

Keys to a Successful Life
The Value of Honesty

I. Introduction

II. Why Are People So Dishonest?

- A. Dishonesty is _____ in our _____.
- B. Dishonesty is in our _____.
 - 1. "At the _____ of humanity there's _____."
 - 2. Jeremiah 17:9 (NAS) *"The heart is more deceitful than all else and is desperately sick; who can understand it?"*
- C. Dishonesty is part of our _____.
 - 1. John 8:44 (NAS) *"You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies."*
 - 2. Do we follow the _____, or do we follow the _____?
 - 3. Proverbs 12:22 (NAS) *Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who deal faithfully are His delight.*
 - 4. Proverbs 6:16-19 (NAS) ¹⁶*There are six things which the LORD hates, yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: ¹⁷haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, ¹⁸a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that run rapidly to evil, ¹⁹a false witness who utters lies, and one who spreads strife among brothers.*

III. Steps Toward Becoming an Honest Person

- A. Take an honest _____ of your _____.
 - 1. "_____ am I being dishonest?"
 - 2. "_____ am I being dishonest?"
 - a. _____ or _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
 - e. _____
 - 3. "_____ am I being dishonest?"

- B. Make an honest evaluation of the _____ and _____ of being dishonest.
 - 1. We lose _____ when we're dishonest.
 - a. "Character is who I am in the dark." (D.L. Moody)
 - b. Proverbs 20:7 (NAS) *A righteous man who walks in his integrity— how blessed are his sons after him.*
 - 2. We lose _____ when we're dishonest.
 - a. Ephesians 4:15 (NAS) *But speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ.*
 - 3. We lose _____ when we're dishonest.
 - a. Proverbs 10:9 (NAS) *He who walks in integrity walks securely, but he who perverts his ways will be found out.*
- C. Love _____ and pursue a deep _____ with Him.
 - 1. Psalm 51:6a (NAS) *Behold, You desire truth in the innermost being.*
- D. _____ honesty

IV. God Rewards Honesty

- A. By _____ me
 - 1. Proverbs 2:7 (NLT) *He grants a treasure of good sense to the godly. He is their shield, protecting those who walk with integrity.*
- B. By _____ me
 - 1. Proverbs 11:5a (NLT) *The godly are directed by their honesty; the wicked fall beneath their load of sin.*
- C. By _____ me
 - 1. Proverbs 12:19 (NAS) *Truthful lips will be established forever, but a lying tongue is only for a moment.*

V. Conclusion