

Conversation Starters

- Have you heard things about God before that left you questioning its truth?

Discuss

Lie #1: God's love must be earned.

Truth: There is absolutely nothing you can do to make God love you less, and nothing you can do to make God love you more.

"I have loved you with an everlasting love!" ([Jeremiah 31:3 NIV](#))

- What are some things you have tried to do to earn God's love?
- Have you ever done anything that you think God can't forgive?

Lie #2: God ignores our disobedience.

Truth: Honoring God matters. Grace and truth are inextricably intertwined.

My dear child, don't shrug off God's discipline, but don't be crushed by it either. It's the child he loves that he disciplines; the child he embraces, he also corrects. ([Hebrews 12: 5-6 Msg](#))

- Are you more like Jesus today than you were a year ago? In what ways?
- What areas of life do you need to extend grace toward yourself or others?

Lie #3: God changes us.

Truth: We engage and pursue the work of spiritual growth in concert with God's work.

Let your roots grow down into him and draw up nourishment from him. See that you go on growing in the Lord, and become strong and vigorous in the truth you were taught. ([Colossians 2:7 NLT](#))

- How are you engaging right now for spiritual growth?
- Are you inviting God to areas of your life that need changing?

Lie #4: Because I'm a Christian, God will protect me from pain and suffering.

Truth: The promise of God is not a storm-free life, but the strength to stand in and through the storm.

"The Lord is close to those whose hearts are breaking...The good man does not escape all troubles – he has them too. But the Lord helps him in each and every one." ([Psalm 34:18-20 NLT](#))

- What is your initial response when you encounter pain and suffering?
- Where do you turn for strength in pain and suffering?

Lie #5: God has lost control of everything.

Truth: God is in control and will have the last, final word. Which means we, as the people of God, have unflinching hope.

- Do you trust that God is in control of everything?
- How does that trust play out for you in everyday life?

Next Steps

Review these lies and truths this week as you go about your days. Which lie do you need to confront with its respective truth?

Don't miss out on these upcoming events at Meck:

[Rooted: Foundations of a Strong Marriage \(Online\)](#)

[The Meck Trail: A Walk through our Past and a Step into our Future](#)

Further Reflection

Read Romans [5:7-8](#); [8:38-39](#); [Hebrews 12:5-11](#); [John 5:6](#); [Romans 8:22](#).

Pray

God, you are powerful beyond measure and are in absolute control of everything. Forgive us for giving in to any of these lies about you. And even when we have, we know that you stand ready to greet us with your unconditional love. Thank you for your love and grace, and the hope and strength you provide in our pain and suffering. Help us to know you more and learn your wisdom for how to live each day in a way that honors you.