



**Are You Living a Sustainable Life? (Part 4)  
(Managing Lies Before They Manage You)**

May 29, 2022

**Annual Question:** What is the truth you are running from?

**Sustainable Defined:** Something that can be maintained at a certain rate or level (Oxford Dictionary)

**Big Question:** What is the truth you are hiding?

**Four Things That Are Not Sustainable**

1. **Growth Without Decline** (Ecclesiastes 3, Managing the Up's and Downs)
2. **Economic Success Without a Decline (You must manage both)**
3. **Hope Deferred** (Proverbs 13:12, Managing Disappointment)
4. **Lies That Hide the Truth** (Luke 8:17-18, Managing Lies that can Deceive You)

**Topic: Managing Lies Before They Manage You**

**Statement: Lies Are Not Sustainable**

**Text:**

- **Luke 8:17–18 (NIV):** 17 For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open. 18 Therefore consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what they think they have will be taken from them.”

**Why People Lie?**

**Source:** (Bella Depaulo, The Psychology of Lying and Detecting Lies)

**Statement:** Your good qualities and your bad qualities inspire people to lie to you

**Your Good Qualities**

1. Your high regard and high expectations for the special people in your life
2. Your high moral standards
3. Your attractiveness (and not just the physical kind)
4. Your status or power

**Your Bad Qualities**

1. You are a scary person
2. You are in a bad place, emotionally
3. You really don't want to know the truth, and other people can tell that about you
4. You show by example that certain truths should never be spoken



**Statement:** People generally tell more self-centered lies than kind-hearted lies. Who tells especially more self-centered lies than kind-hearted lies? Here are your options:

#### **Men Lies (Self-Centered Lies)**

- “When someone is lying about how fast they ran or how well they performed, it is probably a man talking to another man.

#### **Women Lies (Kind-hearted Lies)**

- When you hear people saying things they don't mean such as: I know just how you feel. You did the right thing. You look terrific! This is so delicious! You are probably listening to two women. That doesn't mean that women do not value honesty when they are talking with other women. Maybe, though, they value loyalty and their friendship with one another even more. These are the kinds of lies that are intended to be friendly and supportive. (Bella Depaulo, The Psychology of Lying and Detecting Lies)

#### **Closing: Luke 8:17–18 (NIV)**

**Note:** Luke 8:18 refers to the lie a servant believed in the parable of the talents cp. Matthew 25:24-30

- 17 For there is nothing **hidden** that will not be **disclosed**, and nothing **concealed** that will not be known or brought out into the **open**. 18 Therefore consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, **even what they think they have will be taken from them.**”

**Question: What are you afraid of that will be uncovered about your life?**

**Note:** Larry Miller CEO of Nike, an example of a sin uncovered

- **Article:** <https://thehill.com/blogs/blog-briefing-room/news/576953-nike-executive-admits-to-murder-when-he-was-in-a-gang-as-a-teen>
- **Book:** [https://www.amazon.com/Jump-Streets-Suites-Larry-Miller-ebook/dp/B08K925CH1/ref=tmm\\_kin\\_swatch\\_0?\\_encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=](https://www.amazon.com/Jump-Streets-Suites-Larry-Miller-ebook/dp/B08K925CH1/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=)

#### **Next Time: The Truth About the Church**

- A. The Truth About our Assignment (Matthew 28:19-20)
- B. The Truth About our Strength (Matthew 16:17-19, Hell will not prevail)
- C. The Truth About our Condition (1 Corinthians 11:18)
- D. The Truth About our Definitions (John 2:16)

**Big Question: What is our job description?**

**Answer: Matthew 28:19**