

## ***False Sanctification***

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?  
2 Corinthians 6:14. {UL 231.1}

Dear Sister \_\_\_\_: I will not delay writing you that which the Lord brings to my mind. Your case was presented to me two years ago. I then saw you were a deceived woman. You thought you had clear light from God, but it was darkness. You have had views and an experience peculiar to yourself and not in harmony with the people whom God is leading.... {UL 231.2}

There is no such thing as an instantaneous sanctification. It is an every-day work. Says Paul, "I die daily" (1 Corinthians 15:31). He received a conversion daily to God. As the truth and Spirit of God revealed to him the defects in his character, he put away his wrong, died to self, and cleansed himself "from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God" (2 Corinthians 7:1) .... {UL 231.3}

Your peculiar ideas have had so powerful a control upon your mind [that] you could not dwell upon anything else. In meeting, you thought it your special duty to urge your opinions. You have taken your position above the church as though you were exalted and, in the light, and [as though] they must come up to your position, receive your views. You are fanatical; you have not a healthy imagination. Your influence will do harm and only harm, unless you become humble and teachable.... {UL 231.4}

Satan is most successful when he can cover up minds in this kind of pious, sanctified consecration which has no part in the sanctification brought to view in the Word of God. It is, in short, a spurious article, that article [that] you possess. You received your views of sanctification from those who claim to be sanctified and holy, who have no love for the law of God and who have no love for His appearing. You received your light from a corrupt source; the stream that came from a corrupt fountain is impure. {UL 231.5}

As I write to you, your case is more plain and clear before me. You have allowed your views of sanctification to unite you to those who were grossly corrupt. You have not obeyed the Word of God and abstained from all appearance of evil. Satan has desired your soul that he might sift you as wheat. Your "holy, sanctified union" (as you have termed it) with individuals has been a delusion of Satan.... {UL 231.6}

You have been led through your perverse ideas of sanctification to depart from the Word of God. You have a work to do to break all in pieces and give up your experience in the past few years and become as a little child and be converted, be humble and teachable that God may lead you.—Letter 10, August 5, 1870, to a church member in New York State. {UL 231.7}

## *Cause Me to Hear*

Cause me to hear  
Your loving kindness in the morning  
For in You alone that I would trust  
Cause me to know  
The righteous way that You will lead me  
For unto You my soul I will entrust.

Teach me to do You will for You are my God  
Cause me to hear Your words to guide me every day.  
Cause me to walk Your way with a song in my heart  
With a song, with a song in my heart.

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## *IS A WHITE LIE "EVER" OK*

According to Merriam-Webster, a white lie is “a lie about a small or unimportant matter that someone tells to avoid hurting another person.” According to relationship psychologist, Devon McDermott, quoted in a piece by [Wendy Rose Gould](#) on Business Insider website, “The biggest problem with white lies is that we

often need to continue to create more and more lies to cover the tracks of our original lies.” Thus, we begin the decline down the proverbial ethical slippery slope and need to find ways to perpetuate the lie or be discovered. Once a lie is told it is challenging to come clean and recover the moral high road.

White lies can have a cumulative effect. You tell one small lie and get away with it and then are more likely to do the same in the future. Lying is a learned behavior. You might ask: Is it ever acceptable to tell a white lie? There are no rules of the game although Gould suggests that if a white lie requires additional white lies or hinders the expression of your personal needs then you should tell the truth. She suggests delivering honesty “with a side of gentleness.”

[Here are three examples of when you should tell the truth; avoid the temptation to lie.](#)

1. Someone from work asks you out for a date and you don't want to hurt his feelings so you make up an excuse by saying you have other plans. This may seem like a small lie to prevent hurting your co-worker's feelings and you may even think it's best to lie for workplace harmony. However, the way we responded opens the door for being asked out again. It's best to be honest to avoid having to lie again and again. You could explain that you don't think of the co-worker in a romantic way but want to be friends. (Of course, don't say 'friends' if you don't really mean it).
2. You want to break off a relationship but do not want to hurt the other person's feelings. Staying in the relationship may cause more long-term harm than breaking it off as soon as you feel there is no longer a spark, or you've met someone else or your feelings have changed. You are going to have to lie about wanting to go places together. You don't help the other person by delaying the inevitable and making it seem you're still interested. It's best to be starkly honest even though it might hurt their feelings.
3. You just started a new job, and your boss explains your responsibilities. It was confusing and you don't fully understand. When asked if you have any questions, you say 'no' because you don't want to come off as being dense or accusing the boss of being unclear. This may affect your ability to do your job and do it well so say something like “I just want to be sure I got it all.



Let us be honest. There are times when a white lie seems to be the least offensive thing to say. How many of these things have you done?

1. Someone gives you a gift you do not like. Do you say you do not like it or something such as: "Thanks for the thoughtful gift?"
2. You're on a phone call with an acquaintance who goes on and on. You do not want to hurt his feelings but can't stand it any longer. Do you abruptly get off the phone or say something like: "I lost track of time; I have to go now?"
3. A friend of yours calls and asks you to meet up with her and three others from work. You are currently at odds with one group member. You don't want to create undue stress for your friend or the other group members by explaining why you won't go. Do you say something like: "Thanks for asking but I have other plans?"

The common thread in each of these situations is to avoid harm to another person. It might be said in each case that you are being compassionate towards another person. You are respecting their feelings.

The key thing to remember is do not tell a lie to avoid personal responsibility. If your boss asks whether you have completed an important project at the end of the day, but you have not, don't make up an excuse like you got called away from your desk just to avoid conflict. Explain why it is taking longer. There may be good reasons. Even if it is just a matter of, you're working more slowly than anticipated, the worst thing to do is deny accountability, because then your boss may question whether you are trustworthy. Accepting the consequences of our actions, and not telling a lie to cover them up, is a matter of integrity.

### *Closing thoughts*

There is no such thing as an instantaneous sanctification. It is an every-day work. Says Paul, "I die daily" (1 Corinthians 15:31). He received a conversion daily to God. As the truth and Spirit of God revealed to him the defects in his character, he put away his wrong, died to self, and cleansed himself "from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God".

### *Closing prayer*

Father we come before you as little children, children who would rather die than sin against you. But Lord, we can do nothing on our own, we need your Holy Spirit to guide us. We need conviction. We need to say, "Whatever the Lord requires we will do". We ask for mercies and thank you for grace. And we ask all this in Jesus precious name. Amen.