

Love as Brethren

As touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another. 1 Thessalonians 4:9. {UL 225.1}

Truth, precious truth, is to sanctify, subdue, refine, elevate, and finally to exalt us to a seat at the right hand of the Majesty of heaven. Shall we grow feeble in spiritual power for want of exercise? Shall we go day after day without a marked and clear experience in the religious life because we permit our minds to be absorbed in worldly business? {UL 225.2}

Here, my dear son [Edson], is your danger. Here are the wiles of Satan entangling you. The very powers or organs that you cultivate become strong, and you are imperceptibly placing yourself where you will be in a position unfitted to engage in the work of God. The time that you should be giving yourself earnestly to the work, you are really unfitting yourself for the work God would honor you to do in His cause. **One pretext after another has arisen to your mind to excuse you from taking hold of the work which you could do at once while you are waiting till this object is gained or that project is accomplished.** It is not the great work you are fitted to do now. But it is the little duties connected with the work of God, the small responsibilities borne with humbleness and fidelity, that will qualify you for higher responsibilities, more important trusts. **Purity of motives, unselfish interest, you must cultivate.** {UL 225.3}

Press close to your younger brother, Willie. Let no emulation or strife separate your heart and affections from him. Let no selfish feelings or jealousy find a place in your heart. Empty it of all these things. Cultivate love, confidence, and trust. Live up to the Bible standard. Carry out the light God has given you. **Show in kindly acts and words and unselfish acts your true interest and affection for Willie. All the advances you make will be reflected back on you. I shall never be satisfied until I see you both, firmly and strongly, lovingly, united in the closest bonds of brotherly love.** God help you to work to this end. You are older than Willie and you should seek in every way to help him and bind him to your heart. Love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous. {UL 225.4}

Religion, my son, is not as some take it, head work, theory. It must be practically carried out in all the byways and broadways of life. It must regulate the life as well as to convince the mind. It alone must purify the heart. God requires everyone who professes His name to be good citizens and that the life of strict integrity and pure devotion should leave a bright light to the world.—Letter 35, July 30, 1876, to “Dear Children.” Edson had just turned 27; Willie was 21. {UL 225.5}

THIS THREEFOLD TRUTH

This is the threefold truth on which our faith depends,
and with this joyful cry worship begins and ends:

Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

On this we fix our minds as, praying side by side,
we take the bread and wine from Christ the crucified:

Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

By this we are upheld when doubt or grief assails
our Christian fortitude, and only grace avails:

Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

This is the threefold truth which, if we hold it fast,
changes the world and us and brings us home at last:

Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

OPENING PRAYER

Truth, precious truth, is to sanctify, subdue, refine, elevate, and finally to exalt us to a seat at the right hand of the Majesty of heaven. Shall we grow feeble in spiritual power for want of exercise? Shall we go day after day without a marked and clear experience in the religious life because we permit our minds to be absorbed in worldly business? Father forgive my feeble mind, send me your Spirit of conviction and duty, please direct the path you desire me to be on. I ask this prayer in Jesus precious name. Amen

12 Reasons Why Honesty Is the Best Policy and Gets You More of What You Want



Honesty is the best policy for many reasons. It may feel easier to tell lies in certain moments, but ultimately, they catch up to us. We can save ourselves a lot of trouble by just telling people exactly what we think in the first place. Here are 12 reasons why honesty is the best policy.

Why honesty is the best policy

1. Being honest causes less guilt

When most of us say something that is not truthful to someone, it causes us to feel guilt. We feel bad for not telling someone what we were actually thinking or feeling.

The guilt can weigh heavy on our hearts if it is a lie that we have to keep up.

When you choose to be honest, you prevent yourself from feeling any of this guilt, and avoid the unnecessary stress.

2. Honesty gets you more of what you want

I don't remember where I read or heard this, but there's this idea that the more direct you are, the more likely you'll get what you want in life.

When thinking of this deeper, perhaps it is the case that when you're not being completely honest about what you want, you're less likely to get it.

You can test it out in your own life. Try beating less around the bush, and instead, just being straightforward with exactly what you desire.

You might find people are more willing to give you what you want than you expect.

3. Being honest can make you more confident

Think about the people that say exactly what they think and feel often. It's almost as if they have very little filter in their head.

Few people could argue that people who are always honest are not confident. To act so boldly in expressing yourself to not worry about how people react, a person has to have of some level of assurance in themselves.

You can grow your own confidence by being more honest to others about what you think and feel.

4. Being honest gives you a good reputation

Perhaps we can all agree that most liars aren't regarded as having a good reputation. In life, your reputation can be a determining factor to whether people associate with you.

When you choose to be honest, you display a level of character that makes more people want to gravitate towards you. It makes more people want to support you in achieving your goals or dreams in life.

Choosing to be consistently honest will establish a reputation that can benefit you all throughout your life.

5. Honesty makes people trust you

This reason is pretty obvious, but generally no one trusts a liar. If you're not trusted, then people are less likely to work with you. People are less likely to be close with you.

Honesty builds a trust that makes people more comfortable to share personal things with you that may help you in life.

6. Honesty makes people respect you

As much as I don't like how blunt people can be sometimes, I do respect when people tell me exactly what they think and feel.

It makes it a lot easier to establish a better connection with someone if they're upfront about their desires and needs.

People may not always like exactly what you have to say, but people will respect that you don't hide what you feel from them.

7. Honesty makes other people better

Sometimes people lie to others to make them feel better. While that is a noble reason for doing it, feeling better doesn't necessarily make a person be better.

When you are honest enough to tell people when they are not good at something, then they can practice more and get better.

If you're honest enough to tell someone they've not been acting right towards you, they can decide to change and learn how to treat you better.

If no one was ever honest to us about our shortcomings, it would make it much harder for all of us to grow.

8. Being honest nurtures your relationships

The quickest way to make a relationship go sour is through lies. As I mentioned earlier, your honesty can make people trust you more.

The more people trust you, the more they are willing to open up with you in a deeper way. When you are honest about who you are, and you back that up through your actions, people can feel comfortable being closer to you.

You can grow a loving [relationship](#) that can potentially last a lifetime.

9. Being honest makes your words valuable

If someone just lies and says anything to make people feel good, you can't know if they ever really mean what they say.

When you are consistently honest, it puts more weight to your words when you speak. People can know you mean it when you say their ideas or creative endeavors are good.

They can know you mean it when you compliment them or offer them words of encouragement. It makes your words matter.

10. Honesty gives you peace

The less guilt and stress you have from lying, the more peace you have.

You're not burdened by the lie you're maintaining or keeping from someone. Instead, you live with comfort knowing that you've been completely upfront and have not been misleading in anyway.

11. Honesty allows people to like you for who you are

People lie sometimes to feel more accepted by people, or make people like them. There are two problems with this.

One problem is if people end up liking us for our lies, when they find out everything, we said was not true, it makes it difficult for them to like you anymore.

Another problem is if someone ends up not liking you based on your lies, then you will never know if they would have really liked who you are if you were honest in the first place.

In life, some people will like us, and some people will not like us. It feels much better to be completely honest and authentic to yourself and find a person that likes you exactly the way you are.

12. Being honest can be rewarding.

I can recall numerous stories where people saw a lost wallet, or a large amount of cash left on the ground somewhere.

When those people returned the money to the rightful owners, they were given some of the money as a reward.

While honestly will not always lead to getting a cash reward, it can reward you with peace of mind, getting what you want from others more, and being more confident. I think we would all enjoy being rewarded in those ways.

WHY IS HONESTY THE BEST POLICY

It's the best policy to be honest because it can arguably cause you less stress in life and help you get more of what you want.

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Here, my dear son [Edson], is your danger. Here are the wiles of Satan entangling you. The very powers or organs that you cultivate become strong, and you are imperceptibly placing yourself where you will be in a position unfitted to engage in the work of God. The time that you should be giving yourself earnestly to the work, you are really unfitting yourself for the work God would honor you to do in His cause. One pretext after another has arisen to your mind to excuse you from taking hold of the work which you could do at once while you are waiting till this object is gained or that project is accomplished. It is not the great work you are fitted to do now. But it is the little duties connected with the work of God, the small responsibilities borne with humbleness and fidelity, that will qualify you for higher responsibilities, more important trusts. Purity of motives, unselfish interest, you must cultivate.

Devotional Book: *The Upward Look*

Written by Ellen G. White

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CLOSING PRAYER

Let no emulation or strife separate your heart and affections from him. Let no selfish feelings or jealousy find a place in your heart. Empty it of all these things. Cultivate love, confidence, and trust. Live up to the Bible standard. Carry out the light God has given you. Show in kindly acts and words and unselfish acts your true interest and affection. Father we fall so short, attentionally and intentionally, forgive us and show us your way lest we forget. In Jesus precious name. Amen.