

LOOK YOURSELF RIGHT IN THE EYES

Exodus 20:16

Introduction:

"Excuse me" means "Get out of my way!"

"Can I help you?" means "What are you doing here?"

"With all respect for your opinion" means "I have NO respect for your opinion."

"The honest truth" means "the smallest lie I can tell you."

"Let's get together sometime" means "Not if I see you coming."

"I didn't realize I was driving that fast" means "I didn't realize there was a police car behind me."

"That's quite a spirited child you have there" means "You have a spoiled brat and he/she needs a leash."

"You haven't changed in 20 years" means "Good heavens was that senile person in my high school class?"

"We have an early day tomorrow" means "Another half-hour here and I'll die from boredom."

"Not that it's any of my business" means "I'm going to make it my business, like it or not."

"Don't breathe this to a soul" means "That's what I was told, too, but I'm telling you."

"The facts speak for themselves" means "Those facts I have carefully selected and arranged to say what I want them to say."

"Every fair-minded citizen" means "Every person who shares my particular opinions."

"Of course I hardly know her/him" means "This won't stop me from telling the worst of what I suspect."

"I'm looking for some constructive criticism" means "Pat my back."

These are but a very few of our expressions that really reveal the kind of person we are on the inside. What if we really took a good look in the mirror and saw ourselves as God and others see us?

1. Do we not twist the truth sometimes?
2. *Matthew 12:34-37; John 8:31-32*
3. We can make TRUE statements that convey a falsehood, for instance: ".....is improving!" "...are you still beating your wife?..."
4. *James 3:2-10* - When told something by someone, where/what is the source?
- If we pass on something told to us, we become just like the person who told us - think about it!
5. How can a person protect him/herself from slander? There is no protection from slander.
- Therefore avoid all conversation that carries prejudice, that is the same as "slander."
6. *Matthew 5:37* - Who likes a liar? There is no place for a liar - face it - we all tell lies to what end?
7. Are we supposed to tell the TRUTH even if it hurts others?
8. Take a good look at your own self - don't you try to fool others sometimes?
- Ever cheated - in sports - on tests - on game scores - other ways?

9. Face it! YOU (WE) ARE WHAT YOU (WE) ARE!
- Don't try to be somebody else.
 - Copy somebody's dress and/or hair styles.
 - Stand before a mirror and take a good look at yourself - what do you see?
 - Warts, moles, freckles, wrinkles, varicose veins, fat?
 - THAT'S YOU! (US!)
 - Accept yourself! Don't try to fool yourself.
10. Don't play with God! Look deeply at yourself and try to see what God sees!
11. *"...Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest..."*

CONCLUSION:

1. Everyone tries to be somebody else sometime in one way or other, rather than just be their own selves.
2. Everyone wants others to think the highest and best of him/her and will do about whatever he/she thinks it will take.
3. Christians need to stop and take a good, long look in their mirror and try to see what God sees and then accept what they see as the real "ME!"
4. God sees through all our pretense, make belief and ignoring of the real "me."
5. Let's stop trying to impress others and seek try only to satisfy God and the Lord Jesus Christ, for after all we will be standing before them, not those we are trying to impress.