimony** against your neighbor.

Psalm 19:14 - May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

Psalm 31:18 - Let their lying lips be silenced, for with pride and contempt they speak arrogantly against the righteous.

Psalm 32:2 - Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them and **in whose** spirit is no deceit.

Psalm 101:7 - No one who **practices deceit** will dwell in my house; **no** one who **speaks falsely** will stand in my presence.

Proverbs 6:16-19 - 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 person who stirs up conflict in the community.

Proverbs 12:19-22

Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.

**Deceit is in the hearts** of those who plot evil, but those who promote peace have joy.

No harm overtakes the righteous, but the wicked have their fill of trouble.

The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy.

Proverbs 26:28 - A lying tongue hates those it hurts, and a flattering mouth works ruin.

John 8:44 - You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Eph. 6:11 - Put on the full armor of God, so that you can **take your stand against the devil's schemes.** 

Eph. 4:25 - Therefore each of you **must put off falsehood** and **speak truthfully** to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

# Most addicts are not just sexually addicted but are equally addicted to lying.

## **COVENANT LIPS:** Can you make this commitment?

I promise, *I will not lie to you*, my brothers. This is my solemn oath before God and you. I swear that the communication that I shall give during ReGroup and the interaction to all members all week through all means *shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God*.

#### THEREFORE:

- I will not shade the truth about myself to garner your acceptance.
- I will not exaggerate my steps toward growth but be truthful on recovery steps taken.
- I will not pretend to be what I am not.
- I will not minimize my failings so as to mislead you from calling me out.
- I will not delay in admitting compromise, the beginning of a slide toward failure
- I will not imply purity when there isn't.
- I will not withhold for one day the actuality of having a relapse.
- I will humble myself before this group allowing you to speak into my life in all things.

### **ASSOCIATION OF DECEPTION:**

I recognize that when I operate out of deception, I fall under the influence of the Father of Lies who wants me to carry out his desires, withhold from telling the truth and steer me away from God's plan for my life. I recognize, when I lie, I am serving the wrong master and in so doing, I hurt myself, break trust with you and damage my connection with God.

#### **AFFIRMATION OF TRUTHFULNESS:**

- I Want Integrity more than Image
- I Value Humility more than Honour
- I Embrace Authenticity more than Approval
- I Desire Honesty more than Admiration
- I want Jesus more than my Addiction
- I choose to believe that integrity, humility, authenticity and honesty anchored by my surrender to Jesus will be the path that the Lord and others will honour.

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

James 4:10