

Hope Presbyterian Church
Sermon-Based Bible Study

May 3, 2026

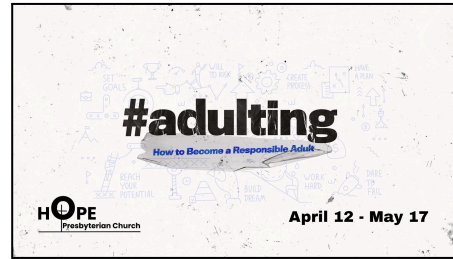
“Be Honest”

#4 in the series

#adulting: *How to Become a Responsible Adult*

Scripture Texts (NLT)

Proverbs 12:17-20, Luke 16:10, Matthew 5:37



1. What stood out to you about the message?
2. While the saying, “Honesty is the best policy,” is often attributed to Benjamin Franklin, it was well-known many years before his time as a reminder to be honest and truthful.
 - When have you experienced the truth of this well-known saying?
 - What can challenge us to be honest, even if we believe it’s the best course of action?
3. **Read Proverbs 12:17 and Luke 16:10-12 - Being honest means we become truthful people.**
 - Why is it important that the passage in Luke introduces issues of trust and consistency into the understanding of honesty?
 - How do you respond to the idea that dishonesty shows up more often in the “small things”?
4. **Read Proverbs 12:18 and Matthew 5:37 - Being honest means our words give life.**
 - How are temperament and wisdom connected to being honest?
 - How do you respond to the idea that we can weaponize the truth under the guise of being honest? And why would we do that?
5. **Read Proverbs 12:19 - Being honest means that our lives have a holistic integrity.**
 - How do you interpret what is meant by the durability of truth over time?
 - Why is “managing” a truth about ourselves - even a difficult one - easier than an untruth?
 - How can dishonesty have a fragmenting effect on our integrity?
6. **Read Proverbs 12:20 - Being honest means we are vulnerable.**
 - If honesty is the best policy, why are we often tempted to be less than honest about ourselves with others?
Consider the tension between grace and peace when we aren’t truthful:
 - Grace without truth is shallow.
 - Truth without grace can feel harsh.
 - How does Jesus’ ability to provide grace and peace help you understand that honesty is always the best course of action?
7. How can we pray for you?