

Beware of Scam

Bible: Beware of Scam (Naaman and Elisha's Servant, Gehazi) • *2 Kings 5*

Bottom Line: When you're not truthful, you lose trust.

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

Life App: Honesty—Choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do

Basic Truth: I need to make the wise choice.

Social: Setting the Tone for the Experience (9:00, 10:15, 11:30)

9:00 & 11:30

Early Arriver

- Dominoes; 5-10 for each kid

10:15

Do you Have a Flounder

- Go Fish cards; one deck for every 4-6 kids

Bible: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways (9:15, 10:30, 11:45)

- Bible Presentation in Large Group

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (9:40, 10:55, 12:10)

9:00 & 11:30

Emoji Verse

- "Emoji Verse" Activity Page; one for each kid
- Markers or crayons

10:15

Comic Strip Scenarios

- "Comic Strip Scenarios" Activity Page; one for each kid
- Crayons

Prayer (9:50, 11:05, 12:20)

- No supplies needed

Dismiss (10:00, 11:15, 12:30)

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Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Groups, 15 minutes)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's Bible Truth.

Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray that kids would understand and feel the weight of broken relationships when they're dishonest. Pray that God would give them hearts that seek His and others' forgiveness when they mess up in this area. And ask God to help kids understand that when they hurt others with their dishonesty, they can always rely on Him to help them make it right.

9:00 & 11:30

Early Arriver Idea

What You Need: Dominoes

What You Do:

- Show kids how to line up dominoes and then knock them down.
 - Explain that the domino effect is when one thing happens, which makes something else happen, just like when one domino falling makes another domino fall.
 - That's kind of like what happens when we're not honest—it often causes something else bad to happen.
- Then let kids play with the dominoes and make their own lines or other designs to knock down.

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

10:15**Do You Have a Flounder?****What You Need:** Go Fish cards; one deck for every 4-6 kids**What You Do:**

- Put kids into groups of four to six and give them each a set of cards.
- If any kids don't know the rules, give them a quick explanation.
 - Each kid gets five cards, and the rest go in the middle, in the "fish pond."
 - The goal is to get all four cards of the same fish.
 - One player asks another player for a certain fish, for example: "Do you have any flounders?"
 - If that kid has any flounders, he must give all of them to the asker, and the asker gets to go again. If he does not, he says, "Go Fish," the asker draws a fish from the pond, and the player to his left becomes the asker.
 - When a kid gets all four of one fish, he lays them down in front of him.
 - The winner is the kid with the most complete sets when all cards have been played or when time is up.
- Play for as long as you have time.

What You Say:

"I love playing Go Fish. But you know what can be hard about playing that game? Being truthful about which cards you have in your hand can be hard sometimes. If you have two flounders, and someone asks if you have any, you might be tempted to say no. But that's not being honest, and it could hurt the other person's chances of winning the game. **[Transition] Let's go to Large Group, where we'll hear more about how you can hurt others when you're not truthful.**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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Bible: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 25 minutes)

GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host
- Several empty boxes (preferably old electronics or basic cardboard boxes)
- Several old electronic devices
- Several extension cords
- Masking or painter's tape
- Two blindfolds

2. Bible Truth

What You Need:

- Historyteller
- Bible
- Two stools
- Drop cloth or tarp
- Roll of paper towels
- Tape
- Several plastic soldiers or action figures (lightweight enough to balance on napkins)
- Watering can (with water inside)

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Power Praise Team

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- "Alive"
- "Generation for You"
- "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made"

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Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible Truth, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

CG: *10 Second Count Down*

CG: *Source Code Theme Slide*

Host welcomes kids as they enter.

HOST: "HeIIIIloooo! How is everybody doing? My name is [Host's name] and I'm so glad you're here. If YOU'RE excited to be here, give me two thumbs up! (*Give two thumbs up.*) Fantastic! And speaking of fantastic, it's time for some fantastic praise and worship."

Power Praise team enters as Host joins the audience.

Worship

SFX: *"Alive"*

SFX: *"Generation for You"*

SFX: *"Fearfully and Wonderfully Made"*

Host retakes the stage as Power Praise exits.

HOST: "Well, what do you know, that was pretty fantastic. It doesn't stop there though my Friends, oh no. We have a fantastic Life App this month.

CG: *Honesty Slide*

"Honesty is choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do. We know that honesty is important. But sometimes it's not easy to be honest. Sometimes we might choose to be dishonest because we don't want to get in trouble. We might choose to be dishonest because we think our way is better. We might choose to be dishonest to make ourselves look better or smarter than someone else."

"Here's the think though, when we choose to act in a dishonest way, we can really hurt the people who trust us. Here to teach us more about that today is [Historyteller's Name]. Everybody say 'Hi!'"

Host exits. Historyteller enters.

SETTING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: “Hey, hey, friends! I think you know this by now, but what are we talking about this month? *(Pause for response.)* That’s right: honesty. One of the cool things we get to do is look at how these big ideas like honesty show up in the God’s Word, the Bible. And today is no different. Let’s check it out.

“As we get started, you should know that this Bible Truth has three main people: the king, Saul; the future king, David; and a priest, Ahimelek.

“Let’s review. We have the king named what? *(Pause for response.)* Saul. The future king named what? *(Pause for response.)* David. And a priest. I’ll repeat his name, because it’s kind of tricky: Ahimelek.

“The main thing you need to know about our three characters is that King Saul did NOT like David. He was jealous of David. He even tried to kill him! And that’s where our Truth begins.”

DAVID GOES TO AHIMELEK

Unroll the paper towels and stretch them between the two stools, creating a “paper towel bridge.” Use tape to secure each end.

“David was on the run from King Saul. He was scared, and he needed help. He did what a lot of people did. He ran to a temple, which is kind of like a church, for help. When he got to the temple, David found the priest, Ahimelek.

Continue with layers of paper towels, back and forth, as you talk. Stop when you have about 10 layers.

“Ahimelek was suspicious. He asked David why he was there alone. And this was where David had a choice. Remember, the reason David was there alone was that he was on the run from King Saul. He could have been honest with Ahimelek and just told him the truth. But instead, David chose to lie. Listen to what David said.

Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 21:2-3 and read.

“The king gave me a special job to do. He said to me, “I don’t want anyone to know what I’m sending you to do. So don’t say anything about it.” I’ve told my men to meet me at a certain place. Do you have anything for us to eat? Give me five loaves of bread, or anything else you can find (NirV).

“What? That couldn’t be farther from the truth! David wasn’t on a special mission for the king; the king’s special mission was to go after David!

“But Ahimelek believed David. He gave him food. Not only THAT, but he also gave David a sword. And this was all because he trusted what David was telling him.”

SAUL GETS WORD

HISTORYTELLER: “David was not alone with Ahimelek that day. There was a man nearby—a shepherd named Doeg. But he wasn’t just any shepherd; he was King Saul’s shepherd—Saul’s CHIEF shepherd. And he overheard everything David said to Ahimelek. Remember that. We’ll come back to it.

“Meanwhile, David continued hiding from King Saul, but he wasn’t alone anymore. Members of his family came to join him as well as some other people who had problems with King Saul. By a certain point, there were over 400 men hiding out with David.

“I want you to think of a place where you could hide 400 people. *(Pause.)* Yeah, I’ve got nothing, either! That’s because it’s really hard. So it wasn’t long until King Saul found out what David was up to.

“Saul was furious with David—**FURIOUS**. He gathered some of his own men together to ask them why they’d been hiding things from him about David. And can you guess who was in that group? You got it: the shepherd, Doeg. Doeg told King Saul exactly what he had overheard and seen between David and Ahimelek.”

SAUL AND AHIMELEK

HISTORYTELLER: “Saul called for Ahimelek and his entire family to come before him.

Start placing plastic soldiers on the paper towels.

“Saul asked Ahimelek why he had helped David. Ahimelek told King Saul what happened—that he’d helped David because David said he was on a special mission for the king. But David **WASN’T** on a special mission for the king. David had lied.

“Ahimelek had to face King Saul’s anger—all because David hadn’t told him the truth. He had trusted David. Just like these soldiers are trusting these paper towels to hold them up, and just like in our game a little while ago, when our friends [SGLs’ names] had to trust [kid contestants’ names] to give them directions that would keep them safe, Ahimelek’s life depended on David being trustworthy.

Use the watering can to drop a few drops onto the paper towel bridge. Gradually add more and more water to the paper towels, compromising their strength.

“Since David wasn’t truthful, he put Ahimelek in danger. King Saul was so angry that he decided to do something incredibly extreme. He had Ahimelek, everyone in Ahimelek’s family, and several others **KILLED**.”

Keep pouring water until the paper towels collapse and the soldiers fall through.

WRAPPING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: “Ahimelek’s son, Abiathar, managed to escape.

Pick up one toy soldier.

“Abiathar went to see David. Here’s what David said to him.

Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 22:22-23 and read.

“One day I was at Nob. I saw Doeg, the Edomite, there. I knew he would be sure to tell Saul. Your whole family has been killed. And I’m responsible for it. So stay with me. Don’t be afraid. The man who wants to kill you wants to kill me too. You will be safe with me (Nlrv).”

“David felt so bad! He knew that he was responsible for what had happened. It was all because he chose to tell a lie. Ahimelek hadn’t done anything wrong. He trusted David, and David let him down. Ahimelek paid for David’s dishonesty with his life.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “When you’re not truthful, you hurt others. That’s our Bottom Line for today. Can you say that with me?”

KIDS and HISTORYTELLER: **[Bottom Line]** “When you’re not truthful, you hurt others.”

HISTORYTELLER: “Let’s remember how important it is to be honest. When we lie, it doesn’t just hurt us. It hurts other people, too.

“Let’s pray and ask God to help us choose to be truthful.”

Pray

HISTORYTELLER: “God, thank You for being trustworthy ALL the time. Thank You that You never let us down. God, we pray You would give us the courage to be truthful, no matter what, so that we don’t hurt those who trust us. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

“If you have an offering with you today, raise your hand and we will bring the bucket over to you.”

Historyteller exits as Host enters.

Closer

HOST: “Can you imagine how David felt when he heard what his lie cost Ahimelek and Ahimelek’s family? We can’t imagine it, but I’m sure it was incredibly painful. See? Lying doesn’t pay off and you WILL be found out. It might not be right away but it will be know; scripture tells us it will.

CG: Memory Verse Slide

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

“Lying hurts us AND it hurts those around us. *(Pick up the soggy paper towel.)* Let’s take another look at our Bottom Line for today.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “When you’re not truthful, you hurt others. We want the people who trust us to be

safe. We want to protect that trust by being honest all the time—even if it’s hard and even if it’s scary.”

“Some lies might seem small, but they can still hurt people in a big way. We don’t want to hurt the people around us, so let’s be honest. Let’s **[Basic Truth] treat others the way we want to be treated.** Let’s choose to be truthful in what we do and what we say. You’ll talk more about that in Small Group and discover ways you can be honest with people in your life. And Small Group is happening next. Have fun together, and we’ll see you next week.”

Dismiss children to their Small Groups.

CG: Small Group Slide

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Basic Truth: I need to make the wise choice.

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (10 minutes)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible Truth applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

9:00 & 11:30

Emoji Verse

What You Need: "Emoji Verse" Activity Pages, crayons

What You Do:

- Hand out the Activity Pages.
- Read the verse aloud several times and then let kids color the emojis.
- Ask kids to describe the emojis and why they think those emojis were chosen and placed where they are.

What You Say:

"When we do the right thing and are truthful, it's like we're walking straight and safely. That's the best way to walk, right? But when we aren't truthful, it's like we're walking crooked, and it's obvious we're doing something we shouldn't. **[Bottom Line] When you're not truthful, you hurt others**, and we don't want to hurt others, do we? Nope. We don't want to hurt others, just like we don't want others to hurt us. **[Basic Truth] We can treat others the way we want to be treated**, and always be honest."

10:15**Comic Strip Scenarios**

What You Need: “Comic Strip Scenarios” Activity Page, markers/crayons

What You Do:

- Hand out the Activity Pages and set out the crayons.
- Go through the scenarios one at a time.
 - Ask kids to describe what’s going on in the pictures.
 - Then ask what could happen if the kid was untruthful. How could someone get hurt?
 - Then instruct them to finish the strip in the last square with the kid in the scenario being truthful.
- If you have mostly older kids (first graders) and have more time, challenge them to work together to come up with another three-strip comic where a kid could potentially not be truthful and it would hurt others.

What You Say:

“These are all scenarios that could maybe happen to us. It can be tempting to not tell the truth so we won’t get in trouble or so we’ll look good or for many other reasons. But often **[Bottom Line] when you’re not truthful, you hurt others**, and that’s not a good thing. We don’t want other people to get hurt because we weren’t honest. That’s not fair to them, is it? Whenever we think about not telling the truth, we should think about the fact that someone else could get hurt because we weren’t honest. Let’s all try to be honest and tell the truth from this point on so we won’t hurt others with our untruthfulness.”
[Make It Personal] (Tell kids a story about a time you lied when you were little and someone else got hurt as a result. What happened? How did that other person feel? How did you feel?)

All Service Times**Pray and Dismiss (10 minutes)**

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Tell kids it’s time to pray, and they can do it however they wish: standing up, sitting down, lying down, kneeling, with their eyes open or closed, or anything else.
- Explain that they can pray anytime, anywhere, and in any way about anything they want.
- Then tell kids to repeat this prayer after you: “God, please help me to be truthful so I won’t hurt others.”
- Give kids 15-20 more seconds to pray silently about anything they want.

What You Say:

“I love that we can pray anywhere, anytime, and about anything. God hears our prayers no matter where we are or what we say. That’s pretty amazing, isn’t it? Every day this week, I want you to pray, and I want you to keep asking God to help you be truthful, because **[Bottom Line] when you’re not truthful, you hurt others**. And I know you don’t want to hurt others!”

As adults arrive to pick up, tell them to ask kids to tell them the Bottom Line and why it’s important.