

# Teacher Devotional

## Lesson 4 - I Will Tell The Truth!

**BIBLE LESSON:** Peter Denies Jesus - Mark 14:66-72, Luke 22:55-62

**BIBLE VERSE:** "Truthful words stand the test of time, but lies are soon exposed."  
Proverbs 12:19 (NLT)

There are endless stories and parables about telling the truth. Practically every story, book, TV show, or movie has a moment in it where we see that a character is about to lie. Even as we read or watch the story unfold we say to the character, "Don't do it! Tell the truth!" Whether a story turns out a tragedy or a comedy, might depend on how exactly the truth comes to light.

Lies can turn our own lives into tragi-comedies as well. We all instinctively know that lies are hurtful, yet we are inevitably pulled toward lying when faced with difficulty and problems. There is something seductive and powerful about lying that makes us think that, "just this once" it will be okay. And, sometimes, lies work. We get what we want. We avoid suspicion. We get something we would not have gotten otherwise. But even though it might fool others, we are the real fools when we give in to dishonesty.

We don't know what reasons Peter might have had for wanting to deceive the guards, servants, and onlookers outside the trial of Jesus. We don't know if he would have been arrested if he had told the truth. But the one thing we know is that when he looked at Jesus' face, Peter broke down in tears and ran away. Peter couldn't be near Jesus because of his lies. And our guilt won't let us live with lies any more successfully than Peter did. No matter who else gets hurt by lies, the liar always gets hurt. Jesus said, "I am the Truth..." and when we lie, we separate ourselves from Him. There is no way that can end that is not painful.

Just like Jesus forgave Peter's betrayal and lies, He is willing to forgive ours. No matter what part deception has played in your life's story, there is always time to let God help you write a new chapter.

*"Does anyone want to live a life that is long and prosperous? Then keep your tongue from speaking evil and your lips from telling lies!" Psalm 34:12-13 (NLT)*