

Lies We Believe About God

Lies We Believe and the Truth That Sets Us Free

January 30, 2022

Lies

1. God's love must be earned.
2. God is mean and vindictive.
3. God ignores our disobedience.
4. God gives us everything we want.
5. God has lost control of everything.

Truths

1. You must change what you can; accept what you can't.

Ways to Release Control

- Acknowledge God's ultimate control.
- Know what you can and can't control.
- Be an influencer.
- Take practical steps.
- Seek reconciliation.
- Strengthen boundaries.
- Practice self-compassion.

2. It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Characteristics of a Healthy Giver

- Service Minded.
- Discerning.
- Knows their limits.
- Gives time, talents, and treasures.
- Knows how to receive.

Questions for Personal Reflection and Group Discussion

1. Read through the list of lies on the opposite page. Ask God to reveal to you which of those lies you've believed.

Which of these five lies has infiltrated your beliefs about God?

If you are uncertain about whether any of these lies have affected your understanding of God, consider the way you live. Often our behavior reveals more about what we really believe than what we say does. Do you see any correlation between the lies about God and the way you relate to Him?

How have your faulty beliefs about God impacted your relationship with Him?

Are there expectations that you've had of God that have been disappointed by your misunderstanding of the truth about Him? What are they?

2. Read Luke 10:38-42.

Control freaks tend to: have a critical attitude, believe their way is the right way, rarely admit fault, doubt others' abilities, and believe they know what's best for others. Do you relate to any of those? Which ones?

How much does fear drive your efforts to control things that aren't yours to control? Why is that?

From the list of Ways to Release Control on the opposite page, which actions could you take to help you let go and trust God?

3. Read Deuteronomy 15:10, Proverbs 11:24-25, Matthew 16:24, Acts 20:35, and 2 Corinthians 9:6-8.

Are you a giver or a receiver or a healthy balance of both?

Which of the Characteristics of a Healthy Giver are reflected in your life? In what area do you need to improve?

Healthy givers have good boundaries and discernment. In what ways are those qualities evident in the way you give to others? Where do you need to make changes?