



Discussion Guide

Ice Breaker: If you could spend 15 minutes with anyone from your past, who would it be, and why?

1. Pastor Nate brought up two categories of reasons people lie; what are some of the specific reasons you've encountered or struggled with in your own life? How were those lies justified or rationalized in your mind or by someone else?
2. The truth of lies is that they ultimately bring nothing but negatives to a person's world. Colossians 3:9 speaks to Christ followers and gives us clear guidance and motivation. What is it? How can our knowledge of God and His nature enable us to be truthful people, even when it's difficult? (Read Numbers 23:19 if you're not sure.)
3. Discuss some of the consequences of lying that Pastor Nate taught about in the context of your experience. When have you hoped to defer pain but created long term crises, tried to help but hurt, realized you were out of control or found yourself stumbling in the dark due to lies, even well-intentioned ones?
4. Fellowship and community are two words we use a lot in church. 1 John 1:5-7a speaks about what can harm, or what can enable these things to happen. How is the truthfulness of your life helping or harming the cause of unity within the body of Christ?
5. With whom do you find it the hardest to be honest? Is it yourself, with God or with others? God has not created us to live and walk in the darkness of lies, but in the light of truth. What hope does 1 John 1:9 bring in light of this call to the truth? What next step do you need to take to walk in the light and enable growth with God and others to occur?

Personal Guide

Day 1: Read Proverbs 26

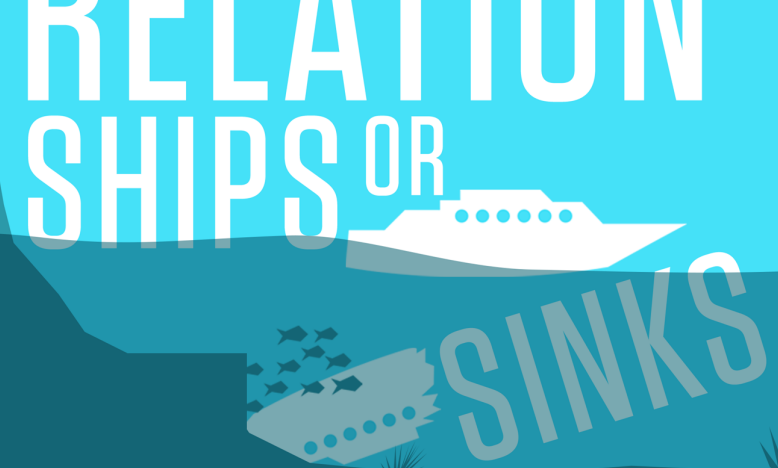
Day 2: Read Proverbs 27

Day 3: Read Proverbs 28

Day 4: Read Proverbs 29

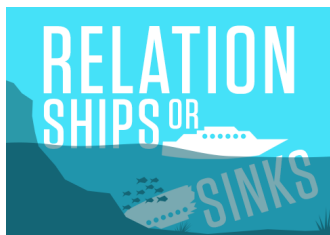
Day 5: Read Proverbs 30

RELATIONSHIPS OR SHIPS OR SINKS

A stylized illustration of a ship sinking. The ship is white with a blue stripe and is shown from a side profile, partially submerged in dark blue water. The ship's bow is visible above the water, while the rest of the ship is underwater. The word 'SINKS' is written in large, white, outlined letters, with the ship's hull acting as the letter 'K'. The background is a light blue sky with a dark blue mountain range in the distance.

BATTEN DOWN THE HATCHES
FEBRUARY 10TH, 2019

Message Notes and Small Group
Discussion // Personal Guides



“Batten Down the Hatches”
[Nate Sickler, Small Groups &
Sauk Rapids Campus Pastor]

MESSAGE NOTES

Why do we _____?

...to _____ ourselves

...to _____ ourselves

When we lie...

...we _____ short term pain but _____ long-term crises. (*Proverbs 12:19*)

...we try to _____ but only _____. (*Proverbs 26:28a; Proverbs 25:18*)

...we are _____ of control (*Proverbs 12:19; John 8:44*)

...we _____ around in the _____ (*Proverbs 2:13; Proverbs 4:19*)

When we are honest...

...we _____ in the _____ (*1 John 1:5-7a*)

To walk in the light we must be honest...

...with _____ (*1 John 1:8*)

...with _____ (*John 8:12*)

...with _____

In a world full of opinions, God's wisdom and truth matter:

When we are _____, we can _____ grow, with God and others.

Who needs your _____ today? _____

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey. You can also use the Connect Card to let us know about your commitment, too!



“Batten Down the Hatches”
[Nate Sickler, Small Groups & Sauk Rapids Campus Pastor]

MESSAGE NOTES

Why do we lie?

...to promote ourselves

...to protect ourselves

When we lie...

...we defer short term pain but create long-term crises. (Proverbs 12:19)

...we try to help but only hurt. (Proverbs 26:28a; Proverbs 25:18)

...we are out of control (Prov 12:19; John 8:44)

...we stumble around in the dark (Proverbs 2:13; Proverbs 4:19)

When we are honest...

...we walk in the light (1 John 1:5-7a)

To walk in the light we must be honest...

...with ourselves (1 John 1:8)

...with God (John 8:12)

...with others

In a world full of opinions, God's wisdom and truth matter:

When we are honest, we can honestly grow, with God and others

Who needs your honesty today? _____