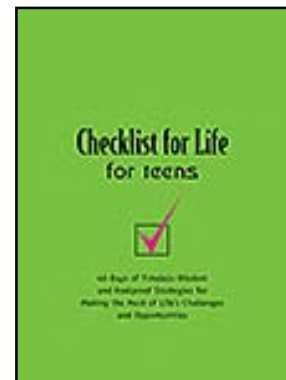


## Honesty, “Let’s Get Real”

Without turning to the ‘Word, most folks can surmise about the wrong of not telling the truth; most of learn – and come to know – that lying is wrong... But what is not always clear or certain is the fineries of a lie; that is, is withholding the truth – or what you know – a lie?

Withholding the truth may not be lie; but, what is certain is that when lies are created and perpetuated, trust *takes a hit*...and does the relation(s). Seldom if ever does anyone appreciate a lie when they are the target (or victim). Oh, they may be a habitual liar – spinning lies upon lies – but they still, do not liked to be the target or victim of such.

Sometimes *keeping-up appearances* may be a form or type of lie; yes, when you attempt to be something you are not, or try to persuade (even fool) others into thinking something that is not true or accurate. *Checklist* calls this “presenting of a false image”, dishonesty.



Any meaningful relationship is founded on honesty; any strength of relations is under girded by mutual trust and commitment. If you want a relationship *worth its salt*, you are going to have to transparent – and if transparent, you are going to be definitely vulnerable. Therefore, a meaningful relationship has it’s risks – where the state of being vulnerable sometimes results in being hurt...as well as being happy. **In this range of possibilities is the reality that a meaningful relationship does not ensure consistent happiness but, on the contrary, can involve hurt...to both of you...or all of you.**

**Remember that relationships – real, lasting relationships – are built on love; and love is able to cover a multitude of hurts...**

Homework:

Please try to do these:

- Be open and transparent
- Be vulnerable for those relationships valued...
- Be honest in your words and expressions

Things to Do:

- ✓ Ask God for help in each of the areas above. Remember that Christ is the bearer of truth; thus is able to help you bear truth, honesty, transparency...

**Jesus said, *You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.***