

EPHESIANS - Ephesians 4:25

Message 72

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INTRO: We have been looking at the second part of the practical section of this letter. The first section dealt with unity and the second dealt with the instruction not to walk like other Gentiles walk. What we had in this section was first their conversion. So let us look at the contrast that is to happen in conversion. In verses 17-19 we have a description of how they walked before they were converted. Paul said:

17 This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind,

18 having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart;

19 who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

But this is what is to happen now that they have been saved according to verses 20-24:

20 But you have not so learned Christ,

21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus:

22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,

23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

So Paul says in Corinthians, "If any man is in Christ, he is a new creation. Old things have passed away, behold all things become new." And again in Galatians, "I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I but Christ lives in me.

And the life I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me."

So Paul has spoken of the conversion of the Ephesians. He shows what they were like in the past and that they are not to walk like that any more. Then he shows them how they have learned from Christ how to walk. They were to put off the old man; they were to be renewed by the Spirit with regard to the mind and they were to put on the new man. So, if a person puts off the old man according to his deeds, if he is renewed in the mind by the Spirit and he puts on the new man, what is the result of that? And we find this in the conclusion to this section. So we read verses 25-32. It says this:

25 Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another.

26 "Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath,

27 nor give place to the devil.

28 Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.

32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you.

What a contrast these verses are with how they lived before they gave their heart to Christ. And so let me ask, if we were to go back to Ephesus, back in that day, what did they have trouble with? What kinds of things did they struggle with? We will now go to Paul's conclusion on this section. We will see what they struggled with in Ephesus 2,000 years ago.

III. THE WORTHY WALK OF THE SAVED (4-6).

B. Walk Not Like The Gentiles (4:17-32)

2. The conclusion (4:25-32)

So we look now at the conclusion to this section. We begin with verse 25.

a. Regarding truth (4:25)

Paul says:

25 Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another.

So first of all, consider the word "therefore." We ask, "Wherefore?" Why should they do all the things Paul listed after the introductory word "Therefore"? Simply because they are not to walk like they used to walk. The fact is that they have not so learned Christ. When one is converted, this is what is involved. Instead of lying, which speaks of the old man; they now speak the truth, which is what the new man is to do.

-So just what is lying?

Well, what is truth? Truth is any communication to another that conforms to reality. What is lying then? It is any communication to another that does not conform to reality. The result of telling a lie is that one is a liar.

Let me ask us all, how honest are we? Am I a liar? Well, if I tell someone I was not at home when he called, but I was at home, am I a liar? There are children listening to this message. When my mother asks me if I did what she told me to do and I say I did, but I didn't, am I a liar?

Do lies come in various sizes? Let me give two examples. Here is an example of one situation where lies were told. We have witnessed lies told in church settings that had very huge and very bad consequences for many people. These lies negatively affected hundreds of lives. There is one case. Here is another. One person meets another and asks how they are. And the other says they are doing fine, but they are not doing fine. Is there a difference in the size of those lies? Without question there is, though both are wrong. Will there be a difference in consequence before God if repentance does not take place? If God is just, and He is, then there will be a difference.

The subject of lying is a very huge subject nor is it easy to know what all qualifies as a lie. In 1966 the Anglican theologian Joseph Fletcher wrote a book called, *Situational Ethics: The New Morality*. I have not read the book but have read many who mentioned him and I studied a little of him in Bible school. From what I have studied, I think the overriding theme throughout the book is his view of love.

Now I say that lying is a big subject. Even in Scripture some questions are hard to answer. Let me give you an example. We go to 1 Samuel 15. God had set Saul up as king but Saul had failed God and God had told Samuel that He would remove the kingdom from Saul and Samuel was sad. This meant yet another change. And so we begin in verse 1:

1 Now the LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons."

2 And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'

3 *"Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; you shall anoint for Me the one I name to you."*

4 *So Samuel did what the LORD said, and went to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, "Do you come peaceably?"*

5 *And he said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice.*

Well, after the sacrifice Samuel checked over all Jesse's sons and finally came to the youngest, David, and he anointed him king. So here is the question, "Was it OK for God to tell him to say he had come to sacrifice when in actual fact he had come to anoint another king?" Here is what we know from Scripture: God cannot lie. The reason God cannot lie because it goes against His very own nature. Whatever He does is right and good. But from this we see that it is not that easy to define what lying is.

Well, I do not want to get into all these questionable types of situations, but with lying for self-preservation or for personal gain or for other sinful motives. What we want to consider is black and white lying. For example, I told the game warden I had shot a cow moose by accident when I had in fact shot it on purpose.

God's greatest lesson as to what He thinks about lying is given to us in the account of Ananias and Saphira and we will look at that later. And why did this couple lie? So that others would look up to them spiritually!

Let me just add that I think if we will put away lying and speak truth we will learn to know what is right when we meet hard situations. And if we deal with lying when we are convicted about it, it will help us make right decisions when things are

otherwise not clear.

-Why does lying head the list here?

Now let me ask another question: Paul has just told the Ephesians they should no longer walk like they did before they were saved. They had not learned Christ like that. They were to put off the old man, and they were to be renewed by the Spirit with regard to the mind, and to put on the new man. And now he will show what that means in actual life, and the very first thing they are to do is to put away lying and speak the truth. And here is the question: why does putting away lying and telling the truth head the list here?

Jones says, and I quote: "...that lying is the most prominent and the most common characteristic of the life of sin. Consider the sequence of events. You commit a sin; you do not want to be found out, and you do not want anybody to know it, so you tell a lie. Because you have told a that lie you have to tell another one to cover it; and on and on it goes, but a horrible process of geometric progression" (218). We have seen this happen in church leadership.

So when Paul talks about putting off the old and putting on the new, it seems that the first thing that came to his mind when he thought of how they should now walk, since they are Christians is that they should put away lying. Lying is a huge problem. As soon as the self comes under some danger if the truth should be known, lying wants to spring up without even thinking.

Now in our passage we have been instructed to put off the old man according to his deeds. One of the major deeds of the old man is lying. So Paul had instructed the Ephesians to be renewed by the Spirit with reference to the mind. After this they were to be putting on the new man and here is our first example of this process of putting off the old and putting on the new. It is

putting off lying and putting on truth. That is putting off the old man according to his deeds, and then he says, "each one is to speak truth with his neighbor..." That is putting on the new man.

Now consider what a problem lying is. First, lying heads the list here. Second, consider how common it is. Paul did not say, "Don't start lying. He did not even say, 'Don't lie.'" He said, "Put away lying." What does that mean? It means it's already happening. How do the unsaved walk? They lie! But beyond that, Paul has to tell those who have become Christians to put away lying! We have seen some of the most horrific things happen because of believers who lie. Lies are horrible, horrible things! To all the children listening, determine to deal with lying. And when it does happen, then learn to repent.

Now you know where lying began and by whom. It began by Satan in the Garden of Eden. In Genesis 3 we are introduced to the father of all liars. The first sin mentioned in the Bible is lying. The last sin mentioned in the Bible is lying. Listen to what Revelation 22:14-15 says:

14 Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.

15 But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

Well, when Paul said, "Therefore, put away lying..." he is saying that this is what they have been guilty of doing. And now, writing to them as Christians he says: "Stop lying." They were already doing this. There are many ways to lie. Jones says, "The first thing Paul includes in his list is this lying or falsehood, falsehood in general, for as we all know, alas! you can lie without saying a word. You can lie sometimes by not

speaking, by allowing something to be said which you know to be wrong, you can lie by a look. So that the term *lying* really does cover falsehood in general" (213).

-What is the cure of lying?

What is the cure for lying? A.W. Tozer says in his tract called the Old Cross and The New that we have a new kind of Christianity today. He says in part: "This new evangelism employs the same language as the old, but its content is not the same and its emphasis not as before." I do not know what Tozer would say today if he should be brought back from the grave and he were to travel around in his own denomination and see what is happening. What would he say of modern Evangelicalism?

But I ask you, what does the old cross Tozer spoke of do with liars? It slays them. And when the cross slays liars they die to lying and they don't lie any more. So Paul says we are to put off the old man according to his deeds and put on the new man, and when you have put on the new man he does not lie. Let me give you the greatest cure for lying. Here it is: repentance! And the liar who repents confesses his sin to the one he lied to. And how do you confess? Without excuse. Straight, right out confession. "I lied to you. I said thus and such. That was a lie and I want to ask if you would forgive me."

Jones says you don't pray to have the Lord help you to stop lying. Just stop it. But I recommend that a pathological liar can't just stop lying. Lying is not his second nature, it is his first. Can he stop lying? I do not know if I am correct but I think a pathological liar can only stop lying if he or she repents and confesses the lie every time it happens.

If there is something outstanding right then that comes to mind, repent and go confess it to the one you lied to. Spare nothing. Say, "I am a liar. I lied to

you. Here is what I said. It is not true. I ask you, would you please forgive me for lying to you?" Once the slate is clean, now one is just like Christ in that regard. One's standing has become one's actual state. But liars that we are, we end up doing it again. Then our standing and state are no longer equal. What now? Repent and confess again. Now standing and state is the same again. And you say, "Is it that easy?" No. It's that hard. But I think I can assure any liar of this one thing; if you do that, lying will come to an end. Even a pathological liar can quit if he repents every time he lies.

Now you see, they tell me that those who live with this gender issue of our present day were born that way. They are a man trapped in a woman's body or vice versa. Or they are men attracted to men or women to women. Are they born that way? I think that may be true. We are all born with a sin nature. Some are given to one sin more than others. When I studied the alcohol issue in the Bible I read that if there are any drunks in your family, you cannot afford to take one drink. Why? You may be given to the same sin, and if you take one drink you may well be hooked. It's in that sin nature we have all inherited. It is precisely this that we need to be saved from.

Maybe somebody who is caught in the gender crises will listen to this message. To such a person I say, maybe you have been sold that bill of goods that says it is your right to live this way because you were born with this bent. Let me tell you in love, you may have been born that way but that does not mean it is not sin. The whole of man's problem is he is born with a sinful nature. One person is born with a greater propensity to one sin than another. And what comes natural for persons caught in the gender crisis is a very, very huge sin and if one do not get deliverance from that sin one will suffer eternal hell fire.

If one is born with a desire to hurt others which eventually develops into a desire to murder, does that now mean murder is acceptable? Of course not. If one is born with a deep desire to lie, does that now mean it is OK to lie? Of course not. It is this that we are born with that salvation is all about. The Gospel, the good news, is that it can deliver from every kind of sin. The Bible says we are all sinners. It is clear that we are all born with a sin nature. The Gospel is found in Jesus Christ. It is attained by acknowledging that the things we have done because of what we were born with is sin. It is attained by repenting from our sins, and receiving the forgiveness offered to us by Christ because He took our place in death on the cross. This holds true all sins of immorality, whether it be adultery, fornication, homosexuality, seeking to be a woman when we are a man and vice versa, it holds true for all liars and any other kind of vice anyone may be bound in.

Now repentance is a change of mind. It comes with confession. Our mind may be like a board that has been in the sun and it is warped. And you can hardly get it back. But if you put the pressure on and keep it one way long enough, it will go back. A pathological liar is like a warped board. But nothing will apply greater pressure to straightening the mind out about lying like recognizing the truth and acting on it by repenting. The truth is that if I lie, I am a liar.

Turn to Proverbs 6. We want to look at the company lying keeps. We begin in verse 16:

16 These six things the LORD hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him:

17 A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood,

18 *A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in
running to evil,*

19 *A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord
among brethren.*

Liars keep very bad company and God hates lying with all the company it keeps. Listen to the company it keeps in some of the ten commandments which relate to man's relationship with man in Exodus 20:13-17:

13 "You shall not murder.

14 "You shall not commit adultery.

15 "You shall not steal.

16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

17 "You shall not covet..

You see, lying is in company with murder, adultery, stealing and covetousness. It is bad, very bad. If a parent is a liar, that parent will have very little power with his or her children. It is more likely for such a person to drive their children away from the Lord than help them to find the Lord. If a preacher is a liar, his lips will be sealed about a lot of things, and if they are not, his preaching will be powerless. He will likely preach a lot about faith and love and so on, and little about sin.

Now permit me to add one note here from Lloyd Jones. He says, "There is a type of man who is very scrupulous in his public conduct, but who does not apply the same canons when he comes to his private behavior. There are men, in business, who would not dream of telling a lie or doing anything dishonest, men who observe their professional code with the utmost fidelity; but their standards in their private conduct in their homes and in the bosom of their families is something strangely and strikingly different"

end quote (201). Well, such a life can be described in one word: hypocrisy.

Now, the subject of lying raises the question of swearing of oaths. By requiring someone to swear an oath you also give the right to lie when swearing is not required. Politicians very often lie. They make promises they don't keep. But it is expected, because they are politicians. Politicians generally do not promote God, they promote themselves and lying often helps self out.

In general, especially in politics, if one is caught lying, that is not a big thing. But if you lie after swearing an oath, now it is given a new name, it is perjury. Lying is not punishable, but perjury is. And what is perjury? Well, it is lying.

So what about swearing of oaths?

Matt. 23:16-22:

16 *"Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'Whoever swears by the temple, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gold of the temple, he is obliged to perform it.'*

17 *"Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that sanctifies the gold?"*

18 *"And, 'Whoever swears by the altar, it is nothing; but whoever swears by the gift that is on it, he is obliged to perform it.'*

19 *"Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that sanctifies the gift?"*

20 *"Therefore he who swears by the altar, swears by it and by all things on it."*

21 *"He who swears by the temple, swears by it and by Him who dwells in it."*

22 *"And he who swears by heaven, swears by the throne of God
and by Him who sits on it.*

Matthew 5:33-37:

33 *"Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You
shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your
oaths to the Lord.'*

34 *"But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven,
for it is God's throne;*

35 *"nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by
Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great
King.*

36 *"Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make
one hair white or black.*

37 *"But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For
whatever is more than these is from the evil
one.*

Let me read several questions from our Catechism and the
comments I give:

**"8. What does our Saviour say concerning the swearing of
oaths?"**

It gives this answer:

*"He says: "But I say unto you, Swear not at all; - let your
communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for
whatsoever is more than these, cometh of evil"
(Matt. 5:34-37)."*

My comment goes like this:

*"Historically, Mennonites have held that Christians ought not to
swear by oath at all. This is another
distinctive of the Mennonites which we will
examine in greater detail under the next point.
Here we note that Jesus exhorts the Christian
not to swear oaths at all. In Matthew 23:16-22
Jesus shows what happens when one must*

substantiate his statements by oaths. In the long run one is allowed to lie. Only if he makes an oath by the right thing is he required to tell the whole truth. Surely we ought to be careful not to fall into such hypocrisy."

Next question:

"9. Is this said of all oaths?"

Yes: for James says: 'But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath' (James 5:12)."

Here is my comment:

"James puts it like this, "But let you 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No,' lest you fall into judgment." The Jews would swear by various things such as the gold of the temple or such like. James, Jesus' half brother, writes that the Christian is not to enter various degrees of oaths, nor are they to enter any oath.

"John Calvin writes, "The Anabaptists, building on this passage, condemn all oaths, but they only shew their ignorance. For James does not speak of oaths in general, nor does Christ....but both condemn that evasion which had been devised, when men took liberty to swear without expressing the name of God, which was a liberty repugnant to the prohibition of the law" (Vol. XXII, pg. 353). End of quote.

Turn to John 8. In verses 31-45 we have an interesting passage that deals with truth and lying.

31 *Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.*

32 *"And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."*

33 *They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can you*

say, 'You will be made free'?"

34 Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin.

35 "And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever.

36 "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

37 "I know that you are Abraham's descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you.

38 "I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father."

39 They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham.

40 "But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this.

41 "You do the deeds of your father." Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father—God."

42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me.

43 "Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word.

44 "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

45 "But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.

Where does lying come from? We need to recognize it and admit to it in order to help us to remain truthful. Lying is demonic. Beyond all doubt many people are troubled by demons. It is a subject we want to avoid but we need to recognize it. Now consider this, God cannot lie. The Scripture is clear on that. Why can He not lie? People raise these silly questions like: Could God make a rock so large that He could not lift it? If you answer that question either way then there is something God cannot do and that means He is not omnipotent, that is all powerful. But here is what we must clearly understand, God can never violate His own attributes. That is one thing He cannot do. So He also cannot lie because that would violate His goodness and His righteousness and His holiness.

Turn to Acts 5 once more. The Church was new. For some reason Christians had come to be in want and some of those who had possessions sold things and brought the money to the Apostles to help out. This was very commendable. So let us read verses 1-3:

- 1 But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession.*
- 2 And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet.*
- 3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?"*

Well there is a whole story there. Both Ananias and his wife died because they lied. But I want you to notice what happened to Ananias and Sapphira to cause them to do what they did. Peter said in verse 2, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit...?" It is a failure of many Christians to fail to recognize the workings of demons in Christians as well as others. Why did Satan fill their hearts?

Because he found an ungodly desire in Ananias and Saphira. And what was that desire? They wanted to be considered as some great Christians. And through this desire, though we might think it almost commendable, Satan was able to cause them to lie. What can it do to a church when Satan finds a member in whom he can work to cause them to lie? There is no end to what can happen.

And why would a couple give a lot of money to a church and keep back part and make it look like they gave all they had? To seek glory from man. And through such sinful desires Satan can destroy churches.

We go on in our text now in verse 25:

25 Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another.

Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor.

Now I ask you, if a person does these two things, he puts away all lying and he always speaks the truth with others, how much of life does it affect? What will it do for that person? How many other things will change? What spreads from lying is often disastrous. When one man does not speak truth with his neighbor, the fallout in sin can become inestimable.

Let me quote from Jones once more. He says, "We have noted what he has been saying in the previous verse, correctly translated: 'that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and holiness of the truth'. We are thus reminded that the most essential characteristic of the Christian life is truth, *the Truth*. This is the thing that makes the Christian life such a complete contrast to the non-Christian life, to the life of the world. Also, in describing the old man, the Apostle has been speaking about corruption and the lusts of deceit, which are the greatest

character of the sinful life" end quote (214).

Our text says, *Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor."* We express ourselves most through our speech. Speech, communication by words, is one of the greatest endowments from God to man. It makes man different from animals in very important ways. And though there are more ways than one to lie, most lies are told. And lies affect one's neighbor.

I have to give you this quote from Jones. He says: "Is there anything which is more characteristic of the non-Christian, sinful life than this element of lying? Deceit and lying, sham and pretense, are more obvious in the life of the world than anything else. Have you ever tried to analyze life from that angle? Think of a company of people on what is meant by the world to be some happy occasion, some reception, some party. Look at the affability and the friendliness. But then just watch the glances, just listen to the whispering! Ah! The camaraderie's, the friendship and the affability, how delighted we are to meet..., and oh! How fond they are of one another! - and yet they are muttering beneath their breath. Is not that the life of society? What if people really spoke the truth one to another and what they really believe? I can safely say that the whole life of society, in any realm or at any level - is run on this principle of deceit and lying. And we all know it to be so. But the pretense, the sham, and the play acting goes on. This is, without doubt, the most characteristic thing about the life of sin" (218).

Now what he said there is not only true of the gathering of the people of the world. The same thing he said there could be said of many family gatherings at special days like Christmas. And he mentions later with all such things going on, what do we despise more than liars? Oh we do not like liars. No wonder the Scripture says, "Let God

be true and every man a liar." Well, I also know it is not appropriate to express every truth in every place. Yet how much hypocrisy, which is a form of lying, happens so often at various gatherings.

Consider our verse for one more point. It says:

25 Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another.

In the word "for" we are given a reason. It is because we are members one of another. This raises a question. Does being members one of another refer to the Church, or is this in reference to mankind in general? The idea of being members one of another might point us to the Church, but the previous clause, speaking truth with one's neighbor would seem to speak of mankind.

At one point in the life of Christ a lawyer asked Jesus what he needed to do to inherit eternal life. For reason of time I won't go through the whole account, but Jesus told him he should love the Lord his God with all his heart, soul, mind and strength and his neighbor as himself. And the lawyer asked, "And who is my neighbor?" And Jesus gave the story of the good Samaritan, indicating that we are neighbors to those we come in contact with.

CONCL: And so, to conclude, the subject at hand is putting off the old man and putting on the new. The way this is done is by being renewed by the Holy Spirit with reference to the mind. The mind is the crucial part. One of the primary aspects of failure in mankind is the failure to be truthful. Failure to be truthful means lying. And the first thing we need to store in our minds is that lying is a horrible, horrible sin and needs to be dealt with.

And how do we gain victory over such sins as lying? The same way we achieve victory in all other areas of life; by repentance and trusting in Christ for forgiveness and cleansing. This means confessing our sins to those against whom we have sinned. And

right there we meet the greatest challenge of all.