

# Boundaries In Marriage

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## Boundary Values in Your Marriage

### Honesty

The act of lying is much more damaging than the things that are being lied about.

### Values based on: Honesty Eph 4:20-30

Key: These verses precede Ephesians 5. The ability to love and respect begins in these personalized areas of healing and truth.

### Our Former Way of Life vs 20-24

20 You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. 21 Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. 22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, *to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires*; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

- Part of our healing is knowing that we have to be healed.
- Our former self reflects the “fruit” of the flesh > Gal 6. Among other areas it contains, discord, factions, hatred, selfish ambition. All these have dishonesty as an element definition
- Our old/former self is based in “deceitful desires”. Deceitful in that they are *desires* that mock the fruit of the Spirit and God’s truth/promises/principles in every situation.
- In God’s grace He teaches us the direction we need to grow in. We are challenged to put on a new self based on His word and Truth.
- Attitude of your minds:
  - Renewed in the spirit of your mind.
  - Greek > And in the spirit of your mind, your renewed mind.
  - This is a change that only God can birth in you. This is bigger than just changing your habits, it is the result of being changed.
- The key is unlearning as well as learning. The Word/The Holy Spirit....and your spouse are there to make that happen.

### Our Investment into Honesty vs 25-28

25 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. 26 "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold. 28 He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.

- Put off> YOU PUT OFF the falsehood. No one can do that for you. Your history can not define or release you. You have to choose not to be deceptive anymore.
- The big picture is that your falsehood/lie impacts more than just you and your spouse. A lying spirit is released into your home and into your children. A pattern is released as a generational curse> the Devil's foothold.
- Speaking the truth in Love from Eph 4:15> we grow up.
- Stealing is equated with lying. You are stealing truth from a situation of a person. You are "stepping on their air-hose" and causing them to lose the Breath of Life in any given situation.

### Our Day to Day "honesty" Actions vs 29,30

29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.NIV

- Eph 5:4-5 "unwholesome"  
4 and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.
  - Each of these creates an avenue for lying to be released.
  - Once we realize that lies breaks down and does not build up, then we have to own what we say. James> "with our tongue we praise God and curse men".
  - We grieve the Holy Spirit when we cannot trust Him to be able to speak truth instead of a lie. That we are not praying to hear the truth and then walk in it. Instead we go back to our former selves, our flesh and our own "truth".

### What Our Lying Flesh Will Do Create a "Dishonest" Atmosphere

1. Timing> Catch your spouse off guard, knowing that they are not ready to make a decision.
2. Anxiety> Set up anxiety rather than a caring atmosphere.
3. Generalizing> Exaggerating instead of simplifying.
4. Temper> Hide your lies behind the threat of a temper explosion.
5. Put-downs> Use sarcasm, and digs to put a person off balance regarding truth.
6. Undermining> Undermine self-esteem to breakdown the heart of your spouse.

### A Renewed Mind and Honesty Phil 4:8

Finally, brethren, *whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.*KJV

- Transformational thinking
- Key here is **YOU MAKE A POINT OF THINKING ON THESE THINGS!**
- If we fill our thoughts with the things listed we "squeeze out" the lying or the need to lie. We have a transformed input into our lives and we are thinking in the honesty track.
- The change changes every area of our life:
  - Prayer alone and together
  - Desire to be taught
  - Realizing our weakness and His strength.