

SMALL GROUP GUIDE FOR

7/24/2022

Introduction

In the movie *Galaxy Quest* the stars from a TV show about space exploration find themselves onboards a real spaceship with an alien race that has watched the show but thought that it was real life on Earth not acting. At one point the actors have to finally confess who they are and not the make-believe characters they are portraying.

The lesson from Proverbs 6:16-19 is Solomon's advice to his son to avoid lying at all costs. Can you think of situations in life where lying has any advantages over telling the truth?

Discussion

Lying or deception of any kind has all sorts of roots in terms of why anyone would purposefully act in this way. Children seem to be able to lie from an early age. We teach our society that lying is wrong and yet it seems so easy to do and then to try justifying our actions.

Since we already know all this, and continue to lie anyway, what is at the root of doing something we know is immoral?

Going Deeper

The rabbinic understanding of the Hebrew word for *integrity* is that your words, actions and thoughts are all in alignment with each other. If only one of them is not, there is a serious problem. For example: if your words and actions match but your thoughts do not, then you are devious. If your words and thoughts match but not your actions, then you are a hypocrite. If your thoughts and actions match but not your words, then you are a liar.

What are your thoughts on this rabbinic teaching?

Application

How will this understanding of the rabbinic idea of integrity effect your life this week? In what way will you guard against not having all three in alignment?