

#6 DEEPER – “Honesty”

1. What would you say to a person who tells you the following?

- “I believe in God, but I don’t need the church.”
- “The church is just full of hypocrites.”
- “I’ve been burned before in church, and I won’t let that happen again.”
- “My church is nature, the outdoors, God’s great creation.”
- “The church just isn’t what it was in the New Testament, so there’s no need for me to be a part of it?”

2. What do the Scriptures call the church in 1 Corinthians 12:27?

3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-26. To what does Paul compare the body of Christ? What are some main thoughts that Paul shares in these verses?

4. After reading the above verses, does God allow for any of the statements in question 1 as an excuse to be a “loner Christian”?

5. Read 1 John 1:5-10. Walking in the light is confessing our sinfulness to God while walking in the darkness is trying to hide our sinfulness. Confessing sin ensures fellowship with the Father. In the same way, confessing sin to one another ensures fellowship with one another.⁶

Which is easier; Confessing your sins to God or confessing your sins to other Christians?
Explain your answer.

6. This is not a call to unload every sin in thought, word, or deed to another Christian, but how could sharing an ongoing struggle with a trusted believer encourage spiritual growth?

7. Which of these two lies do you think is practiced the most among Christians? Explain your answer.

1. Explicit Dishonesty: Outright lying (“*I’ve memorized the whole Bible*”)
2. Implicit Dishonesty: Self-projection that gives an appearance of moral success when the truth is far different. (“*losing our impressive appearance in front of another Christian*”)

8. Read Romans 12:9,10,13,15,16. After reading these verses, what is God’s desire and demand for His children? Can a believer do these if he isolates himself away from the church?

9. Can you do the following if you aren’t active and open and involved in other believer’s lives?

Romans 15:7 Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 12:25 that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.

2 Corinthians 13:11 Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Galatians 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Galatians 6:2 Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Ephesians 5:21 submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

1 Thessalonians 4:18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

10. What is the scariest part about opening up yourself to another?