

Honesty

Reflection

Let us play a game. We will cite three (3) things to describe ourselves, with two (2) things being true and one (1) thing being false. Which was easier for us to say - the true description of ourselves or the false description? Why?

Inspiration from the Holy Bible

The king takes delight in honest lips, and whoever speaks what is right he loves.
(Proverbs 16:13)

A club, sword, or sharp arrow the one who bears false witness against a neighbor.
(Proverbs 25:18)

Inspiration from the Holy Qur'an

"O you who have believed, fear Allah and be with those who are true." (Surah At-Tawbah 9:119)

"Woe to those who give less [than due], Who, when they take a measure from people, take in full. But if they give by measure or by weight to them, they cause loss." (Surah Al-Mutaffifin 83:1-3)

Hadith

Narrated Abu Musa (RA): The Prophet (PBUH) said, "An honest Muslim store-keeper who carries out the orders of his master and pays fully what he has been ordered to give with a good heart and pays to that person to whom he was ordered to pay, is regarded as one of the two charitable persons." (Sahih Bukhari)

Why is honesty important?

- a. Honesty is the best policy. Whether it is in personal relationships with family and friends, or professional interaction at work with our peers, superiors and subordinates, or dealing with the public, we must strive to be honest. God desires that even from a young age, we understand the value of honesty.

But you desire honesty from the womb, teaching me wisdom even there. (Psalm 51:6)

The Lord detests the use of dishonest scales, but he delights in accurate weights. (Proverbs 11:1)

An honest witness tells the truth; a false witness tells lies. (Proverbs 12:17)

- b. Honesty brings favor and blessing. Dishonesty may result in shame and disgrace, considering that it is an offense under Civil Service Commission rules and regulations that carries the penalties of suspension or dismissal from the service. Practice honesty in thoughts, words and deeds, so that our children may learn from us.

The godly hate lies; the wicked cause shame and disgrace... Dishonest money dwindles away, but whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow. (Proverbs 13:5,11)

The godly walk with integrity; blessed are their children who follow them. (Proverbs 20:7)

Challenge

What is our most significant learning today? How will we apply it to our own life?

Prayer

Praise God for His goodness and grace in our life. Ask forgiveness for our sins. Thank Him for the blessings we have received.

If we have any prayer requests, let us pray for one another.

We end the meeting with this declaration of faith: Bless us, Lord, and forgive all our sins, heal all our diseases, and protect us from all harm. Grant us Your wisdom and strength as we fight the good fight of faith. We do not lose heart in doing what is good because we know You are always with us.