



# CODE Unlocked

These Bible studies have been designed to connect men with Scripture through **The Codes** in creative ways.

There are 4 studies for each of the 12 codes, enough for a whole year!

They are all available for free and can be downloaded from:  
[codelife.org/biblestudies](http://codelife.org/biblestudies)



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## CODE IV

*I will not cheat in anything, personal or professional.*

### OVERVIEW

Cheating is something we see all around us, all the time. From gaming, to sports, to personal life and professional life, it's prevalent in all walks of society, in all classes and ages. So what? Isn't it just how the world works? Why would being a Christian make a difference to how I feel about cheating? Well read on, this study wants to talk to you about a commitment to integrity, purity, honesty and truth, continue at your own risk!

## CODE IV - STUDY ONE

*I will not cheat in anything, personal or professional.*

### **BIBLE READING:**

*Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out. Proverbs 10:9*

### **CODE IV – STUDY ONE: COMMITMENT TO INTEGRITY**

The Bible has a lot to say about how we should live a life of integrity, the world has a lot to say about cheating!

So many politicians, leaders, diplomats, athletes, businessmen and women, poor people, rich people, people in the middle, parents, husbands, wives, sons, daughters, on and on, have and are living their lives saturated with deception and cheating.

So what? What's a little cheat on the expenses form, or a few moments thinking about the neighbour's wife sunbathing in the garden again? The truth is, it's a fire that will burn and consume all you have and leave you with nothing but the trophy of disappointment and bitterness. Still want it?

Integrity is something that can't be bought or borrowed, read about or faked. Integrity is a consistent level of strong moral principles that, like a code, shape the way a person lives.

Some of you might remember the bug and hammer game at the local fun fair. A grid of 6 holes containing these bugs, and sporadically a bug will pop it's head up and you smash them in the face with the padded hammer.

What has that got to do with integrity? This is no ordinary hammer, it's the hammer of integrity! There are thousands of moments in our lives, both personal and professional, that will pop up and require a move from you. The lonely evenings in the office with the pretty and flirty receptionist who loves your jokes. The tax return that will just cost you too much to fill in honestly or the promotion that will only come with a few embellishments to your CV are the bugs popping up, what do you do?

The hammer of integrity is what you do, you smash those worthless empty pits in the face with it, and guess what, you have to keep going because they pop up at any time, and very unannounced!

I have had things return to my life that I had thought were long in the past, they suddenly appeared and many times, caught me without the hammer!



And here's the key to it all, the hammer of integrity in our lives is only as strong as our dependency of Jesus Christ. He must be our daily source of strength, it's his hammer we are using guys!

How many times have some of you put a photo of your wife or children by the PC to help you not look at porn? What happens? With all the positive will in the world, the photo gets flipped on its face and the porn is served up. Why? You're fighting the fight without Jesus and his daily equipping hammer of integrity to keep smashing the bug in the face!

**QUESTIONS:**

- Take a minute to think about your integrity ... and be honest about where the fault lines are.
- Now pray about it, trust each other and start to re-discover the difference a daily walk with Jesus can make.

**PRAYER:**

Lord Jesus I need you, I need to be a man of integrity who fights a consistent battle and has strength to not lose sight of you. Keep me strong, focused on you, making me into the godly man I, and my family, need me to be. Amen



## CODE IV - STUDY TWO

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### **BIBLE READING:**

*'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.' **Matthew 5:27-30***

### **CODE IV – STUDY TWO: COMMITMENT TO PURITY**

So we know that Jesus is not encouraging self-flagellation here, that we must physically remove our limbs and other organs when they carry out the desires of our hearts, so what is he saying?

What Jesus is doing in this verse is raising the bar, big time! It's easy to say 'oh her next door, well I have never actually slept with her, but I have masturbated thousands of times over the thought of doing it, but I am ok, cos I haven't done anything.'

If you have looked and enjoyed lustful thoughts, regardless of physical contact you have sinned and committed adultery in your heart. Ouch.

You see, Jesus isn't messing about when he is talking like this, he is not turning his head and saying, 'oh go on, it's ok this time, I know you can't help it!' No, Jesus is making it very clear that he is looking for purity, and he is looking for men who desire self-control, discipline and holiness in their lives to reflect his holiness.

You think I am over doing it? Read on. Jesus expands the importance of this by telling us that he wants to see more one handed blind men in glory than a host of full bodied men in a eternal hell of separation from Him!

So serious is this, that Jesus wants us to cut out the corruption and sin traps that pull us away from him. Your eternal destination is of the uttermost importance to Jesus, because he knows what it looks like, and he wants you to be with him, even if that means seriously changing your life now to stay on this narrow path of purity!

Now we are talking about a proper challenge, a high calling to seek purity like this is where sacrifices are made and your faith really hits the road! You up for it?



**QUESTIONS:**

- Spend some time thinking about today's Bible reading and be honest about how you spend your day with your eyes and mind!
- What might be some of the weak spots for you in your pursuit of purity?
- Share anything core that you can pray over as a group and be accountable to one another

**PRAYER:**

Jesus thank you for the challenge, we want to rise up and be men of purity and honour. Help us to seek you and to be men of self-control. Amen



## CODE IV - STUDY THREE

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### **BIBLE READING:**

*Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. For, 'Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech. They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.' 1 Peter 3:8-12*

### **CODE IV – STUDY THREE: COMMITMENT TO HONESTY**

Honesty impacts our personal lives and our professional lives, and we are continually making decisions on how honest we will be. However let's focus this study on honesty in marriage.

The corrosion of dishonesty and cheating in marriages is one of the main strategies that the enemy (the Devil) has in destroying a family's foundation.

Marital affair websites are big business today in the UK. Certain websites offer discreet services to arrange and manage a complex web of dishonesty so that you (the user) can enjoy sexual affairs with like minded people, without your partner ever knowing.

These websites, some boasting of over 870,000 genuine users are featured in *The Sun, Metro, The Guardian, Daily Star, The Independent* on *ITV* and *Channel 4*. Some even offered a competition to win a free divorce!

Let's be very clear on this from the outset, this moral and social decay will mean that we pay a huge and devastating cost, sorry, what I meant was our children will pay it! You see this is generational, and will be a social and moral cancer that shapes and corrupts generations of families and tomorrow's society.

I remember sitting in a minibus in Brazil with 14 other men, I asked 'please put your hand in the air if you still have mum and dad together.' One hand was in the air, and it was mine.

The other 14 guys had gone on to father children and break the family for flings, drugs, crime and violence. Coincidence? Nope.

We are called to be salt and light, why salt? Salt in a time pre refrigeration acted as a preservative to combat decay! We are called by the Lord of Lords to be a preservative to moral and social decay in our generation, in our



marriages and homes. How are we doing? If you can't see this fight, pray that God will open your eyes, today!

**QUESTIONS:**

- What has your experience been of your family background?
- How much do you think your family setting influenced your life?
- How does honesty change your day both personally and professionally?

**PRAYER:**

Jesus help us to be men of honesty, who always seek to be obedient to you. Lead us Jesus to be salt and light to this generation and the one to come. Amen



## CODE IV - STUDY FOUR

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### **BIBLE READING:**

*Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled round your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should. **Ephesians 6:13-20***

### **CODE IV – STUDY FOUR: COMMITMENT TO TRUTH**

The Bible talks a lot about truth, and we are encouraged to wear truth like a belt around our waist, always with us.

Take a look through the gospels, and you will see time and time again Jesus starts talking by saying 'I tell you the truth,' or 'this is a trustworthy saying.'

In our lives there are lots of times when we need to 'stand firm' with the belt of truth around us. (Verse 14) Truth and standing come together, the process of speaking and showing truth in your life will mean you are making a stand about or against something dishonest and corrupt. From the dishonest business deal, the sale of a faulty item, the friend who needs to hear truth, the relationship that needs a base of truth, our children reading our lives and how we handle truth, it's going on all the time.

We speak and show truth in our words and deeds, at home, at work, with our mates, with our enemies, truth is how we operate. Why? Because Jesus is truth, and if we are praying 'your kingdom come Lord,' then we are saying, 'may the king's values be evident in my life today,' and one of these values is truth.



**QUESTIONS:**

- How truthful would you say your day has been today?
- Do you feel that being truthful will come at a cost to you personally or professionally?
- What might you be able to do to help take steps forward in truthfulness?
- Are there any things in your life you need to ask forgiveness for where you have been dishonest and seen the damage?

**PRAYER:**

Jesus please help us to be men of truth, unashamed of what may come to us for being men of integrity. Help us to stand firm in the face of persecution, and equip us with a boldness to stand firm with the belt of truth around our waists today. Amen



