

Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. Ephesians 4:3-4 (NLT)

What does God say about honest communication?

1. Stop _____

So stop telling lies... Ephesians 4:25a (NLT)

- **Definition:** Did you intend to _____?
- **Why do we lie?**
 - To save _____
 - To make _____
 - To cover _____
 - To avoid _____

An honest answer is as pleasing as a kiss on the lips. Proverbs 24:25-26 (ICB)

- **What about harmless “white lies”?**
 - Problems:
 - You can get _____ telling more
 - They can lead to other forms of _____
 - They can erode _____ in the listener
 - They’re usually not as _____ as we think

2. Learn to _____

...Let us tell our neighbors the truth, Ephesians 4:25b (NLT)

Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of His body, the church.

Ephesians 4:15 (NLT)

...There is risk in each stroke of your axe!

Ecclesiastes 10:8 (TLB)

- **3 rules for relational honesty**

- _____ in public, _____ in private
- Correct when they’re _____ and not _____
- Never offer correction until you’ve proven that you’re _____

- **Why should I tell the truth?**

- Because _____
- Because _____

...for we are all parts of the same body. Ephesians 4:25c (NLT)

- Because _____

No one believes a liar, but everyone respects the words of an honest man. Proverbs 21:28 (TLB)

- **How to enter the no spin zone**

- Decide to rule out _____ in your conversations
- Learn to look for honest _____
- Communicate your _____ for others to be _____ with you

Ephesians 4:3 - 4 (NLT) ³Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. ⁴For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future.

What does God say about honest communication?

1. Stop telling lies

Ephesians 4:25a (NLT) ²⁵So stop telling lies...

- **Definition: Did you intend to mislead?**
- **Why do we lie?**
 - To save our own skin
 - To make ourselves look better
 - To cover for someone else
 - To avoid conflict

*Prov 24:25 - Prov 24:26 (ICB)*²⁶ An honest answer is as pleasing as a kiss on the lips.

- **What about harmless “white lies”?**
 - Problems:
 - You can get comfortable telling more
 - They can lead to other forms of deception
 - They can erode trust in the listener
 - They're usually not as harmless as we think

2. Learn to tell the truth

Ephesians 4:25b (NLT) ...Let us tell our neighbors the truth,

Ephesians 4:15 (NLT) ¹⁵Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

Ecccl 10:8 (TLB) "...There is risk in each stroke of your axe!"

- **3 rules for relational honesty**
 - Compliment in public, correct in private
 - Correct when they're up and not down.
 - Never offer correction until you've proven that you're open to it
 - **Why should I tell the truth?**
 - Because God's word commands it
 - Because my lies impact others around me
- Ephesians 4:25c (NLT)* ...for we are all parts of the same body.
- Because people respect honesty
- Proverbs 21:28 (TLB)* ²⁸No one believes a liar, but everyone respects the words of an honest man.
- **How to enter the no spin zone**
 - Decide to rule out deception in your conversations
 - Learn to look for honest alternatives
 - Communicate your desire for others to be honest with you