



## **YouthBytes.org - A Powerful Tool for Youth Workers**

YouthBytes is a simple, yet effective, tool for those who have a passion to reach the next generation. Each Episode Guide is designed to help youth leaders implement YouthBytes into any setting. From large youth services to small group meetings, our curriculum will enhance the discipleship experience at all levels. Each YouthBytes Episode Guide will provide you with the tools you need to communicate important biblical principles that will effect lasting change in the lives of the next generation.

Each YouthBytes Episode will include:

- Video summary
- Icebreaker
- Primary Lesson
- Facts, figures and illustrations used in the episode
- Key Scriptures
- Complimentary story
- Discussion Questions

We look forward to getting your feedback and comments on these Episode Guides. Additionally, please let us know of any topics you would like included in future YouthBytes lessons. As always, testimonies are welcome. Comments, ideas, and testimonies can be sent to [feedback@youthbytes.org](mailto:feedback@youthbytes.org).

# WEB OF DECEPTION



## Video Summary

This episode is produced in true 1950s fashion. Join Chad as he embarks on a spellbinding adventure to explain the power and destructive nature of lies. This production is full of chills and thrills at every turn. Communicating with North Korea yet again, Chad invests in a “metabolic enhancer” designed to increase the size and strength of any insect, 100X. This experiment goes horribly wrong and forces Chad to fight for his very life against a creature that is unclouded by conscience, remorse, or morality. Come and join him in a journey back in time to an era when people were actually afraid of things that go bump in the night.



## Primary Lesson - Exposing and overcoming deception in your life

Spiders... the very mention of these creepy crawly creatures send chills down the spine of most people. As Chad navigates these sticky scenarios, you will begin to understand the nature of a lie and its ability to destroy you. We learn through this episode to never again ignore the “little” spiders found in your life. These principles are essential as we begin to understand how a lie operates.

Regardless of its intention, a lie can ruin everything it comes in contact with. Friendships can be destroyed, marriages can be shaken and trust will always be brought into question. Exploring the power of deception and its eerie similarity to spiders and webs will provoke communication that will sweep all of these “cobwebs” out of every area in your lives. Below are key points to discuss as we begin to learn more about the *web of deception*.

- 1: Who does the Bible say is the father of all lies? Do all lies originate from him?
- 2: Have you ever been lied to? Do you remember what that felt like when it was exposed?
- 3: Have you ever found yourself lying or being caught in a lie?
- 4: How does God feel about lying? Can He tell a lie?
- 5: Can the truth and a lie live together? Will a little truth overcome a little lie?
- 6: Jesus said he was the truth. What did he mean?



## Facts, Figures & Illustrations -

### **Tarantulas:**

**Diet** – One of the largest spiders on Earth, a tarantula primarily eats insects. However, some species of this spider enjoy larger game like frogs and mice.

**Defense System** - A tarantula’s defense system is precise as they throw needle-like, barbed hairs at their attackers.

**Body Structure** – A tarantula’s bodily makeup may seem unnatural. If a tarantula loses a leg, it can regenerate a new one. Its new leg will reappear the next time it molts. However, it will sometimes eat its detached leg as a way to recycle the protein. Tarantulas also have catlike

qualities because they are able to retract their claws on each leg, just like a cat. Finally, the largest tarantulas have a leg span of nearly 10 inches, or about the size of a dinner plate.

### **Lies:**

**Liars don't have shifty eyes.** When scientists examined footage of people who were lying, their eyes didn't shift to the left and right any more than people who were telling the truth.

**Lie detectors don't work.** They are still admissible in some courtrooms, even though expert liars can fool them easily. Lie detectors measure anxiety, but experienced liars can stay cool and relaxed under pressure.

**You lie at least once a day.** In a recent study, average Americans admitted to lying, "once or twice a day", and 56% believe they get away with it!

**People usually lie when there's a time crunch.** Most lies aren't premeditated. They usually slip out when people don't have time to think about the consequences.

**People tell their first lie at around age two.** Did you ever ask a toddler if they ate the last cookie or colored all over the wall? Figuring out how to lie is a normal milestone like taking your first step.

**Lying makes you smarter.** Scientists say liars have stronger brain matter in their prefrontal cortex because they can link thoughts and ideas that aren't ACTUALLY connected in reality. Obviously, that's because those thoughts are LIES. Honest people have a difficult time coming up with information that isn't true, but liars can make up stories on the fly and keep all the details straight. Some liars even start to believe their own lies.

**Truth serum doesn't really work.** You've probably seen this stuff in movies. It's actually a chemical called "sodium pentothal". It removes your mental filters so you talk A LOT. But what you spew out is only partially true, and the rest is fantasy.

**As far back as the 400s BCE, there is ample evidence that politicians were liars.** One of the most famous examples comes in the career of the politician Alcibiades, who was famous for defecting to whatever side was winning in the Peloponnesian War. An Athenian pro-war politician and strategist, he defected to Sparta, where he also pushed for war. Then he defected back to Athens again when things went bad in Sparta. His favorite political tactic was deception.



### **Complementary Stories -**

There once was a boy who kept sheep not far from the village. He would often become bored and to amuse himself he would call out, "Wolf! Wolf," although there was no wolf about. The villagers would stop what they were doing and run to save the sheep from the wolf's jaw. Once they arrived at the pasture, the boy just laughed. The naughty boy played this joke over and over until the villagers tired of him. One day while the boy was watching the sheep, a wolf did come into the fold. The boy cried and cried, "Wolf! Wolf!" No one came. The wolf had a feast of sheep that day. *Aesop's Fables*

Moral of this story: No one will believe a compulsive liar even when he is telling the truth.



## Key Scriptures - New King James Version, unless otherwise noted

- Proverbs 12:22:** Lying lips *are* an abomination to the Lord, but those who deal truthfully *are* His delight.
- Proverbs 13:15:** Good understanding gains favor, but the way of the unfaithful *is* hard.
- John 8:44:** You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it.
- Colossians 3:9:** Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds.
- John 14:6:** Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."
- Deuteronomy 5:20:** And you shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- Luke 8:17:** For nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest, nor is anything secret that will not be known and come to light.
- 1 John 2:4:** Whoever says "I know Him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,
- 1 Peter 2:22:** "Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth.



## Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever been caught telling or repeating a lie? What was your first reaction when confronted? How did you respond?
2. Have you been lied to recently? Was it a friend or a family member? Did you know they were lying, or did you figure it out later?
3. Most people lie about themselves or about something they have accomplished. Have you ever done this? Have you ever been confronted about your claim? Have you ever been the one confronting the liar?
4. Can you name 3-4 famous people who have been caught lying? What did you think about them when you found out they were lying? Did you lose respect for them? Can you believe anything else they say?
5. In the Garden of Eden, the snake was used by the devil to lie to Adam and Eve. The snake (devil) misquoted God. Have you ever been guilty of misquoting or twisting the truth for your benefit? Have you ever been caught?

6. The book of Revelation 21:8 says that liars go to hell. God obviously takes lying very seriously. Why? What does a lie do? Can trust be reestablished after the deception has been recognized?
7. Jesus said that He is the TRUTH. What does this mean to you? Does everything in the world line up with what Jesus said? If Jesus were to look at our lives, would his "truthful" nature expose and condemn us?
8. How do you fight a lie? Can one lie make another one go away? Can a lesser lie make a bigger lie less impactful?
9. Jesus said that we will know the truth and the truth will set us free. What was He talking about? How does that "truth" apply to your life and relationships?