

# Truth or Dare (Part 2) – Lesson 1 Workbook

## The Truth About Media

### Verses to Remember

"The discerning heart seeks knowledge, but the mouth of a fool feeds on folly." Proverbs 15:14 (NIV)

### Workbook Activity

#### Favorite Times

Break up into groups of 4 or 5 and discuss the following questions. After sharing, write down your own honest answers.

- What is your favorite movie of all time? \_\_\_\_\_
- What channel on television do you watch more than any other? \_\_\_\_\_
- About how many hours of television do you watch each week? \_\_\_\_\_
- How much time do you spend on the internet in a week? \_\_\_\_\_
- What are your favorite bands? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Quotes from an MTV executive

**"The strongest appeal you can make...is emotionally. If you can get their emotions going, make them forget their logic, you've got 'em."**

**"At MTV we don't shoot for the 14 year olds, we own them."**

*(Source: Walt Mueller's book Youth Culture 1010)*

1. When you hear those quotes and the statistics from above, what do you think?

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2. When you realize this, how do you feel?

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3. How many hours do you think you spend in a week interacting with some kind of media? \_\_\_\_\_

**Proverbs 15:14**

1. What do you think the thousands of advertisements you see each day are trying to get you to buy into? Is it more than a product?

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2. What makes you want to buy something?

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Quote from a marketing guru

**"We've taken a page from Satan's book. Find a point of weakness and lust in every man, woman, and child, and target that weakness to make them want to buy the product."**

*(Source: Walt Mueller's book Youth Culture 1010)*

**Philippians 1: 9-11**

1. We can all agree we need to be discerning about the things we take in...but why does this Scripture tell us to do that?

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2. How can adopting the mixed messages of our culture interrupt the development of our "fruit of righteousness?"

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3. How can movies, music, and other forms of media do the same thing that advertising does?

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**Proverbs 3:21-23**

1. What is the author of this Proverb encouraging us to do?

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2. What is the consequence if we do not do so?

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**Homework**

- Memorize Proverbs 15: 14
- Take the challenge:     For every hour you spend on the internet, spend an hour reading your Bible  
                                  For every hour you watch TV, spend an hour in prayer  
                                  For every hour you spend listening to music, spend an hour serving someone
- Pray for discernment in what you allow your eyes to see, your ears to hear, and your mind to believe.

# Truth or Dare (Part 2) – Lesson 2

## The Truth About Being Nice

### Verses to Remember

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”  
Ephesians 4:32 (NIV)

### Discussion Questions:

1. What makes a person nice?

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2. Have you ever met someone who was just mean or rude?

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3. Why do you think people don't like being around people who are mean?

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### Ephesians 4:32

1. According this verse, how should we treat one another?

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2. Based on this verse, should we hold grudges, be rude, or not care about people?

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3. Why is it that we are called to live like this?

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**John 13:34-35**

1. What does this verse say about how we should treat one another?

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2. What does it mean to treat someone in a loving way?

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3. What does this verse say will happen if we treat one another that way?

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4. When Christians fight, treat each other poorly, or are rude, what do you think people think? Is it possible they assume we don't belong to Jesus?

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**1 Peter 3:8-9**

1. How does this Scripture say we should treat each other? What do you think that would look like?

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2. Does verse 9 condone or speak against revenge? Why do you think that is?

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**Ephesians 4:2-3**

1. Does this verse answer the question of whether or not we should put up with people who are hard to love? How so?

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2. Why is this important, according to these verses?

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**Homework**

- Memorize Ephesians 4:32
- This week, pay close attention to your niceness. If you find yourself being rude, mean, vengeful, or unkind, stop what you're doing and pray that God would help you to be kind and that people would know you belonged to Jesus because you are being kind to everyone you come into contact with.
- Do something nice this week and pray that God would help you to show kindness.

# Truth or Dare (Part 2) – Lesson 3 Workbook

## The Truth About Authority

### Verses to Remember

"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account."  
Hebrews 13:17a (NIV)

1. Do you think people your age have a hard time respecting authority? Why/why not?

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2. What does it take for you to respect authority?

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### A. RESPECT GOVERNMENT

#### Romans 13:1 and 1 Peter 2:13

1. Do you think people respect government very much?

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2. Do you think part of respecting government is following it's rules?

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3. Should you just obey the laws you like or all of them if you're going to respect the law?

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4. Do you have to agree with a government to respect it?

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5. Where do these passages say that the government's authority comes from?

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6. What do you think respecting the government looks like for a teenager?

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**B. RESPECT PARENTS**

**Ephesians 6:1-2 and 2 Timothy 3:2**

1. What do these passages say about respecting/honoring your parents?

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2. Why is hard sometimes to respect them?

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3. Do you think you should respect your parents if they ask you to disobey God? Should you obey them?

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**C. RESPECT CHURCH LEADERS**

**Hebrews 13: 17**

1. What kind of leaders is this passage talking about?

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2. Do you respect your church leaders (ministers, elders, adult volunteers)?

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3. Why do you think it would be important to respect these people?

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4. How could not respecting them be a burden to them?

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5. How would you be affected if you do not submit to them?

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6. What does this look like practically? What does it mean to respect your youth minister, a volunteer, or other leaders at your church?

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### **Workbook Activity**

#### **How Much Respect?**

Please answer the following questions according to where you are at right now.

• How respectful do you think you are, on a scale from one to ten?                    1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

• Which group is the hardest for you to give respect?      Government      Parents      Church Leaders

• Is there anyone else in authority who you should respect? Who? \_\_\_\_\_

• What would it look like if you were a totally respectful person? What would you say, do, etc.?

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• What do you need to do to be more respectful?

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#### **Homework**

- Memorize Hebrews 13:17a
- Pray for God to show you where you need to be more respectful, and for the ability to do so.

# Truth or Dare (Part 2) – Lesson 4

## The Truth About Self-Control

### Verses to Remember

"Like a city whose walls are broken down is a man who lacks self-control." Proverbs 25:28 (NIV)

1. What do you think Proverbs 25:28 means?

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2. Why do you think it is so important that we have self-control?

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### Galatians 5:22-23

Self-control is a fruit of the Spirit. If you are living a life in the Spirit, you will exercise self-control.

1. Does this mean, then, that someone living without self-control is not living in the Spirit?

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2. As you look around our world, what are some ways you see people living out of control?

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## Indulgence

When is enough, enough?

- We don't think having a home is enough, we want a big house.
- We don't think an iPod shuffle is sufficient, we want a high-gig video iPod.
- We aren't content with a car, we want a fast car or a good looking car.
- We don't settle for our old game system, we want the newest game system.
- What do you need to do to be more respectful?

Get the idea? We live in excess. We don't exercise self-control. Instead, we indulge in whatever we want whenever we want it. In our habits, in our lusts, in our entertainment, and in our relationships. We want the most friends on MySpace, the fastest Internet connection, the quickest fix. We don't e-mail much anymore, we prefer instant messaging. We don't cook in an oven, we cook in a microwave. We find shortcuts, we look for the easiest way.

The weird thing is, the Bible said this would happen. It predicted that in our times, we would not be able to control ourselves.

### 2 Timothy 3:1-5

1. Do you think this sounds a lot like these days?

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2. Why do you think living like this can be so dangerous?

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3. What is it inside us that you think makes us not want to wait?

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4. Why can't we trust God to provide what we need? Why is our want list so large?

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## **Workbook Activity**

### **Contentment is a Blessing**

1. Learn to be content. Settle for simple things. Don't be obsessed with more. Settle for less on purpose. (see Philippians 4:11)
2. Ask yourself, what do you really need? (see 1 Timothy 6:8)
3. Realize that contentment is a sign of trust in God (Hebrews 13:5)
4. When you're tempted to indulge in something you shouldn't, think of all the blessings you already have. Thank God for them out loud.
5. Tell someone what you struggle with and tell them to hold you accountable.

Whatever you do, don't believe the lie of our culture that tells us that bigger, faster, fancier, and more expensive is better. Contentment is the right thing to do.

### **Homework**

- Memorize Proverbs 25:28
- Focus and live by the points mentioned above in the workbook activity "Contentment is a Blessing."

# Truth or Dare (Part 2) – Lesson 5 Workbook

## The Truth About Money

### Verses to Remember

"No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money." Matthew 6:24 (NIV)

### Matthew 6: 24

1. What is the problem with trying to serve two masters?

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2. Who or what "masters" are trying to gain your loyalty right now?

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**"He that is of the opinion money will do everything may well be suspected of doing everything for money."**

*Benjamin Franklin*

### Exodus 20:4,5a; Ezekiel 36:18 and 1 John 5: 21

1. What does God say about serving idols?

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2. How can we practically keep ourselves from idol worship in our world today?

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### Ecclesiastes 5:10,11

1. How important is money to you? Does it show?

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**"Money has never made man happy, nor will it, there is nothing in its nature to produce happiness. The more of it one has the more one wants."**

*Benjamin Franklin*

**Matthew 6:19-21**

**Luke 6:20**

**Acts 5:1-6**

**James 1:9-11**

*(Answer the following questions as they apply to the above passages.)*

1. What does this Scripture say about the use of money?

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2. Where does money come from?

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3. How should we use it based on this passage?

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4. Which is better—to be rich or to be poor? Why?

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5. What is the danger of being too tied up in our monetary wealth?

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## Workbook Activity

### How Important is Money?

- If you had to give up all your stuff today, could you do it? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No
- If you lost or gave up all your stuff, how would it make you feel? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- When you hear iPhone, Wii, or Macbook, what comes to mind? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Use the scale on the left to answer the following questions, with 1 being very little and 6 being very much.*

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 • If you lost a twenty dollar bill, how upset would you be?
- 1 2 3 4 5 6 • When something newer and better comes out, how much do you want it?
- 1 2 3 4 5 6 • How much do you feel success is determined by money?
- 1 2 3 4 5 6 • How much do you depend on money?
- 1 2 3 4 5 6 • How much do you like or enjoy having money?

### Homework

- Memorize Matthew 6: 24
- Review the workbook activity, and pray about those areas where you may have an unhealthy attachment to money.

# Truth or Dare (Part 2) – Lesson 6

## The Truth About Words

### Verses to Remember

"If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless." James 1:26 (NIV)

### James 1:26

1. What does this passage say about the tongue and our ability to control it?

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### James 3:5-8

1. What does this passage say about the tongue?

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2. What are some negative uses of our words?

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3. How have you experienced words being hurtful in your life?

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### Gossip

1. How would you define gossip?

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2. Do you like it when people gossip about you?

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3. Be Honest with yourself, how much do you gossip?

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**Proverbs 11:13**  
**Proverbs 16:28**  
**Proverbs 18:8**  
**Proverbs 20:19**  
**Proverbs 26:20**  
**Proverbs 26:22**  
**2 Corinthians 12:20**

1. What do you think the Scriptures think about gossip? Should we participate in it?

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2. What else do the Scriptures we read say about gossip?

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3. Have you experienced this in your life before?

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4. Do you ever consider the words you use?

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5. What do you think words can say about a person?

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**Proverbs 12:18**  
**Colossians 3:8**  
**Romans 3:12-14**

1. What do these passages say about our words?

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2. Should a Christian use filthy language? Why not?

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3. Proverbs says our "reckless words" are a like a sword. What does that mean to you?

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4. Do you think a Christian should use cuss words?

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**Proverbs 10:19**  
**Ecclesiastes 5:2**  
**Ecclesiastes 6:11**

1. What do these Scriptures say about our words?

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2. Why do you think the amount of words we use matters?

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3. How much do you talk? Do you think people take you seriously when you do?

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## Consider Your Words

Write down the struggle you have with words:

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### Homework

- Memorize James 1:26
- remember that words are powerful, use your words in a responsible manner. Use your words in such a way as to reflect your Christian values.

# Truth or Dare (Part 2) – Lesson 7 Workbook

## Living the Truth

### Verses to Remember

"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up." James 4: 10 (NIV)

"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Matthew 5: 14-16 (NIV)

### Matthew 6: 24

1. What new thoughts or ideas have you come to realize from this lesson series?

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2. Of the ways we talked about living in truth, what do you think is the hardest for you to do?

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### Matthew 23:25-28

1. What does Jesus say here that the Pharisees are guilty of?

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2. He uses several examples to illustrate their hypocrisy. What are some of them?

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3. How does a hypocritical life affect people who aren't Christians?

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4. Do you think hypocrisy is a danger to the church today? Why/why not?

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**Luke 18:9-14**

1. What is the difference between the two people in this story?

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2. In what ways an every day life be like this?

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3. Do you know people who flaunt their good deeds?

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4. Why is it better to be humble?

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**Matthew 5:14-16**

1. According to this passage, are we supposed to live a good life, "shining our light?" \_\_\_\_\_

2. Why are we supposed to live like this, so that people will glorify us? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Who is supposed to be glorified when people see our lives? \_\_\_\_\_

**Homework**

- Memorize James 4: 10 and Matthew 5: 14-16 (optional)
- Continue to pray this week that...
  - ...God would give you the ability to discern right from wrong, truth from lies
  - ...God would help you find your value in Him
  - ...That you would be an honest person and not lie
  - ...That you could be kind to people, even those that are hard to be kind to
  - ...That you would respect your parents, teachers, church leaders, and all people in authority over you
  - ...That you would have self-control, not overindulge in anything but in all things trust God to supply your needs
  - ...That you would not worship money or things, but God alone
  - ...That your words would lift people up and not tear them down
  - ...That you would not gossip or swear or use filthy language
  - ...That in all of this you would have humility, not wishing to be recognized but instead that God be glorified.