

Valuing Family
Part 5 Honesty
Colossians 3: 1-10

Honesty is the best policy.

Why is honesty so hard?

If honesty is going to be a part of valuing family, we must...

- **Determine our** _____.
- **Determine to** _____.
- **Determine to** _____.

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Message Application:

I heard an old story once of a circus performer whose act involved a boa constrictor. The snake would curl itself around the man and start constricting. When the performer would make just the right movement the snake would relax at his feet. His act became very popular and he was summoned to perform before the King.

With the King and all the nobility of the land as his audience, the performer stepped out. With great drama and flare the Boa was taken from its crate as the audience looked on as the snake slithered past the man's legs and then his arms. It kept creeping upward until the performer was completely covered. Then at the right moment the seasoned snake man made the movement to cause the snake to relax. However, this time the snake didn't relax. The snake held him securely. Then the man panicked and started struggling and the boa constrictor did what came natural to a boa constrictor. It squeezed the life out of its confused owner.

I guess we can speculate just what went wrong with the fatal performance. One thing is for sure the man would not have been strangled by the snake if he wouldn't have allowed the snake to encompass him.

Friends, maybe it is time to allow Jesus' Holy Spirit to empower you to get rid of the sin that encompasses you.

If you are not a believer in the risen Lord Jesus your condition is one that will lead to eternal death. You will be enslaved for all eternity to the sin that will take you to Hell.

You need to listen to the voice of God and repent from the old life and find your identity in Jesus.

If you are a believer and Christ has freed you from sin; then it is time to live like a new person. It is time to be honest with yourself and honest to God. It is time to quit making excuses for your pet sin. It is time to put on the new person Jesus has made you.

This week I want to challenge you to get rid of the sinful acts that have you stuck. Those things that are keeping you from being more like Jesus.

Read Colossians chapters 1-3. Look for the things that Paul says about who we are in Christ. Get on your knees and have a talk with Jesus. Put on the new man.

Grace & Peace,

Wm. Lyons