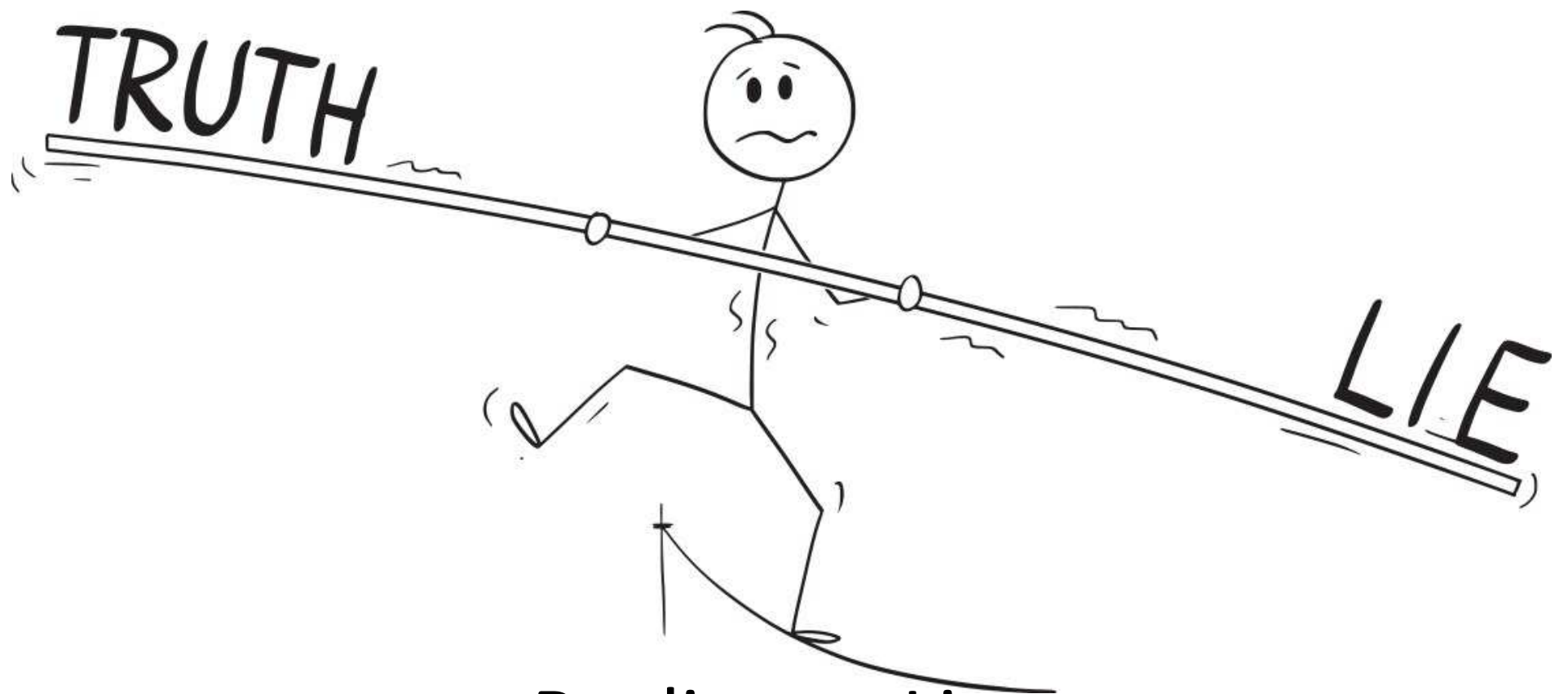




Reality vs. Lies

Reality vs. Lies

- Someone said, “When you stop chasing the wrong things you give the right things a chance to catch you.”
 - Biblically, “When you stop believing the lies of Satan and the world, and the ones you’re telling yourself
 - You begin to realize the realities within every born-again child of God”
 - When you stop looking at yourself through the pages of your past or the fears and anxieties of tomorrow, you begin to move toward the truth available today

Reality vs. Lies

- Someone also said, “You can’t start the next chapter of your life if you keep re-reading your last one”
- There is a great battle brewing in every Born-Again child of God
 - **Romans 7:18-19 NLT**, 18 And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can’t. 19 I want to do what is good, but I don’t. I don’t want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. 20 But if I do what I don’t want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it.

Reality vs. Lies

- But there is also a great enemy longing to stand between you and all God provides
 - **1st Peter 5:8 AMP**, “Be sober (*clear minded, alert*) [well balanced and self-disciplined], be alert and cautious at all times. That enemy of yours, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion [fiercely hungry], seeking someone to devour.
 - Biblical Greek word devour – not a quick bite
 - Overwhelming destruction like a ship swallowed up by the sea and taken to the bottom

Reality vs. Lies

- But there is also a great enemy longing to stand between you and all God provides
 - Garden of Eden, Job
 - Peter – **Luke 22:31-32 NLT**, 31 “Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift each of you like wheat. 32 But I have pleaded in prayer for you, Simon, that your faith should not fail. So when you have repented and turned to me again, strengthen your brothers.”
 - And here lies the problem – Jesus told Peter truth and Peter choose to ignore it, not walk in it
 - He didn’t let the truth lead his next step

Reality vs. Lies

- Stop, Look, and Listen moments of life
 - What are you feeling?
 - What is the truth?
 - What is your next step?
- Someone said, “You don’t drown by falling in the water. You drown by staying there.”

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- **I am powerless**
 - One of the greatest lies a believer can embrace is that there is no hope for change
 - That one's circumstances are so bleak that no progress can be made or no change can occur
 - This belief can lead believers into a feeling of hopelessness and defeat forfeiting any chance of triumph before the battle even begins

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- I am powerless
 - Truth
 - **Philippians 4:13 ESV**, “I can do (*endure, withstand, walk through*) all things through him (*Christ*) who strengthens me.”
 - **Philippians 2:13 ESV**, “for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.”

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- **My past will forever define me**
 - The shame that comes from failure, past mistakes, or trauma often leads to guilt, shame
 - This lie teaches people that their past actions will forever dictate their current and future situations
 - Its danger is that individuals remain stuck rehashing and replaying pain without learning from them
 - Christianity stresses the transformative power of forgiveness through Christ

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- **My past will forever define me**
 - Truth
 - **Isaiah 61:3 NLT**, To all who mourn in Israel, he will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair. In their righteousness, they will be like great oaks that the Lord has planted for his own glory.
 - **2nd Corinthians 5:17 NLT**, This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- **Wealth, success, and status are what make me happy**
 - In our materialistic society, these are what is taught and glorified-but they bring no lasting happiness or peace
 - The thought of possessing more wealth, receiving more praise, or achieving greater status in the eyes of the world is constantly fed to people as their highest calling and source of happiness
 - But according to Christian teaching, peace and contentment are found in God alone

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- **Wealth, success, and status are what make me happy**
 - Truth
 - **Matthew 16:26 NLT**, And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?
 - **1st John 2:16-17 ESV**, 16 For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and (*boastful*) pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. 17 And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- **God no longer works through people**
 - If people believe miracles and direct intervention in the lives of humanity occurred only in biblical times, faith may weaken significantly, as they begin to believe that God's active involvement ceased
 - Christian doctrine teaches the opposite-that the Lord is an eternal, constant being and remains just as active now as He was when He first created the world
 - Those who accept this lie lose hope and become disheartened when difficulties arise in life because they are no longer expecting anything from God

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- **God no longer works through people**
 - Truth
 - **Hebrews 4:18 ESV**, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”
 - **John 7:17 NLT**, “But Jesus replied, “My Father is always working, and so am I.”

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- **I cannot change**
 - Whether referring to bad habits or personality traits that need to be adjusted, it's common to feel that personal change is simply not possible
 - It's a lie that paralyzes and leads to complacency
 - However, the promise of transformation is at the heart of the Christian faith
 - Change may be slow and require patience and persistence, but it's attainable only through our relationship with God

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- I cannot change

- Truth

- **Philippians 1:6 AMP**, “I am convinced and confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will [continue to] perfect and complete it until the day of Christ Jesus [the time of His return]”

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- I cannot change

- Truth

- **2nd Corinthians 3:17-18 ESV**, 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- **The Bible is not completely true and accurate**
 - Doubts may arise in the lives of many individuals as they consider the claims in the Bible, but the lie that the Bible is not true is different
 - Instead, it rejects the entirety of scripture as being unreliable, inaccurate, or even irrelevant in our lives
 - The Word of God is the ultimate source of spiritual guidance and direction, and rejecting this understanding leaves believers without a sure foundation

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- **The Bible is not completely true and accurate**
 - Truth
 - **Isaiah 40:8 ESV**, “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.”
 - **John 17:17 NLT**, “Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth.”

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- **Being a good person is all that I need to do**
 - Kindness, charity, honesty-these qualities are often valued, but Christianity teaches that good works are not enough
 - Salvation is the gift of grace that comes through faith in Jesus Christ and we cannot earn God's favor
 - This lie gives people a false sense of security that leads to a complacency in spiritual matters, focusing more on outward appearances than on an internal relationship with God

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- **Being a good person is all that I need to do**
 - Truth
 - **Isaiah 64:6a NLT**, “We are all infected and impure with sin. When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags.”
 - **Ephesians 2:8-9 ESV**, 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

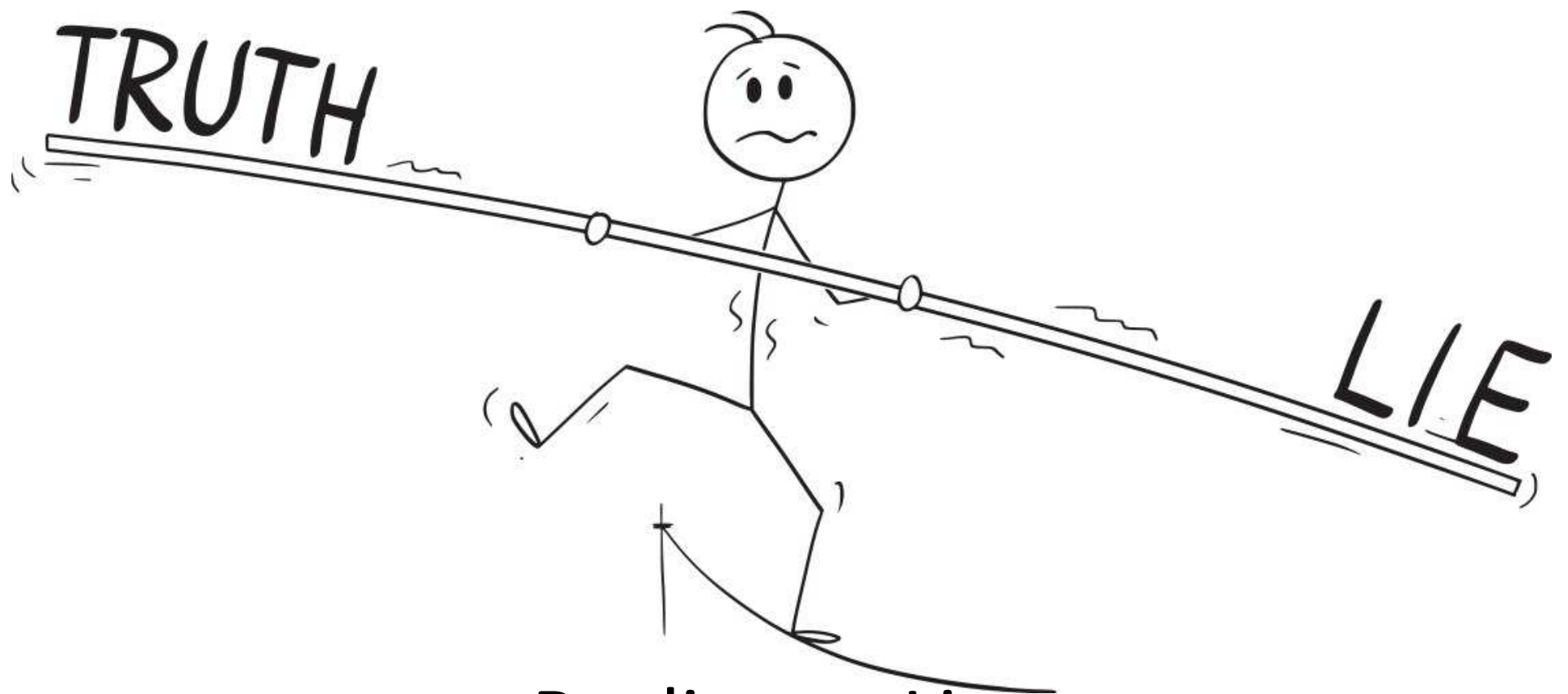
- **I am not truly and completely forgiven**
 - Even after receiving a sense of forgiveness, guilt and shame may persist in an individual's heart
 - This lie maintains these feelings by telling you that God cannot truly forget your sin and, therefore, you must continue to carry the burden
 - This causes people to feel continually downtrodden and drained as a result of holding onto what was freely given
 - According to scripture, believers have been pardoned through Christ

8 Great Lies God's Children Will Face

- I am not truly and completely forgiven
 - Truth
 - **Hebrews 8:12 NLT**, “And I will forgive their wickedness, and I will never again remember their sins.”
 - **John 8:36 ESV**, “So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

Reality vs. Lies

- Someone said, “Whatever you fill your brain with and whoever you spend your time with... will determine your life a decade from now.”
 - **Proverbs 4:23 NLT**, “Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.”
- Someone Said, “When values are clear, decisions are easy”



Reality vs. Lies