



Half Truths

We read in the story "Sarai in Egypt" that Abram deceived Pharaoh about Sarai being his wife. Instead, he said she was his sister. Did you know that Abram made the same mistake twice?

In another part of the Bible, king Abimelech took Sarai to be his wife after Abram told him she was his sister. God gave Abimelech a dream showing him that Sarai was married. Abimelech asked Abram why he told him Sarai was his sister, and Abram told him his fears. But also, Abram said something interesting... Sarai was technically his sister, for she had the same father but a different mother. So why was it wrong for Abram to tell a half truth if it wasn't actually a lie?

The devil uses half truths many times to deceive us, and sometimes we use half truths because, technically, it's not "lying". But if we don't tell the whole truth purposely to deceive someone, we are deceivers, which is just as bad as being a liar.

For example, Sam's mom asked him if he ate chocolate before dinner. Sam tells her "no" but in his mind he is thinking "Well, I didn't eat chocolate before dinner *yesterday*. My mom didn't ask me *when*. So technically I am telling the truth." But since Sam deceived his mother into thinking he didn't eat the chocolate before dinner that day, he is a deceiver.

Deceiving someone means to trick them. God is not happy with deception... pure truth is the path He wants us to take.

