

How Honest Are You?

Consider the consequences of honesty and dishonesty.

I'm going to a party. If Dad or Mom asks about it tomorrow, just say I never left the house.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Do as your brother says. If your parents ask questions later on, tell a lie to protect your brother.



Possible negative consequences if your parents find out that you lied:

Tell your brother that you will not lie for him. If he sneaks out anyway, tell your parents.



Possible positive consequences if you tell your parents the truth:

"In the long run, your parents will have more trust in you if you just tell the truth."



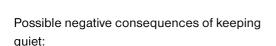
-Natasha.

(Read Psalm 119:163. Consider how you personally feel about lies and other forms of falsehood.)

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Keep quiet about it.

Talk to a parent or a mature Christian.



Possible positive consequences of talking to someone:

"If you cover up your mistake, you will never have a clean conscience, and that is a horrible feeling. Plus, when the truth does come out-and it always does-it will just make things worse."



-Carly.

(Read Ecclesiastes 12:14 and James 5:14-16. Consider how good you will feel after receiving the help you need.)



WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Give in; after all, you don't want to appear self-righteous.

Refuse to cheat, no matter what your classmate thinks.



Possible negative consequences of helping your classmate cheat:

Possible positive consequences of refusing to help your classmate cheat:





"Dishonesty is like a drug. If you keep being dishonest, it turns into a habit. Then it becomes a part of you."



-Karen.

Now think of a scenario where dishonesty might be a temptation for you. Write down positive and negative consequences of your potential actions.

THE SIT	TUATION:		
WHAT YOU COULD DO:	WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:		
POSSIBLE CO	NSEQUENCES		
Negative:	Positive:		
	,		

The bottom line: The degree of honesty you display says something about your character. So ask yourself: 'How do I want to be known by others? Really, what kind of person do I want to be?'—Proverbs 20:11.