

Genesis: Book of Lies

Lying has been around from the very beginning. If you read through the book of Genesis, you'll notice that deception is a major theme. The patriarchs were far from perfect—and their stories teach us some important lessons about lying. Read through the passages below with your child and make observations together about lying and its disastrous results.

Lying began with _____ (Genesis 3:4-5).

Lying is _____ (Genesis 4:9).

Lying is an attempt to _____ (Gen. 12:10-20).

Lying is motivated by _____ (Gen. 18:9-15).

Lying involves _____ (Gen. 20:1-14).

Lying runs in the _____ (Gen. 26:6-11).

Lying impacts the entire _____ (Gen. 27:12-24).

Lying comes back to _____ (Gen. 29:15-26).

Lying is used to _____ sin (Gen. 37:31-34).

Lying is a _____ (Gen. 39:17-20).

There are many more passages in the Bible on lying you could study. Here are just a few:
Psalm 10:9; Proverbs 6:14-19; 12:19, 22; 16:28; 18:21; Zechariah 8:16; Luke 8:17; John 8:44;
Ephesians 4:15, 29; Colossians 3:9-10; 1 Peter 3:10; 1 John 1:8

Answers

Lying began with Satan (Genesis 3:4-5).

Satan knows that sin always grows in soil that has been fertilized with lies. Satan deceives Eve (2 Cor. 11:3) because he is a liar and the father of lies (John 8:44).

Lying is denying (Genesis 4:9).

Cain kills his own brother and then lies to God when asked where Abel is. Lying often involves denying wrongdoing and follows close on the heels of our sin.

Lying is an attempt to control (Gen. 12:10-20).

Abraham fails to trust God with the safety of his wife and resorts to lying to Pharaoh about their relationship.

Lying is motivated by fear. (Gen. 18:9-15).

Sarah laughs at the prophetic prediction of her pregnancy and then lies when confronted because she is "afraid."

Lying involves rationalizing (Gen. 20:1-14).

Abraham lies once again about his relationship with Sarah because he is afraid for his life. Then he attempts to justify his deception.

Lying runs in the family (Gen. 26:6-11).

Isaac repeats his father's deceptive strategy with striking similarity, withholding the fact that Rebekah was his wife out of fear for his life.

Lying impacts the entire family. (Gen. 27:12-24).

Jacob lies to his father (at the direction of his mother) which angers his brother and splits up the family.

Lying comes back to bite you (Gen. 29:15-26).

Jacob (the trickster) ends up getting some of his own medicine from his uncle Laban on his wedding night when he is given Leah instead of Rachel.

Lying is used to cover sin (Gen. 37:31-34).

After selling their brother Joseph into slavery, Jacob's sons fake Joseph's death, fabricate a story, and deceive their father to cover their sin motivated by jealousy.

Lying is a choice (Gen. 39:17-20).

After generations of deception, Joseph breaks the cycle and shines as an example of truthfulness, even when lied about by Potiphar's wife.

More information at:

growingfathers.com/how-do-i-help-my-child-stop-lying