

*Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord,
but those who act faithfully are his delight.* - Proverbs 12:22

The short story "The Necklace" by Guy de Maupassant shows the calamity that can happen when people try to be something they aren't. In the story a woman borrows a necklace from a friend in order to appear wealthier than she is at a dance she and her husband have been invited to by a high ranking official. Her plan appears to be a success, as she fits in with the elite and dances the night away. However, arriving home she realizes she has lost the necklace she borrowed. The rest of the story revolves around the woman and her husbands attempt to make things right without revealing the necklace has been lost.

We all have our necklaces - things we use to make us look different than we are. It could be as small as giving the impression to others that we understand or know about a subject when we don't, or as a grand as going deep in debt to buy a house or some other material thing to disguise our true economic status. And, it can work in reverse too. For instance, we might talk about how tough we had it growing up in order to fit in with a crowd that really *did* have it rough growing up just to get the desired "street cred".

This type of deceit is disgusting in God's sight and leads to destruction. It is in complete contrast to the delight our Father takes in those who are trustworthy. Trying to be something we're not shows a complete lack of faith in God. He has determined our times, places and situations. This doesn't mean God prohibits us from growing in wisdom or improving our lot in life, but there is an honest way to do these things to the glory of God.

Christ is no fool. He is the personification of wisdom and He is the truth. In His humanity He hailed from Nazareth ("Can anything good come out of Nazareth?") and yet He didn't deny it. When asked if He was the Son of God, He said "You have said so.". He acts faithfully in all things and never seeks to be something He isn't. His trust in the Father is complete meaning He will always be perfectly truthful.

Christ is our example and He is our righteousness. He told the truth we should have told in order that we might be reconciled to God. His truth telling led Him to the cross where He took upon Himself the punishment for the disgusting lies

we have told about ourselves as well as every other sin we've committed and in Him the Father takes great delight.

We can be so quick to say "That's just the way I am" when it comes to justifying sinful things about ourselves and yet when it comes to God's sovereign rule over our lives, we seek to be something we're not.

But, we are called to be truthful, and because of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit we can be, to the delight of God the Father.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLZD3v9-f0E&list=PLq9CGKh-C_9SmN2Bg-P7V0K9eOQMJDnx4&index=27&t=0s

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