

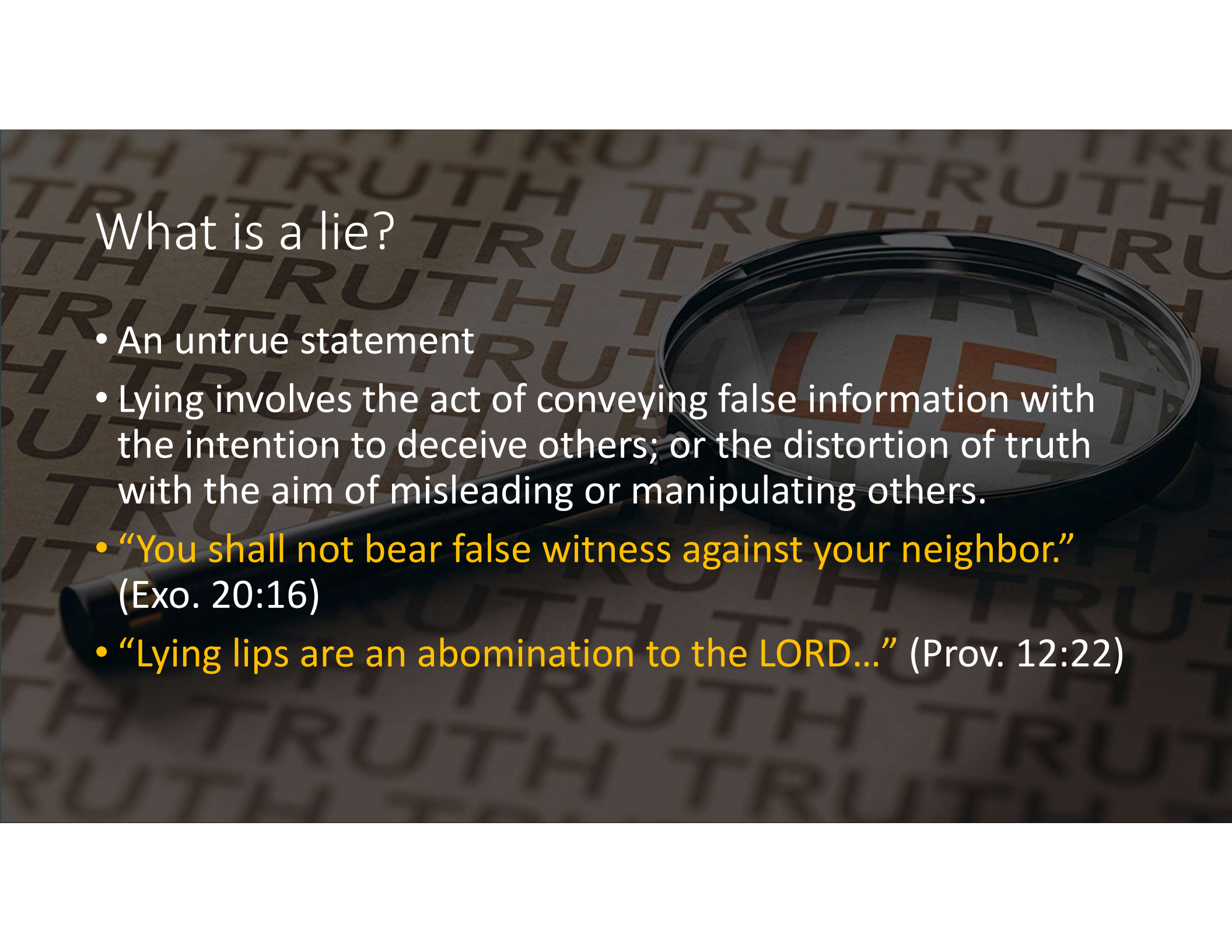
A scenic landscape at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow over the scene. In the foreground, a dirt path leads up a grassy hill. In the distance, a person is visible on the ridge of a hill, looking out over the landscape. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds, and the overall atmosphere is peaceful and contemplative.

“I am the way, the truth, and the life.” – John 14:6

The Forms and Dangers of Lies

5th Sunday of Pentecost

What is a lie?

- An untrue statement
 - Lying involves the act of conveying false information with the intention to deceive others; or the distortion of truth with the aim of misleading or manipulating others.
 - **“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.”**
(Exo. 20:16)
 - **“Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD...”** (Prov. 12:22)
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- The background of the slide is a dark, textured surface with the word "TRUTH" repeated in a light, semi-transparent font. A magnifying glass is positioned on the right side, with its lens focused on the word "LIE", which is written in a larger, bold, red font. The handle of the magnifying glass is black and extends towards the bottom left.

Forms of Lies

1. Denial of the truth
2. Avoiding the truth
 - EX: Cain
 - EX: Adam
 - "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate." (Gen. 3:12)



Forms of Lies

3. Omission

- This form involves intentionally leaving out or withholding important information, leading others to form an incorrect or incomplete understanding of a situation.
- EX: Abraham with Pharaoh and Abimelech

4. Fabrication

- This refers to creating false information or events that never occurred.
- EX: Ananias and Sapphira





Forms of Lies

5. Exaggeration

- We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we." And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature. There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight." (Num. 13:31-33)

Forms of Lies

7. Hypocrisy

- EX: Pharisees
- “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. 28 Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.” (Matt. 23:27-28)

8. False Witness

- EX: Judges against Susanna



Dangers of Lies

1. Lies breed lies
2. It separates us from God
 - “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.” (Jn. 8:44)
 - “But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.” (Rev. 22:15)

Dangers of Lies

3. Lies confuse and delude reality
4. Lies can confuse our perception of reality
5. Lies often deprive us of the help we might desperately need
6. Lies tarnish our credibility
7. Lies hinder our repentance

Growing in Honesty

- Be precise with your words
 - But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one. (Matt. 5:37)
- Purify your inner self
 - “Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also.” (Matt. 23:26)
 - “...for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me to be or hears from me.” (1 Cor. 12:6)
- Confess the lie
 - “And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.” (Eph. 5:11)