



Fake Faith

Vincent spotted Gary as he walked around the corner of an isle at the hardware store. "I didn't expect to see him here," he said to himself.

Vincent quickly looked the other way and headed for the other side of the store. He felt bad because he had promised to start a Bible study with Gary but never got around to it. Vincent knew that he didn't start the Bible study because he didn't want to take the time to do it. He didn't want to be tied down to a commitment.

When Vincent got to the other side of the store, he turned to see that Gary was following him. "Hey, Gary. Good to see you again," he said forcing a smile.

"Vincent, I thought I saw you walking ahead of me," Gary said as he shook Vincent's hand. "I was hoping we could get that Bible study started soon."

"Yeah, let me check my calendar," Vincent said. "I'll get back to you as soon as I have something open up."

As the two men parted ways, Vincent breathed a sigh of relief. He was glad that he was able to put off the Bible study once again.

1. What word would you use to describe how Vincent is treating Gary? Why did you choose that word?
2. Read 2 Timothy 1:5. What did Paul recognize in Timothy that is not evident in Vincent?
3. What can you do to safeguard against having a disingenuous faith?
4. Purpose to be genuine. Focus on *being* a Christian and not just acting like one.