



Read Ephesians 4:25 for some advice from Paul, a New Testament friend of God. Write it on the lines below.

How about you? Color the stars beside the statements that are true for you. Then sign your name.



Even when it's hard, I want to be God's true friend.



I want to always tell the truth because I am God's friend.



God's friends should always tell the truth.



I will ask God to help me be truthful.

Signed: _____

GOD WANTS TO BE MY VERY BEST FRIEND

Lesson 9

I Show My Love For God By Being Honest and Truthful

You must not tell lies about your neighbor in court."

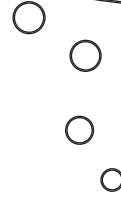
Exodus 20:16, ICB



Lee had a problem. He did not always tell the truth. Sometimes a lie was an excuse to keep from getting into trouble. But after a while Lee found himself making up lies even when he did not "need" to.

Lee knew it was probably wrong not to tell the truth, but lying had become a habit. One day Lee learned about God and decided he wanted to be God's friend. When he read the ninth commandment he became worried.

To be a false witness, or to tell lies, in court means not to tell the truth. In my country, lying in court is called perjury and you go to jail for lying. I wonder if being a friend of God means telling the truth all the time and not just when you are in court.



What do you think? Circle your answer.

YES

NO

To find out if you are right, read Proverbs 12:22.

I feel so bad. I did not realize that even little lies were upsetting to God. If I am His friend, I want to be very careful to be truthful.



Friends of God would rather get in trouble than do something that would make Him sad.



Here are more Bible texts about lying. Read each verse and then draw a line from it to the correct picture.

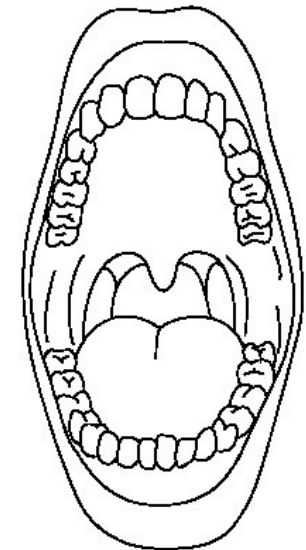
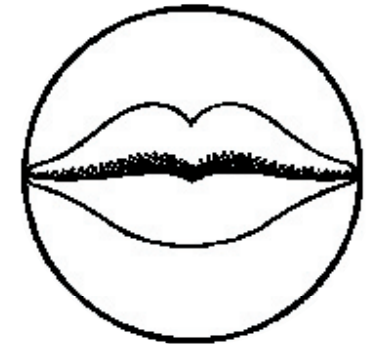
Proverbs 6:17

Proverbs 10:18

Proverbs 12:22

Psalms 109:2

Psalms 120:2



Sally said, "I saw Tony with a red marker."
Was this true? Circle your answer.

YES

NO

Sometimes being truthful means *more* than not telling lies.
Sometimes the things we *do not* say can be untruthful too.

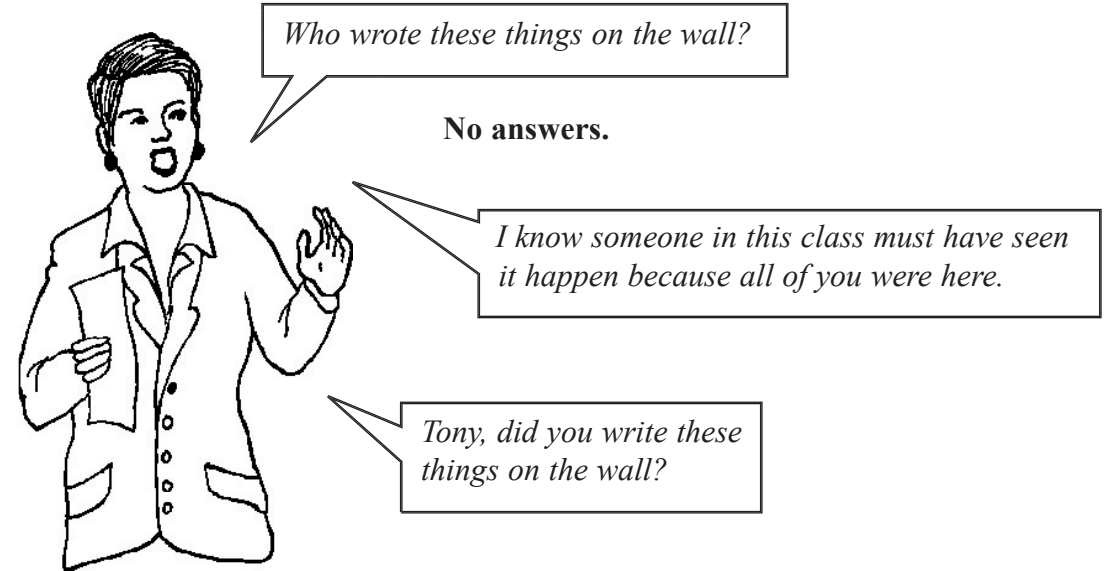
Which answer would a friend of God give in that situation?

- _____ 1. "No, I did not see anything."
- _____ 2. "I saw Tony do it."
- _____ 3. "Tony did not do it—I did."

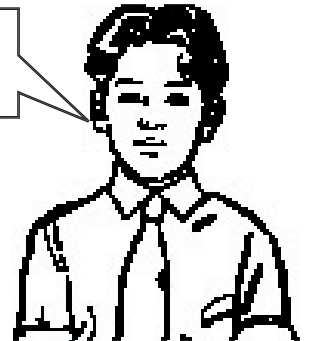


But telling the truth would have gotten Sally in trou-

Sally had a problem too. She had not said anything untruthful, but . . .



No, Miss Tucker.



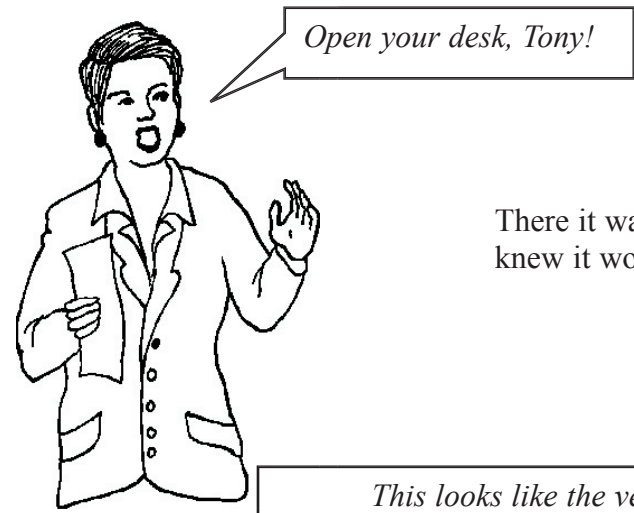
(Tony always said "No," whether he was guilty or not.)





Tony didn't do it—I did, because I was angry at Miss Tucker. But I can't tell her that or I'll get in trouble!

No, Miss Tucker.



There it was, lying on top where Sally knew it would be! Did Sally tell a lie?

*This looks like the very marker that did the damage. You will stay after school every day this week!
Now, let's get back to our lesson.*



I saw him with a red marker in his hand.

This is true. Tony has a new set of markers and I saw him using them earlier. And I used one of his new markers to write those angry words!



I feel terrible. Nobody else in the class said anything, but I feel like they are all looking at me! Nobody will ever want to be my friend now.



Later Sally tried to say she was sorry to Tony, but he just walked away.