

Honesty

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HONESTY

UNIT OVERVIEW

MEMORY VERSE: Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Psalm 51:6

In some ways it almost seems silly for me to tell you why we wrote a unit on honesty. The children of today can lie while looking you right in the eyes and never crack a smile or blink. They have almost created a false sense of reality because there are so many wrongs that they wish they could cover them up.

This unit hopes to begin to make a dent in their conscious. Hopefully, after this unit they will begin to consider that God is watching even if no one else sees you or there is no way that you will get caught. It hopes to reestablish the foundation that honesty plays in so many facets of our life.

I am quite sure that this will not be the last unit on honesty seeing such a great need for it and knowing that it will take a long time to combat the tough job that the enemy is doing on our young people. As he gets them to lie to others, it is much easier to get them to lie to themselves. When they begin doing that, he has them right where he wants them.

In this unit on honesty, you will find....

BIBLE CLUBS that show the children how God feels about honesty. They will see Abram saved by the skin of his teeth from his lie to Pharaoh and Ananias who God kills for lying about the tithe that he gave. The children will also hear how David had to get some stuff right with God deep in his heart and end with the story of one of David's sons who lies to the people and says that he is King!

PRACTICAL LIVING gives the children a chance to honestly think about how often they brush and floss their teeth. They will even get to have a visit from a local dentist! They also learn how to have a good work ethic and how to have a clear conscious!

READ ALOUD, CRAFTS and **RECREATION** give them opportunities to hear stories about people who weren't so honest themselves. In crafts they will get a chance to invest their money into an honest bank, make truth talking puppets and much more!

We pray that this unit will be a valuable tool to you as you begin the long hard journey of teaching your children to tell the truth at all costs no matter who is around. We hope to get reports of your centers being a place of trust because no one lies and they are able to feel the love of Christ like never before because their walls are down!

WHAT IS HONESTY?: WEEK 1

WEEK 1 - BIBLE CLUB

- LESSON AIM:** To help the child understand what honesty is and how it affects our lives every day.
- SCRIPTURE:** Genesis 12:11-20
- MEMORY VERSE:** Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Psalm 51:6

Abram Lies About His Wife, Sarai

This is the first week in a unit on honesty. The best place to start is in the beginning and in Genesis we find a great example of the trouble that we can get ourselves into when we are not honest.

Abram had received a promise from God that He would make him a great nation and that He would make his name great. This was a big promise since Abram had no sons at this time. God had told Abram to go from the land of Ur where he was. He hadn't told him where he was going. Along the way, Abram and his wife ran into a famine. Abram wanted to work in the land for a while so that he could provide for his family, even though there is no indication that God had told him to stop there.

Because he was not in his home country, people who were interested in a woman would have the husband killed so that they could have her. Abram was scared for his life and he also knew that if he told people he was her brother, which was true, he was her half brother, he would be the one people would go to if they were interested in her. His scheme was so that he would be safe. He didn't even consider trusting the Lord for his protection.

Then, someone who didn't have to bargain for her with the brother sent for her, the Pharaoh! The Pharaoh did treat Abram well, but it created a much bigger problem than he ever planned on! God intervened and sent plagues on Egypt so that they would find out the truth and free Sarai without harm being done to her. The promise that God had given was useless without Sarai and Abram's problem that was a result of the lie had now consumed him.

We want the students to see from this example that God wants us to tell the truth, even if we are afraid of what will happen. As long as we are telling the truth and being honest, He is able to work things out even if that means a lesson we have to learn in the process. When we take things into our own hands, there is no guarantee He is going to bail us out like he did for Abram. We want the students to see how greatly God values honesty!

Discipleship
Tip

This week, take some time to get one-on-one with your students. Ask them if they can think of a time when they told one lie and they had to keep lying to cover up for that one lie. Tell them about a time that something like that happened to you! Encourage the students to see how even a "small" lie hurts God. The more we are honest the more people will believe what we say!

Hook Option #1

MATERIALS: Video camera, tripod, TV and VCR

There are two hook options here so if you can't arrange to use this equipment you will have another option. We did want to include it so if you did have the equipment, it might be a really fun thing for you to try.

- Set up the video camera in a location that cannot be seen by the students.
- You can also have a volunteer hide to record the whole situation from a closet or behind a curtain.
- Tell the students that today they are going to play a few games of Red Light, Green Light while you get some things ready for the Bible Club. If they can play together well while you are getting ready, then they will get a special treat.
- The directions for Red Light, Green Light are found in the recreation section of week four of this unit.
- Choose a student to be the leader and then all staff leave the room so that the students can play the game.
- The person who is hiding with the video camera is to try to do their best to record the students "being honest" as they play this game.
- The students should be completely unaware of the camera and with no adults in the room, we will see who is really honest.
- After the students have had a chance to play the game a few times, the staff should return.
- The staff should say, "It seem like you guys were doing a pretty good job in here. I just need to know one think to decide about the prize that you will get. Were you honest when you played the game just now because that is what we are talking about this month. Raise your hand if you think you were honest as you played the game just now."
- Tell everyone who raised their hands to stand up and sit in a group to one side. (Unless everyone raised their hand and they can just stay while they are.)
- The people who did not raise their hand should stand.
- Tell the other group to look at them and you say, "These students said that they cheated in the game and were not honest. What do you think should happen to them?"
- Let the students respond.
- Then **say**, "These students may not have been honest in the game, but they were honest when I asked them if they cheated. They had the courage to tell the truth then. Now we are going to see if the rest of you were telling the truth about cheating during the game. We were video taping you while the game was going on and we are going to watch the video tape right now and see if you were cheating."

- **Say:** “What I want you to do as you watch this tape is watch for yourself on this tape. It will be tempting to watch what everyone else is doing, but you need to watch for yourself. If you see yourself cheating at anytime during the game I want you to move from this group (the non-cheaters) to the other group. We will be watching you too. So if we see you cheat and you don't move, it will be one more time that you are not being honest. If we hear anyone laugh and call someone else's name while we are watching the tape, we will know that you aren't watching yourself you are busy watching someone else and you will not be able to watch the end of the tape.”
- Play the tape for the students.
- When the tape is over, ask the students, “Now, who do you think should get the prize?”
- Ask these debriefing questions before you move into the Bible Club:

DEBRIEF

When you were playing the game with no staff in the room, did you feel freer to do whatever you wanted?

Who was watching you even if the staff wasn't? (*God and a video camera*)

How did you feel when we told you had been video taped? Did any one feel like they had been tricked? Why?

Why is it important to do what it is right even when you think no one is watching?

Say: Today we are going to hear a story about someone who lied in the Bible and how much trouble it got him into because of his lie.

- At the end of Bible Club, give everyone a prize because God gave Abram grace when he lied in the story and so today, you will give them grace and give them all a piece of candy (or whatever prize you want to give). This will let them know that everyone makes mistakes.

Hook Option #2

MATERIALS: Sandwich bag with a few M&M's or Goldfish in each bag, one for every student

- Have the students sit in a circle.
- Have one S.A.Y. Yes!® staff person hidden in the room somewhere so that the students don't know they are there. It might be good to use someone that they won't miss not being there.
- With the sandwich bags of M&M's or Goldfish in your hand tell the students, “Today...(then act like you forgot something)..You know what, I forgot something.”
- Then look down at the things that you are holding and **say**, “We are going to use these today for something but we will not be eating them so please don't touch them.”

Week 1 – What is Honesty?

- Then lay a bag down in front of each student. Make sure they all have different amounts in them so that they will feel freer to sneak one.
- Now **say**, “I will be right back. If you guys will be quiet and not say a word, no laughing or giggling either, I will let you have some extra time at recreation today. (or whatever prize you want to give them.)”
- Have all staff leave the room.
- Let them try to be quiet for about five minutes or so. This should give all of them time to “mess up.”
- Come back into the room and ask the students one by one if they we obeyed the rules that you gave them. Tell the other students not to say anything.
- All the students that said they disobeyed the rules should stand.
- **Tell the students**, “These students said that they disobeyed the rules that I set when I left, what do you think should happen to them?”
- Let the students respond.
- **Say**, “Now, for all of you students who said you obeyed everything that I said I want make sure you are being honest so I am going to ask _____ (name of the person who was hiding) to come out from where you were watching from and tell me if any of these people were not obeying what I asked.”
- Have the person tell the name of the students that they saw disobeying.
- Now ask the students, “Who do you think should get the prize now?”
- Ask these debriefing questions before you move into the Bible Club:

DEBRIEF

When you were trying to be quiet with no staff in the room, did you feel freer to do whatever you wanted?

Who was watching you even if the staff wasn’t? (God)

How did you feel when we told you someone else had been watching? Did any one feel like they had been tricked? Why?

Why is it important to do what it is right even when you think no one is watching?

Say: Today we are going to hear a story about someone who lied in the Bible and how much trouble it got him into because of his lie.

At the end of Bible Club, give everyone a prize because God gave Abram grace when he lied in the story and so today, you will give them grace and give them all extra time at recreation (or whatever prize you want to give). This will let them know that everyone makes mistakes.

 **Bible Story**

MATERIALS: Costumes for actors; microphone for reporter (real or imaginary, a hairbrush is a perfect microphone); a desk and some papers for the anchor; something for Sarai to wear over her head and a crown for the Pharaoh.

CHARACTERS: Anchor, Reporter, Sarai, and Pharaoh.

The Bible Club today will be told from the point of a reporter in Egypt.

Teaching Tip: If you are limited on actors, you can have one person be the reporter and another person be everyone else since the people are interviewed separately.

ANCHOR: Today in Egypt there has been a break out of disease in the Pharaoh's house. News 7 was there on the scene to get you the best coverage possible. News 7's reporter _____ (name of the person reporting) has the story.

REPORTER: Thank you, _____ (anchor). I am here at the Pharaoh's house where there is some kind of disease spreading really badly. The doctors are not saying what it is at this time but they have discovered what they think caused it. They are saying the King took a woman for his wife that was someone else's wife already. Doesn't this sound strange to you? Well, here with me is the woman who people are saying has two husbands.

To Sarai.

Sarai, can you tell us what happened, how you married two men?

SARAI: Well, Abram, my first husband and I had left our home country because God had told us to leave. When we came into Egypt, Abram was afraid that someone would try to kill him to get me because he says that I am a very beautiful woman. So, when people asked about our relationship I was supposed to say that he was my brother instead of my husband.

REPORTER: So Abram asked you to lie so that he would be safe and it might mean that someone else could have you?

SARAI: Well, actually, Abram and I do have the same father, so he is my half brother. So it wasn't a complete lie and he thought that if another man wanted me, they would have to come ask permission from him and he could say no for one reason or another. What he didn't plan on was Pharaoh asking for me!

Week 1 – What is Honesty?

REPORTER: I see. So, he thought he was telling a half truth.

SARAI: Right.

REPORTER: Even if what he said wasn't all the way wrong it sure did get you in a lot of trouble! Thank you, Sarai for being with us.

Sarai leaves. Reporter addresses the audience.

So you can see how even though Abram wasn't telling a complete lie. It got both of them into a lot of trouble.

Just then, Pharaoh comes out of his house.

Look at this, there is the Pharaoh himself, coming out of his house. Maybe he will talk to us.

Reporter calls out to the Pharaoh

Pharaoh, Pharaoh could we have a word with you?

PHARAOH: Sure, what is it.

REPORTER: So why did these diseases come to your house.

PHARAOH: Well, I had seen this woman who had just come into town. I asked about her and they said she was in town with her brother and I sent for her to be my wife. You see, I pick my wives. The women feel lucky and honored to have me as a husband. I give them everything they could ever want. So, I married her, but I never got to spend any time with her before I got this disease. God told me that she was the wife of Abram and not his brother so I called him in to me. See, I was taking care of him too because you should always be nice to your wife's family and this was all the family I thought she had. So, I called him into me and I said, "Why have you done this to me? Why didn't you tell me she was your wife? Why did you say she was your sister, so that I took her for my wife? Now then, here is your wife, take her and go." My men are on their way right now to escort them out of Egypt.

REPORTER: That is a crazy story! So now that she is gone do you think that the diseases will get better?

PHARAOH: Oh, I am quite sure they will. I am sorry, but I have to go now and take some medicine.

Pharaoh leaves.

REPORTER: That is our story. You heard it straight from the Pharaoh himself! Back to you in the studio, _____. (name of anchor) This has been _____ reporting for News 7.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Who was not honest in this story? *(Abram)*

Do you know what God changed Abram’s name to later on in the Bible? Hint: it sound a lot like his name, but you know him by this name better. *(Abraham)*

Why was Abram afraid to tell the truth? *(Because he thought someone might kill him for his wife.)*

Do you think God could have protected him from these people? Why or Why not?

What does the Bible say about lying?

Let’s look in our Bible at **Proverbs 19:5**. Can someone read that and tell us what will happen to someone who lies? It says they will not go unpunished and they will not escape.

What do you think it means when it says, “they will not go free”? *(They might have to go to jail.)*

Today, when you had the chance to tell if you were honest or not, what did you think about before you said what you did? *(Example: what could happen to you, what others would say who saw you, what staff would think)*

What do you think is the only really important thing to think about in a time like that? *(What God thinks about you and what you are doing.)*

Have you ever heard people say, “A white lie is okay.”? What do you think that means?

Abram told what he thought might have been a “white lie” and it got him in a lot of trouble. After reading this in the Bible, do you think that there is any such thing as a white lie? *(No!)*

One of the only things that we really have that no one can take away from us is our word. If we say something and it is not true, people begin not to trust us and trust takes a long time to build. We are going to spend some time right now and pray that God will remind us when we are thinking about not telling the truth, to tell the whole truth because even if the truth is hard to tell, it pleases God and helps people to learn to trust us.

WEEK 1 - SKIT

CHARACTERS: Reuben and Bobby

SCENE: The boys going to play basketball.

Reuben: (looking across the park) I can't believe all the courts are full this afternoon. I just wanted to shoot some hoops with you.

Bobby: Look! Those guys over there are leaving. We can go over there.

The boys walk over to the court. Reuben takes off his sweatshirt to get ready to play and when he lays it down, he sees a wallet laying there.

Reuben: Look at this, Bobby. It's a wallet! I bet it belongs to one of those guys who just left.

Bobby: How much money is in it?

Reuben: That doesn't matter, I think I can still catch up with them. (Runs off)

Bobby: (shakes his head) That might have been a sweet new pair of basketball shoes, but I guess Reuben did the right thing.

DEBRIEF

1. Did Reuben do the right thing? Why?
2. What do you think you would do if you found a wallet?
3. Do you think God would care if we just kept a little money for ourselves and gave the rest back? Find out the answer to that in the Bible Club next week!

WEEK 1 - MEMORY VERSE

MEMORY VERSE: Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Psalm 51:6

EXPLANATION OF THE VERSE

This verse was written in David's plea for God to forgive him from having committed adultery by sleeping with Bathsheba and having Uriah murdered. He longed for God to know that he was honest even to the depth of his soul. The passage was chosen because it goes beyond lying lips to the state of their heart! No half truths can slip by on this verse. God wants us to have a clear conscious before Him. To do that, we must have truth in our inner parts!

TEACHING THE VERSE

- Read the scripture to the children.
- Teach two of the actions from below at a time.
- Each time you teach two new actions, start at the beginning again. This is so that they children do not forget the previous actions.
- Do this until you have completed the verse.
- Then, do it two more times as a group.
- If you have the time, separate the children into two groups and see who does the best job reciting the verse.

Teaching Tip for this verse:

- Be sure to explain some of these words to them. Tell them that inner parts and inmost place are almost the same thing. They are like your heart and soul.
- Be sure that they know that this verse speaks directly to God, so when they say it they need to know that they are talking to God.

Verse Actions

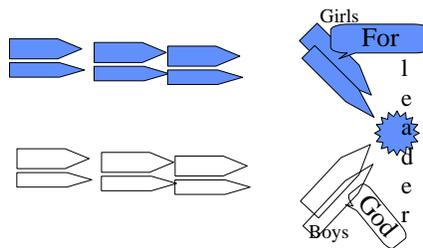
Surely: fold your hands as if to pray, but beg to God
you: point to God
desire: place hands over heart as if this is the desire of your heart
truth: place hands over lips and as you say truth remove them - as if to tell no lies
in: clap

- the:** clap
- inner:** snap one hand on each syllable [ex. first right (in-) then left (-ner)]
- parts:** draw a heart on your heart
- you:** point to God
- teach:** make your hands like a book that you are opening as if to learn God's wisdom through the Bible
- me:** point to yourself
- wisdom:** point to your head
- in:** clap
- the:** clap
- inmost:** snap one hand on each syllable (in-most)
- place:** put your hand over your heart
- Psalm:** with your pointer finger draw a swirly line coming from your mouth like the symbol for song in charades
- 51:6:** shout these numbers “fifty-one, six”

Memory Verse Hangman

MATERIALS: Board or large paper and writing utensils for it

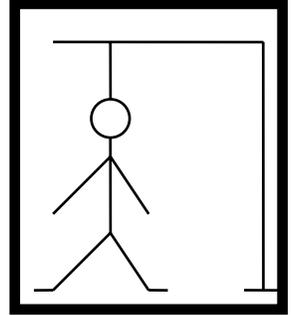
- Have the girls on one team and the boys on the second team. This is an easy way to mix the ages. You can also play on their teams from recreation.
- Two people from each team go to the front at the same time (the purpose of pairs is so one child does not feel alone if he messes up).



- Team #1 (Girls) says the first word of the verse.
- Team #2 (Boys) says the second word of the verse.
- If the two players on a team are not able to come up with the correct word, they draw the first part of the “Hangman.”
- If they get their word correct, they sit down and two more people from each team come up and quote the third and fourth words of the verse.

Week 1 – What is Honesty?

- Go through the entire verse in this same manner.
- Go through the verse several times with different players having to quote different words of the verse.
- As the verse goes along, you will discover the children quote the entire verse to get to the word they need to quote.
- The winning team is the team with the least amount of the hangman drawn at the end of the time.
- If you need to break a tie, see how many of the children from each team can quote the entire verse and reference from memory. The team with the most children able to do so then wins.



WEEK 1 - PRACTICAL LIVING

Taking Care of Our Teeth

MATERIALS: A new toothbrush, toothpaste and floss for everyone, copies of the Clean Teeth Contract for every child, some hand mirrors would be helpful

BEFORE PRACTICAL LIVING

- Call a dentist office near by and ask if they have a dentist that can come visit your youth center during the last week of this unit to talk about what happens when you go to the dentist office. Tell them that you are studying taking care of your teeth and would like it if they could donate toothbrushes, tooth paste and floss for each of your students. You might have to call a couple of different places, but it shouldn't be too hard to find a dentist who will donate these items since they are free to them.
- Put a small cup of water on the table for each child so that they can dip their toothbrush into the water as they practice brushing.

DURING PRACTICAL LIVING

- Begin by **asking them**, “Who brushed their teeth at least once today? Good. Since we are studying this month about honesty, I am going to believe that you are being honest about brushing your teeth.”
- **Say:** Today we are going to learn:
 - How and when to brush our teeth.
 - How and when to floss our teeth.
- Then I am going to give you a contract to see over the next month how well you brush your teeth because at the end of the month, we are going to have a dentist come and tell us what it is like to go to the dentist’s office.
- Let’s start with how to brush our teeth.
- Open up your toothbrush and dip it into the water. For right now, we are going to practice what to do with the toothbrush, so we are not going to put toothpaste on it.
- Notice that the toothbrush you got says “soft” on it. What do you think that means? (*It means that the bristles are soft. Children should use a soft bristled toothbrush*)
- Where should we start? (*in the front*)

Week 1 – What is Honesty?

- Begin by brushing the front surface of the upper and lower teeth. Start by placing your toothbrush where your teeth and gums meet and brush up and down. You should brush your gums a little too, this helps keep your gums healthy. This way seems different at first, but it cleans your teeth better. If you brush your teeth side to side you won't get all the food out.
- Clean the outside surface of the upper and lower back teeth in the same top to bottom motion as you did the front teeth.
- Clean the inside surface of the upper and lower *back* teeth.
- Clean the inside surface of the *front* upper and lower teeth.
- Now, clean the grinding surface of the upper and lower teeth by brushing back and forth.
- You need to brush for at least three minutes each time you brush. If you want to do a really good job, five minutes is best.
- You should brush your teeth *after breakfast in the morning and at night before you go to bed*. If you can't brush twice, brush at least once. If you were really an awesome brusher, you would brush your teeth after every meal and once before bedtime. But once or twice is better than never!
- After the children finish brushing, ask them if they have any questions. Walk around and watch them brush so that you can make sure they are doing it correctly.
- Now, tell them, "I am going to show you how to floss." (Even if you didn't get a roll of floss for everyone, give them a strand to practice with. One package of floss that you buy at the store should be more than enough for the whole center. You can get waxed or regular, either is fine.)
- Give them each about 12-15 inches of floss.
- Show them how to take the piece of the floss and wrap it around their two middle fingers leaving about four inches in the middle.
- Tell them, "Think of this floss like a see saw. It goes back and forth over your teeth to get food out between your teeth and gums."
- Show them how to put the floss between each tooth on top and bottom. Mirrors would be really helpful now.
- If they haven't flossed regularly, their gums may bleed a little. This is normal. The more you floss your gums will become firmer and more healthy and won't bleed as often.
- You should floss once a day. The best time to do it is at night after dinner. You could do it while you are watching TV.
- Another important thing is what you eat. If you eat a lot of sugar, candy, or drink sugar soda and don't brush your teeth, you will have a much bigger chance of getting cavities.

Week 1 – What is Honesty?

Ask these questions to see if they were listening:

When you are brushing the outside of your teeth, how should you brush? (*Top to bottom*)

At least how many times a day should we brush? (*At least once, twice if you can.*)

How often should we floss? (*Every day.*)

How long should we brush? (*Three minutes - five to do a great job.*)

- Now, give them the **Clean Teeth Contract**
- This is going to require that they are honest about whether they did it or not.
- **Say:** This contract is good for one week, but if you complete this week you can do it every week this month and earn S.A.Y. Yes![®] dollars.
- For every time you brush, you get one S.A.Y. Yes![®] dollar, and for every time you floss you get two dollars. So you could earn four dollars a day which would be \$28 a week!
- For each time that you brush or floss, you need to get your parents to sign the box with their initials.
- Write the days of the week on the chart together, starting with today (the day of practical living) or you can write the days in before you copy the pages.
- When you turn this in during practical living next week, I am going to ask you if you were honest in completing this chart. If you say yes, I will believe you, but God will know the truth. If you want, you can get another chart for the next week. Anyone who completes all four weeks of this month doing this chart will get a special prize. (Decide what the prize would be. Make it something pretty good, because if they can do this for four weeks, they will have created a habit that could go with them for the rest of their life!)
- Have them write their name on it, so that it won't get lost.

Teaching Tip: Feel free to change the rewards in any way you like, but keep in mind, this is a very important habit to develop so the reward system should reflect that!

Name _____

Clean Teeth Contract

Day	Brushed	Brushed	Flossed

For every time I brush my teeth this week I get ____ S.A.Y. Yes!® dollar(s).

For every time I floss my teeth this week I get ____ S.A.Y. Yes!® dollar(s).

I must get a parent to sign the right box every time I do this.

I agree to be completely honest in getting this form filled out.

Signature of participant

I am the one who signed this chart for my child this past week to say that he/she did brush and floss his/her teeth.

Signature of parent or guardian

WEEK 1 - READ-A-LOUD

“The Frog Prince”

Adopted from the Brothers Grimm; The Book of Virtues; William J. Bennett , page 623-626

SUMMARY: This is a story of a princess who made a promise that she never intended to keep. When she was called on to follow through with her promise of making a frog her companion, she didn't want to do it. Finally, she gave in and the frog turned into a handsome prince. Because she kept her word, she got something better than she could ever imagine. This is what we want the children to see as they begin this unit on honesty. They need to know that we need to be honest with ourselves when we make a promise and that we need to keep our word.

PRE-READING QUESTIONS

Has anyone here ever touched a frog? What does it feel like?

Have you ever made a bet with someone because you were 100% sure that what they said would happen would never come true. Then, you lost the bet and you had to pay and didn't have the money? Someone share with us your situation.

The story we are about to read is called The Frog Prince and it is about a girl who made a promise that she didn't really want to keep. Let's find out what that promise was and if she ended up keeping it or not.

POST READING QUESTIONS

What promise did the King's daughter make? *(That she would keep the frog as her companion if he got her golden ball from the bottom of the well.)*

When she made the promise, who was she not being honest with? *(Herself, that she would do what she promised and to the frog.)*

What do you think you would have done if that frog had showed up at your door saying what he was saying?

Do you think her father made her do the right thing? What would have happened if she had disobeyed her father?

How do you think God feels about us keeping promises that we have made?

WEEK 1 - CRAFTS

✂ Truth Puppets

MATERIALS: Business size envelopes, scissors, markers, pencils, yarn, and glue

These are the puppets that speak only truth. We are beginning a month on honesty. Have them use the puppets to practice speaking the things that are true!

- Take a business sized envelope and seal it shut (lick and stick the flap down)
- Then, fold it in half at the middle.
- Cut the side that does not have the flap at the fold. (see picture #1)
- Then you can insert your fingers into the top and bottom part of the flaps to make a puppet. (see picture #2)
- Have the children decorate their puppets with the markers and pencils.
- They can even use the yarn to add hair if they want to.

GUIDED CONVERSATION

Tell the children that since these puppets can only speak the truth, you can trust them. **Don't you wish the world was like these puppets?**

Have them tell you a story using their puppet. You might want to say, “**Does your puppet have a story that it wants to tell my puppet?**” Children can often talk about things easier through a puppet than they can tell you face to face. Don't try to uncover too much. Respect the boundaries that they have made for their own protection. Love them through the boundaries. As you do that, you will see the walls come down.

If you hear the children saying something mean to each other, have them talk to the other person using the puppet of truth and see what they say. Children are often aware of the truth, but just aren't saying it!

WEEK 1 - RECREATION

DAY ONE: Set Up Teams

MATERIALS: Students divided into two teams, (the list should be prepared by the staff in advance), poster board, and marker.

OBJECT: To help the children learn how to work together and support each other.

- Today you are going to create two permanent teams. These teams would play together everyday during recreation. These teams will change every month. This gives the students a chance to learn to work with new team members. It also gives them a chance to play on a winning team if they were not on one in the past.
- You will want to make sure the teams are evenly matched age wise.
- You may want to sit down as a Staff team and decide who will be on what teams. Be sure and keep your lists from the previous months so that you can remember who played together in the past.
- Have each team come up with a team name. It can be whatever they want. The names that our students liked best were ones that had to do with their relationship with Jesus. Acronyms are fun to use too.
- Have each team create a team cheer. (Raps are fun too!)
- Remember that during recreation winning isn't as important as participation and spirit.
- Make posters which you will keep up and post the scores.

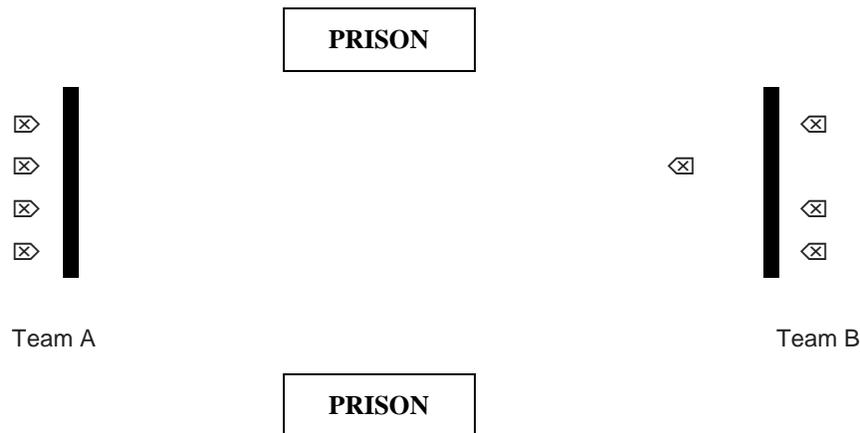
TRUTH TELLERS		THE HONEST ABES	
COMPETITION	SPIRIT POINTS	COMPETITION	SPIRIT POINTS
1,000	20,000	2,000	10,000
1,000	10,000	1,000	30,000
1,000	40,000	2,000	10,000

DAY TWO: Catch Me If You Can

MATERIALS: 2 ropes behind which each team stands. Added ropes may be needed to designate playing areas.

OBJECT: To be the team with the most players in your line by the end of the playing time.

- Children are placed in their two teams.
- The two teams stand in two lines facing each other, about 60 ft. apart.



- The leader touches one player on Team A to be the first charger.
- All the players on Team B stand behind their line with their right hands out over the line.
- Team A charger runs across the playing field and tags the hand of a player on Team B.
- The Team B player chases the charger across the field.
- If the charger is tagged, he must go to prison and the player on Team B is the next charger.
- If the charger makes it across his line safely, the entire A Team chases the player from Team B back.
- If Team B player makes it back across her line safely, the Team B charger chooses a player from their team to be the next charger.
- If Team B player does not make it back safely, she must go to prison. Prisons hold players from both teams. After the Team B person goes to prison, Team A returns to their line and sends out another charger.
- When an entire team gets to run, some may divert and let their prisoners out. To be let out of prison, a prisoner must be tagged and then do 15 jumping jacks.
- The winning team is the team that has the most players on their line at the end of the time.

OBSERVE

- This is a great game to see where the students stand with being honest in their game playing.
- See who will start the students cheering for their fellow teammates! Remind them that they get more points for spirit that they do winning!

DEBRIEF

Ask them if they were honest when the other person tagged them.

Were they honest when they said that they tagged someone or were they just very close?

Remind them that each “untruth” we tell, it hurts God and we must ask Him to forgive us.

DAY THREE: Dodge Ball

MATERIALS: Four balls, preferable soft balls, like Nerf balls or beach balls

OBJECT: To be one of the last four people on the outside circle who has not been hit with the ball

- Have the children make a large circle big enough where the students can stretch their hands out and touch the finger tips of the people on either side of them.
- Pick four people from the circle to be in the middle.
- Give the balls to the people in the middle.
- The people in the middle begin the game by throwing the balls at the people on the outside of the circle.
- If they hit the person below the waist before the ball hits the ground, the person they hit is out.
- If they hit the person above the waist, the person who threw it is out.
- If the person throws the ball at someone and they catch it, the person who threw it is out.
- The people on the outside can't throw the ball at the people in the middle.
- The last four people who are out can be the ones in the middle the next time.

OBSERVE

- Watch for the people who are the quickest to yell that someone else is out.
- Watch and see who you can see who is not making a big scene, but just playing fairly and being honest when they are hit.

DEBRIEF

How did it feel for so many people aiming at you at the same time?

When the ball just barely hit you, did you want to say the person missed and you weren't out even though you knew you were?

If you were in the middle, how did it feel to know you hit someone with the ball and they never admitted that they got out?

We need to remember that even though sometimes we can get away with a lie because no one else has “proof” that we did, God knows. If we say we love God, we don't want to hurt him by telling lies no matter how “small” we think they are. In God's eyes, sin is sin!

DAY FOUR: Free Play

MATERIALS: All the fun play equipment that you have

- Let the students have fun today with the things that you have in the closet that they don't always get to play with at the center.
- Remind them that this time is a privilege and that they are rewarded for a good week of team spirit and following the rules.
- Sometimes recreation can be one of the hardest times to try and organize. Give them the incentive of free play to motivate them to listen through out the week.

HONESTY WITH GOD: WEEK 2

WEEK 2 – BIBLE CLUB

LESSON AIM: To help the child understand the importance of being honest with God.

SCRIPTURE: Acts 5:1-5

MEMORY VERSE: Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the innermost place. Psalm 51:6

Ananias and Sapphira

Ananias was a man that was a member of the early church. He had a piece of property and sold it. He said that he gave all of the money to the church. His sin was not that he had to give all of the money and didn't, the sin was that he said he gave all of the money and didn't.

Peter's response was that Satan had filled his heart. The word used for filled here is the same word that is used in Ephesians 5:18 that commands believers to be filled with the Spirit. Ananias could have been influenced by the spirit because he had not dealt with some unconfessed sin in his life and the Spirit had less and less influence. We know that for each of us, the more things that we have done to hinder our relationship with God that we have not confessed to God, it becomes harder and harder to hear the voice of the Spirit as He desires to lead and guide us.

Peter told Ananias that his sin was not done to man, but to God (v. 4). This is the point that we want the children to see this week. We want them to see the importance of being honest with God and how God takes this very seriously! The children in our centers have become so numb to lying that is almost like part of their everyday life. The ending of this story is harsh. We chose it because we want the children to have a chance to see how God feels about it. This story parallels the story of Achan in Joshua 7. This story was used in the unit on Giving. We saw how Achan was killed because he did not give to the Lord. Ananias also died because of his sin and he was made an example for the early church to see how God feels about honesty.

**Discipleship
Tip**

When you can this week, get one-on-one with your children. Ask them when they are most tempted to tell a lie. Give them an example of when you are most tempted by lying. Help them think of a way to tell the truth or do what is right in the situation where they are tempted. Tell them that for one week you will ask them every time you see them about their tempting situation. You can set up some kind of code word like "Pass or Fail." This way you can ask them this in front of other children and they won't be embarrassed. This will help get them thinking about this difficult time! They can even hold you accountable too! If you drive, it could be something as simple as speeding!

 **Hook**

MATERIALS: A 3x5 card and a pencil for each child

- Pass out the 3x5 cards to each child when they come into Bible Club.
- **Say**, “I am going to ask you two questions. You should answer them with yes or no. You can’t say sometimes, or only once, the answer to these questions can only be yes or no.”
- Tell them to write their name on the card first.
- Then ask these two questions:
 - Have you ever done something to disobey your parents or the person you live with?
 - Have you ever not followed your teacher’s instructions at school?
- Ask the children to turn their card face down and hand their card in.
- **Ask** them, “Raise your hand if you were honest on your card.”
- Do not look at their cards.
- **Tell them**, “When you wrote down the answer on your card, does anyone know who would know if you are lying or telling the truth?” God!
- “So by writing your answer, you had to be honest with God or you could choose to lie. There are no such things as white lies or fibs and as we saw last week with Abram, half truths don’t make God happy either!

Say: Today we are going to hear a story about a man who was not honest with God and we are going to see how God felt about it. I will not look at your card until after you have heard this story.

After you tell the story, you can give them a chance to change the answer on their card and then ask the debriefing questions that are found after the story.

Bible Story

MATERIALS: None except actors

- This Bible Story will be told in the form of a skit by either your students or your staff.
- If you want to use your older students, a brief story summary is enclosed to give to them to practice.
- This skit can easily be done with only a few minutes of practice before Bible Club.
- Now ask these questions to help them tie in the hook with the story.
- Hold up the cards and **say**:

HOOK DEBRIEF

When you wrote your answer on these cards, who were you having to tell the truth to? *(God)*

How do you think God feels when we lie to Him? *(He doesn't like it.)*

Do you think if you lied on this card that you will die like Ananias did? *(No)*

Will anyone ever know if you lied or told the truth on these cards? *(No human will know but God will know.)*

Is there anyone that would like to change the answer on their card?



Ananias and Sapphira were a couple who owned a piece of land. They sold the land and the husband, Ananias, had the wife keep part of the money for themselves. Then, Ananias took the money to Peter, who was the pastor at the church, and told him that he sold the land and he is giving all of the money to the church. Peter knew right away that he was lying. He said to Ananias, “How is it that Satan has filled your heart that you have lied to the Spirit and kept some of the money for yourself?. You have not lied to men but to God.” As soon as Peter finished speaking, Ananias fell down and died. Everyone who heard about it was afraid.

You can read the story for yourself in **Acts 5:1-5**



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Who lied in this story? *(Ananias)*

What did he lie about? *(Selling his land and saying that he gave all to Peter)*

Why would he be giving his money to Peter for the land? *(Because Peter was like the pastor of the church, so he was giving his money to God.)*

What happened to Ananias when he lied to God? *(He died.)*

Does this happen every time we lie to God? *(No, he was only an example to let us know how God doesn't like for us to lie.)*

How would you know that this is something that God usually doesn't do? *(Find something in the Bible that tells us otherwise.)*

Let's look in our Bible at **1 John 1:9**. **What does it say is the usual way that Jesus deals with someone who has done something wrong?** *(He forgives them when they confess their sins.)*

This means He gives them time to ask forgiveness afterwards. Ananias didn't have any time to even ask forgiveness. God usually gives it to us, but He wants us to know here that He is serious!

What are some things that we could lie about that only God would know the answer to?

Is there any of those things that you would rather hurt God than tell the truth?

Sometimes telling the truth hurts. What are some of the reasons that you give yourself that says that it is okay to lie this time?

What do you think God would say about any of those reasons?

Take some time and to pray with the students. Help them to set some goals for themselves about telling the truth. Challenge them to go one day telling the truth, move to a few days and even a week of telling the truth. They need lots of encouragement in this area so try to be their biggest cheerleader for doing right rather than a stickler that reminds them they have messed up again.

WEEK 2 - SKIT

Skit

CHARACTERS: Maria and LaTasha

SCENE: LaTasha's grandma sends LaTasha and Maria to the store to buy some bread.

Latasha: Hey Maria, my grandma wants me to buy some bread for her at the store. She gave me some money. Do you want to go?

Maria: Sure, I'll just ask my mom.

Maria runs away and comes back.

Maria: My mom said I could go, but I have to be back in 30 minutes.

LaTasha and Maria walk in to the store. Hold up a sign that says "In the store"

LaTasha: Look Maria, the bread my grandma always gets is on sale. She gave me enough money for what the bread normally is, but it is a dollar cheaper!

Maria: Your grandma is going to be happy.

LaTasha: (looks at Maria as if she is shocked) What do you mean happy? She will never know. That money is mine. I mean I am the one going to the store for her all of the time, the least I could get is a little reward every now and then.

Maria: LaTasha, remember what we have been talking about at the center? You have to be honest even if no one else will know because God knows! Do you think that is what He would want you to do?

LaTasha: I guess I know what you mean. It is harder to do the right thing when no one will ever know.

Maria: Look at it this way, you can show your grandma that you are trustworthy, because you didn't spend the money. She might even let you keep the money, who knows, but at least you have made God happy.

LaTasha: All right, but there is some really great candy that we could be eating right now with the money we could have spent ourselves.

Both laugh and walk home.

DEBRIEF

What was LaTasha thinking about doing with the money she would save? *(She wanted to buy some candy with it.)*

Who would have known what LaTasha did? *(Maria and God)*

What would you have done if you were LaTasha and why?

WEEK 2 - MEMORY VERSE

MEMORY VERSE: Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Psalm 51:6

Finish the Verse

MATERIALS: None

- Divide the group into teams of about 5 or 6. The number of teams will depend on the amount of children you have.
- Each team sits down in a circle.
- The first person begins by saying the first word of the verse.
- The second person continues by saying both the first and second word of the verse.
- The third person proceeds by saying the first three words and so on.
- Go around the circle as many times as needed to complete the verse.
- Practice a couple of times and then, do it as a race against the other teams.
- If a mistake is made, the team must begin again at the beginning. However, then change the person who starts the verse so the kids aren't saying the same part of the verse.

WEEK 2 - PRACTICAL LIVING

Having a Good Work Ethic

MATERIALS: Cleaning supplies for whatever jobs you come up with, a board to write on and a writing utensil

- This practical living begins with an experiential learning exercise. Experience is an important part of their learning! Please don't skip it!
- Have practical living in the place where you normally have snack or a place that you can get a little messy.
- Before the students come in to the practical living area, make a few messes that will be easy to clean up, but not too easy.
- Here are some examples:
 - cookie crumbs that need to be swept or vacuumed
 - small piece of paper, like the ones out of a hole punch, spilt on the floor
 - something in the sink like chocolate syrup or pancake syrup that needs to be wiped down
 - something written on a dry erase board that needs to be erased
 - books scattered that need to be put on a shelf
- You want the job to be something that they could do and say they did it, but they could have not done as good of job as someone who was looking for details.
- *For example: They could have picked up the books and put them on the shelf and they would have fulfilled what you asked them to do, but are all the books straight, are they facing the right direction, are they in order by height, and are they pulled to the front of the shelf.*
- Have the jobs already decided and have them assigned to each class so that when they walk in they can find out their job and they can do it as quickly as possible.
- When they come in, tell them that the room is a little messy today and you need them to help you clean up first before we get started.
- Each class should have two jobs that they are responsible for getting done.
- Read off the class names and the two things that they are to do and tell them they have five minutes to complete their job.
- Tell them when they think that both of their jobs are done, come and sit down for practical living.
- When everyone comes to sit down, begin with the youngest and move to the oldest. Have the little ones tell you what job they had and go over to their area and inspect their work. Tell them the things that you like about what they did and some things they could have done better.

- Go through each group like that getting more strict the older the children.
- Be sure on each job you tell some things that they did well first and then tell the things that they need to improve on for next time.

AFTER YOU ARE DONE, ASK THEM THESE QUESTIONS:

How did you feel when I asked you to clean?

Did you want to get some kind of a reward for what you did?

If you knew that someone was going to pay you for the job you did, would you have done a better job just now?

If you knew that Jesus was standing right behind you watching what you did, would have changes anything that you did? What?

- **Ask them**, “Does anyone know what “work ethic” means?”
- It means the belief we have about how hard or how well we do something.
- Read this verse: **Colossians 3:23**. Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as if for the Lord, not for men.
- What do you think that verse means? It means that we are not to just do what the person told us to do, but we are to do our work like we were given that job by God.
- Did you do the jobs that I asked you to do to today as if you were doing them for God?
- What are some things that you might have to do during the week that are things that you are responsible for? Let’s name some and I will write them on the board.
 - Clean your room
 - Clean up after yourself when you play anywhere in the house
 - Do your homework
 - Any chores around the house
- There are many things that we are responsible for. If we are honest with God, we must do a good job in whatever we do.
- If we don’t, we are not pleasing to God.
- Here are some scenes for you to figure out why it is important to honor God with your work and the things that you are responsible for everyday.
- Read these scenes to them have them tell you what the main character should do and why it is important.

Scene One

Christina has homework in math. She hates doing her math homework. Her mom is gone tonight to work so she knows that her mom won't ask her about it. She also knows that her teacher at school isn't a Christian and her teacher knows that she is. Should she do the homework even though her mom won't know?

A: Yes, because her teacher is watching and if she doesn't do her homework, she will be just like all the other kids that make her teacher frustrated. She should do a good job because she represents Christ to her teacher and because doing her homework makes God happy.

Scene Two

At the center, one of the staff asks Jamaal if he would stay afterwards to help mop the floor. He doesn't really like to mop, but he knows that the staff need some extra help so he says yes. When he begins to mop, he sees there are crumbs on the floor and lots of chairs. Should he sweep the floor first and then mop even though he only agreed to mop? and should he put the chairs up on the tables or just mop around them? If he didn't move the chairs he could be done a lot quicker and there was a game on TV tonight that he wanted to be home in time to watch.

A: He should sweep and mop the floor after the chairs are moved. Having a good work ethic means going above and beyond. Jamaal should remember he is doing this for the Lord and not just the staff. When the staff see what a good job he did, they could give him even more responsibility later.

Scene Three

LaTasha's mom went to the store. She asked her to clean her room while she is gone. There is a show on TV right now that she really wants to watch. She knows her mom will be gone a while so she could probably watch TV now and clean later. If she was in a big hurry, she could just shove everything under the bed or throw it in the closet. Should she try to clean right and miss her show or should she watch the show and pile everything in the closet later?

A: She should clean correctly now so that when she is done she can watch whatever she wants. When her mom comes home, she can look at her mom in the eye and say that she cleaned her room and her mom will know that she is honest. Her mom will begin to trust her more and more and believe her when she says something.

REVIEW WITH THE STUDENTS

So if you are honest and have a good work ethic, what kinds of things would you do?

You would go above and beyond, not just what it takes to get by; You would do the right thing even when no one is watching; You would be a good example to others and make others think good things about Christians - because every where we go we represent Christ.

If you were going to get a job, who do you think would be someone they would want to work for them? Would it be someone who went the extra mile and did above and beyond, or someone who did just what it took to get by?

You need to start doing these things now so that you will do them automatically by them time you are looking for a job.

WEEK 2 - READ-A-LOUD

“Someone Sees You”

Author Unknown; The Book of Virtues; William J. Bennett , p. 604

Also in the Children’s Book of Virtues, page 68

SUMMARY: This story is about a father who is stealing a little wheat from different fields. He has his little girl watch to see if anyone is coming. She keeps telling him someone is watching and he doesn’t see anyone. Finally she tells him that God is the one watching him. This is what we want the children to see is that being honest is not only being honest if you think you won’t get caught. It is being honest before God, because He always sees us.

PRE READING QUESTION

Have you ever been in the grocery store and wanted to take one grape or one piece of candy? Why do you think that is so tempting?

Who do you think sees you no matter if you see them or not? God

This story is about someone who thought no one saw him when he tried to steal something. Let’s see what happened to him.

POST READING QUESTIONS

Who was it that was watching the father take the wheat from the field? (God)

Many people don’t remember that God is the one watching everything. Do you think that this is an important thing to remember? Why or why not?

Teaching Tip: This is a very short story and easy to understand. Do the following activity with them to expand their critical thinking skills and imagination.

If this story were written today, what might the story be like? Who would the characters be, what would they be stealing, who would be the look out, where would they be?

You might want to do the first scenario helping them by providing who the characters are and where they are and then letting them fill in the rest. This models for them what to do. Then allow them to write their own as a class.

WEEK 2 - CRAFTS

✂ In God We Put Our Trust

MATERIALS: Pint size milk cartons (the ones that the children get at lunch at school), stapler, construction paper, glue sticks, markers, and scissors

A bank is a place where we trust that people are honest and put our money in the right place. The people at the bank could have many times when no one sees them with all of that money. They must be honest before God that they do the right thing, even if no one else is looking. Remember what all of our money says on it, “In God we trust.”

- Today’s craft is a bank that they can put their money in made out of a milk carton.
- You can use a bigger carton if you can get enough for each child or any other thing that you think will be easy to cover and decorate as a bank.
- Have the children make sure that the milk cartons have been rinsed out fully.
- Have them open the top completely so that they can dry it out before they do their craft.
- Staple the top shut.
- Cover the milk carton with construction paper.
- They can make their bank anything that they want, but you can show them an example of an actual bank building made from a milk carton.
- Have them use the markers to draw on doors and windows and whatever else they want to put on their bank.
- After they have cover the carton with construction paper, an adult should go around with a sharp pair of scissors and poke a slit in the top.
- The slit should be large enough for any size coin to fit in.
- If the children are wondering how they get their money out, tell them that they will have to make a hole in the bottom later on to do that.
- Encourage them to wait as long as they can to do that, maybe until it is full.
- Tell them that they are putting their money into a “savings account” at their own bank!

GUIDED CONVERSATION

When you have to make a decision about what to do and no one else is around, who should you ask? *(In the same way that we can pray to Him where ever we are, He also sees us and knows if we have done the right thing or not.)*

Who are the people at the bank responsible to? *(Their boss, you and God.)*

Do you think the bank would hire people that they thought were not honest? *(Why do you think honest is so important in a bank?)*

WEEK 2 - RECREATION

DAY ONE: Cotton Ball Hockey

MATERIALS: Paper towel tubes for one team and rolled up newspaper for the other team, one bag of cotton balls (the largest ones that you can find.)

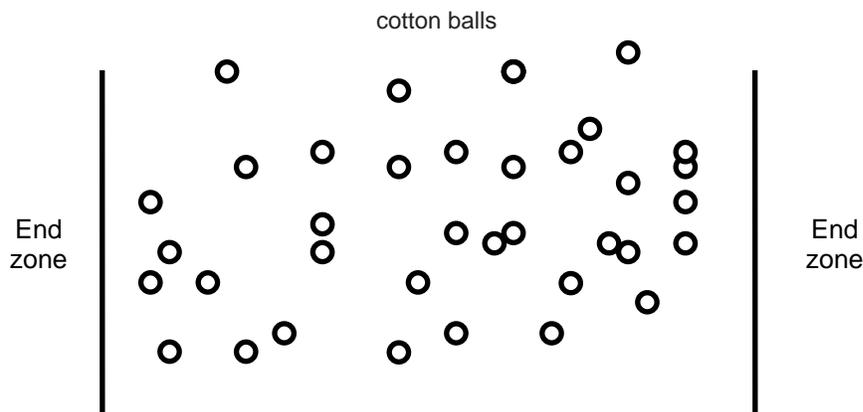
OBJECT: The team with the most cotton balls in their end zone when time is called is the winner.

SET UP:

- Divide the group into their two teams. (We will just call the Team A and Team B)
- Give each player on Team A a rolled up sheet of newspaper.
- Give each player on Team B a paper towel tube.
- In the playing area, scatter a large bag of cotton balls around on the floor.

TO PLAY:

- When the leader shouts “Go,” each player is to attempt to get a cotton ball into his/her end zone.
- Players may not touch each other - however, they may use their “sticks” in any way they wish to hinder an opposing player from moving his/her “ball” to the end zone.



OBSERVE

- Do the players make a strategy to get the cotton balls in the goal?
- Are they playing as a team or trying to do it all themselves?

DEBRIEF:

Did anyone just want to pick up the cotton balls and move them with your hands? Did you?

Is it hard to follow all the rules? Why?

What kind of person does it take to make sure they follow the rules all the way and not just part of the way? *(An honest person)*

What is one way that we can show God that we love Him when we are playing games? *(By being honest!)*

DAY TWO: Musical Spoons

MATERIALS: Spoons, music, tape player

OBJECT: To be the last one with a spoon when the music stops.

SET UP:

- Gather spoons for the game. You will need one less than the number of children playing.
- Place the spoons into a large circle.

TO PLAY:

- Have the children walk around the circle of spoons as the music is playing.
- When you stop the music, they must grab a spoon.
- The person who is without a spoon is out of the game.
- Take one spoon away and repeat above steps.
- The last person with a spoons wins.

OBSERVE

- Are some children trying to say they had the spoon first when they know they didn't get it first they just don't want to loose?
- Are there children who are gracious winners and calm losers?
- Listen to what the children say about other children once they are out of the game. Are they saying bad things about the other children just because they are out?

DEBRIEF

Was there any way you could show honesty in this game?

How did you feel when two people were holding the same spoon at the end of the game? Did it make you want to say that you had the spoon first even though you didn't?

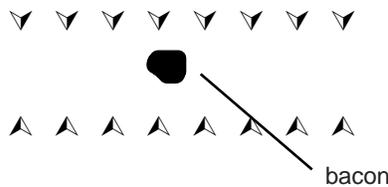
When you tell the truth, even when no one else might ever know, you make God very happy because He knows even if no one else does.

DAY THREE: Steal The Bacon

MATERIALS: Something to use as the “bacon”

OBJECT: If you grab the “bacon” and are able to make it back to your line without being tagged your team wins a point.

- Have the students break into their two teams.
- Each team forms a line facing each other.
- Number each team, start the numbering from the opposite ends. Try to match students age wise as much as possible.



TO PLAY

- The “bacon” (rag, chalk eraser, twig, etc..) is laid in the center between the two teams.
- The leader calls out a number.
- The two players with that number run to the center and try to grab the “bacon”
- However, if you are holding the “bacon” and the opposing player tags you, his team receives the point.
- If you grab the “bacon” and are able to make it back to your line without being tagged your team wins a point.
- Players may pick up the “bacon” and drop it if they think they are going to be tagged.
- The “bacon” may be kicked or tossed, BUT it must be carried across the line.

OBSERVE

- How do the children help other children on their own team?
- Do they help their friends more than they do their other teammates?
- If no one was looking, would these children do the right thing?

DEBRIEF

What would have happened in this game if someone wasn't honest?

How did you feel when you won a point for your team?

Does it feel better to win when you know you didn't cheat or when you know in your heart that you did? Who really knows whether or not you cheated or not?

DAY FOUR: Free Play

MATERIALS: All the fun play equipment that you have

- Watch and see if you can see if the students are becoming more honest in their playing with each other.
- Give them some verbal recognition today and tell them how good they are doing in front of their friends.

DEBRIEF

When there were no staff watching you closely today, did you do the right thing or did you cheat in the games that you played?

Do you need someone to watch you to make sure you play right?

What kinds of things would let me know that no one was trying to cheat today? (*No complaints of cheating*)

HONESTY WITH OURSELVES: WEEK 3

WEEK 3 – BIBLE CLUB

- LESSON AIM:** To help the child understand how being honest with ourselves helps us grow in our relationship with God.
- SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 51:1-13
- MEMORY VERSE:** Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Psalm 51:6

David's Psalm of Confession

This psalm is the outpouring of David's heart after he has been confronted with his sin by Nathan, the prophet. It is very comforting to know that David, known in the Bible as a man after God's own heart, could sin and be forgiven. He did something so wrong, but because of his repentant heart, God forgave him and continued to bless his family. He still had to pay the consequences of his sin, but he was restored to fellowship with his heavenly Father.

The first few verses begin his prayer as he acknowledges who he is praying to. Verses 3-6 is where David actually confesses his sinfulness. He admits that he has been a sinner from birth and wants to be honest with God even in the depths of his soul. This is a hard thing to do for someone who realizes how much he has strayed from God.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary says that verses 7-12 are a petition. It says, "David petitioned God first for forgiveness and then for inner renewal." This is what we want the students to see. We want them to see that their heart won't always be right with God and how they can go about restoring that relationship.

This lesson is to show the students that being honest can go way beyond the words that we say, it is an attitude of our heart. We must help them see that it is something that God thinks is very important! We also want them to know the freedom that comes from honesty with God. These things are things that have been so hazy in our culture today that everyone is looking for short cuts and loop holes. No one is looking for the right way to do things. There are no short cuts here. God wants only the truth, no matter how painful it is.



**Discipleship
Tip**

This week, get one-on-one with your students and ask them if they feel like they have been hiding something from God. You might tell them something that you had a problem being honest with God about and then when you finally were, how much better it made you feel. Pray with them and ask God if He would bring anything to their mind that they need to be honest with God about. This thing could be one situation, a habit or anything that God brings to mind. If they can't share it with you encourage them to tell someone else as well as talk to God about it. Encourage them that everyone has things that they do wrong. The lie that Satan tries to keep us in is that we were the only one that has done what we did. When you are vulnerable about your sin, you could free them to share about their own sin.

 **Hook**

MATERIALS: None

OBJECT: To get the children to admit that they need help, that they can't do things on their own. This requires that they are honest with themselves about what they are capable of doing.

- Begin the Bible Club time by having all the children lined up in one long line facing you, as if they were going to begin the game Red Light Green Light.
- Tell them that you are going to play a memory obstacle course game.
- The way you play is you read a series of instructions that they have to remember and do perfectly.
- When they have completed the memory obstacle course they can cross the imaginary line that you are standing on and they get a prize.
- They cannot get the prize if they do not do the series of things correctly.
- You will want to have your staff and volunteers spread out so that they are watching a certain group of children. If a child completes the obstacle course perfectly the hook doesn't work.
- Tell them that you can only read the things that they are to do one time.
- Tell them that they can either start when you begin reading the list or they can wait until all of the things are done before they start.
- It doesn't matter who finishes first, it only matters that you finish the course correctly.
- Read this list to the students fairly quickly although not fast enough that they see you are trying to trick them:
 - hop two times
 - turn completely around
 - take two giant steps forward
 - take three baby steps forward
 - hop on your left foot 5 times
 - turn around twice
 - skip three times
 - do four jumping jacks
 - run backwards across the line
- Staff should have this list written on a piece of paper that they have with them so that they can remember exactly what they are supposed to be doing.
- Let them try as many times as they want to do it right. Correcting them whenever you see them doing something wrong.

Week 3 – Honesty With Ourselves

- If they say that they can't do it and want help, have them stand off to the side until the others have given up as well and asked for help.
- Hopefully, you will then have all of your students standing off to one side waiting to get help.
- Now that they are all over there, ask them, "Does anyone here want help?"
- Read the list slowly now have the students do the action as you read it.
- Give them all a prize.

DEBRIEF

What happened the first time you tried to do the game? *(It was too hard. No one could do it.)*

How did you end up getting the prize? *(Asked for help and the staff helped you.)*

How did it feel when you kept messing up when you were trying to do it the first time?

What did you finally have to admit? *(That you couldn't do it.)*

Do you think that by saying that you couldn't do the game you had to be honest with anyone? *(The staff, but more importantly you had to admit it to yourself)*

Sometimes, when we have done something wrong, the hardest person to tell the truth to is ourselves. We say to ourselves, "It wasn't that bad. He deserved to get hit in the nose. No one will ever know anyway." When we say these things to ourselves, we are lying to ourselves. Today, we are going to read one of the Psalms that talks about being honest with ourselves.

Bible Story

MATERIALS: Copies of the script for as many children as needed

Today's story is going to be done like a readers theater. You may want to divide all your students in half to read these two parts, or you could just choose good readers for each part to read the sections.

Teaching Tip: Sometimes children miss the meaning when they are focusing on sounding out the words. If you think this will happen, allow them those students to listen so that they can get the meaning. Maybe you could hand out the page so that they could read along, but they wouldn't have to say it out loud.

READERS NEEDED: Scripture (**NIV**), Children's Translation (**CT**),
Question Character (**QC**) - this person should be someone who is a ham!

- Choose the students that will read the parts.
- Explain to the students what a version of the Bible is. The first section that will be read is the NIV - New International Version. The second is mostly from the Living Bible with a few other words thrown in. Tell them that this is just there to help them understand what the Bible is saying more clearly.
- After you read the script you might want to ask them these questions. If they have difficulty answering these questions you might want to read it through another time so that they can know what they need to listen for.
- If time doesn't permit, be sure during the discussion question time that you make sure that they understand what is happening in this psalm.

QUESTIONS FOR COMPREHENSION:

Why did David write this psalm? *(Because he had done something wrong and he wanted to ask forgiveness from God.)*

What are some ways that he asked to be forgiven? *(He wanted to be washed, he wanted his sin to be gone, he wanted God to forget what he had done after he had received his punishment.)*

King David was a very godly man, but he still did things wrong. He had to ask forgiveness and God forgave him, do you think a prayer like this is something you could pray or is it just for David? *(For anyone)*

Bonus Activity for the older students extended learning

Have the older children read the last part of Psalm 51 on their own. Have them answer the comprehension questions included. This is something that they can do after they finish their homework during homework time or they can take it home and do it. Give them S.A.Y. Yes!® dollars for finishing the assignment.

Answers for the questions:

1. It means that because he has killed someone (Uriah, Bathseba's husband) he is worthy of death too, but he can be forgiven.
2. You are humble, admit when you are wrong, don't brag, realize you have much to learn.
3. He wanted it to be very close and he didn't want to settle for anything less!
4. He said he was willing to sacrifice and he would have brought burnt offerings.
5. Yes, God did forgive David because of his repentant heart.

Name _____

Bonus Activity

Directions: Read Psalm 51:14-19 on your own. Then answer the questions below.

1. When David says, in verse 14, “save me from bloodguilt” what does that mean?

2. Verse 17 says that the sacrifices of God are a broken and contrite spirit. What can you do to show that you have a broken and contrite spirit?

3. Look at the whole passage, what do you think that David wanted out of his relationship with God?

4. What are some of the things that show you that David is willing to do anything to make his relationship with God better?

5. This passage doesn't say it, but do you think God forgave David? Why or Why not?

Psalm 51 Readers Theater

Readers: **NIV** (New International Version)

CT (children’s translation)

QC (question character)

“A”: Answer for the questioning character, can be the same person as **“Intro”** who reads the introduction

Intro: Today we are going to read Psalm 51. There will be two different translations read of the same sentence. The person reading the NIV will read first. They will only read one short phrase. Then, the reader of the “children’s translation” which is an imaginary translation will read the same sentence or phrase using words that will be a little easier to understand. QC over here is our question character. He will be asking questions throughout the reading that might help you understand more. Any questions? Let’s begin.

NIV: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love.

CT: O loving and kind God have mercy.

NIV: according to your great compassion, blot out my transgressions.

CT: Have pity on me and take away the awful stain of my sin.

NIV: Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

CT: Oh wash me, cleanse me from this guilt. Let me be pure again.

QC: Hey, wait! I thought my sins were already forgiven when I asked Jesus into my heart!

A: Yes, they were, but God wants us to confess our sins to him. Our sins are already forgiven but when we do wrong it hurts our relationship with God so we must ask him to forgive us so that the relationship will be better again.

Week 3 – Honesty With Ourselves

QC: Okay, I got it, keep going.

NIV: For I know my transgression and my sin is always before me.

CT: For I admit the bad things that I did - it haunts me day and night.

NIV: Against you, and you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.

CT: It is against you and you alone that I have sinned, and did this terrible thing.

NIV: So that you are proved right when you speak and you are justified when you judge.

CT: You saw it all, and your sentence against me is what I deserve.

NIV: Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

CT: But I was born a sinner, yes, from the moment my mother conceived me I was wicked.

QC: Wait! How could I have sinned when I wasn't even born yet?

A: It means that in your heart you always thought of wrong things to do, even from a very young age. It doesn't mean literally when you were in your mother's stomach.

NIV: Surely you desire truth in the inner parts, you teach me wisdom in the inmost place.

CT: You deserve honesty from the heart, yes utter honesty and truthfulness. Oh give me this wisdom.

NIV: Cleanse me with hyssop.

Week 3 – Honesty With Ourselves

QC: Now, you guys are going too far, I don't know what hyssop is and I sure don't want to be cleaned with it.

A: Just wait and see if the other translation will answer your question. NIV group you can finish now.

NIV: Cleanse me with hyssop and I will be clean.

CT: Let the cleansing blood pay the price and I shall be clean again.

QC: When it says blood, does that mean Jesus' blood?

A: In the Old Testament, people had to kill perfect animals to pay for their sins. David was talking about their blood, because Jesus hadn't come yet. But for us today, Jesus' blood would be the one that makes us clean and paid the price for us.

NIV: Wash me and I will be whiter than snow.

CT: Wash me and I will be clean.

NIV: Let me hear joy and gladness, let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

CT: And after you have punished me, give me back my joy again.

NIV: Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

CT: Don't keep looking at my sins erase them from your sight.

NIV: Create in me a pure heart, O God and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

CT: Create in me a new clean heart, O God, filled with clean thoughts and right desires.

Week 3 – Honesty With Ourselves

NIV: Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

CT: Don't toss me aside, unable to enter your presence forever. Don't take your Holy Spirit from me.

QC: I didn't know that we could lose the Holy Spirit?

A: In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit wasn't always with them, but today because Jesus gave us the Spirit as our helper when He left and went back up to heaven, He is always with us. Good listening!

NIV: Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.

CT: Give me back the joy of your salvation and make me willing to obey you.

NIV: Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you.

CT: Then I will teach your ways to other sinners, and they - guilty like me - will admit their sins and turn to you.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

(The first three questions you might have asked earlier. If you did you can skip to four or re-ask them if you think that would help.)

Why did David write this psalm? *(Because he had done something wrong and he wanted to ask forgiveness from God.)*

What are some ways that he asked to be forgiven? *(He wanted to be washed, he wanted his sin to be gone, he wanted God to forget what he had done after he had received his punishment.)*

King David was a very godly man, but he still did things wrong. He had to ask forgiveness and God forgave him, do you think that you could pray something like this or is it just for David? *(For anyone)*

Why did we read the same thing twice two different ways? *(So that we would be able to understand what it was saying.)*

Why do you think God wants us to be honest in our hearts? *(If we are honest there, everything else will be right.)*

Let's look at what the Bible says comes from our heart to our mouth. Open your Bible to **Matthew 15:18-19. Someone read those verses and tell us where what we say comes from.** *(It comes from our heart.)*

What other things does it say are in our heart? *(Evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.)*

If we have our heart right with God, do you think that we will tell the truth?

What kinds of things do we need to do to get our heart right with God? *(Read the Bible, pray, go to church, hang around the right friends, ask God what we need to change in our heart.)*

Sometimes, it is much harder to be honest in our heart than even with our mouth. Why do you think that is? *(Because you think no one else will know what really is in your heart, but God knows)*

Take sometime to pray with your students. Give them a chance to pray silently so that they can have a chance to ask God what they need to do to get right with Him. Encourage them to share with others what they prayed about so that someone else can hold them accountable and help them work through it.

WEEK 3 - SKITS

Skit

CHARACTERS: Reuben, Bobby, older friend DeAndre

SCENE: Reuben and Bobby are walking to the store and they see a friend of theirs playing basketball who is much older than they are.

Reuben: Hey Bobby, look there is DeAndre, playing basketball over there. He can really play, can't he?

Bobby: He's got some moves all right.

DeAndre: Hey you two, I got some time to kill, do you want to lose? Two on one?

Reuben: You're on!

The boys begin to play.

Bobby: Hey DeAndre, didn't I see you working down at that grocery store down the street?

DeAndre: Oh, that ol' store? Yeah, I did for a while but they let me go.

Reuben: For what?

DeAndre: They tried to tell me that I wasn't given back the right change to people. I mean I figure if you are supposed to get 95 cents back, why go through all the hassle of counting up all that change, just give them a dollar. I guess it added up over time.

Bobby: It seems like it will be hard to get another job when you get fired by someone.

DeAndre: No, I don't have to write it down on my next application and they will never know!

Reuben: You need to be honest with yourself and realize that getting fired is more serious than you think.

DeAndre: Hey, I asked you guys if you wanted to get beat in basketball, I didn't ask you over here so you could get all up in my business! Are you gonna play or not, Mr. Honest Abe!

Reuben: Okay, were playing!

DEBRIEF

Why was DeAndre not being honest? *(He was going to lie on his next application.)*

Have you ever done something wrong but then talked to yourself so much about it that you convinced yourself it wasn't that bad? Do you think that is what DeAndre did? When did you do it?

Do you think Reuben and Bobby should have stayed and played with him? *(If you can't trust him to tell the truth on an application, why should he tell you the truth? He is not a good friend to hang around.)*

WEEK 3 - MEMORY VERSE

MEMORY VERSE: Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Psalm 51:6

Rhythm Verse

MATERIALS: None

- To begin this game, you will need to teach the children the hand clapping pattern below:
 - (On 1) clap hands on lap
 - (On 2) clap hands together in front of you
 - (On 3) snap fingers on your right hand
 - (On 4) snap fingers on your left hand
- When you first teach it, use the numbers to help the children stay on beat. You want to help them get into a rhythm.
- After they have established a rhythm using the counting, stop counting and see if they are still able to repeat the pattern. If they are, go on to the next step. By the way, you may have some children who struggle with this game, but it's really good for them to do this anyway.
- Next, start putting the verse you are covering into the clapping. An example is below using this month's memory verse. Notice that the clapping will pair up with syllables, not complete words.

(Sure-)	clap hands on lap
(ly)	clap hands together in front of you snap fingers on your right hand snap fingers on your left hand
(You)	clap hands on lap
(desire)	clap hands together in front of you snap fingers on your right hand snap fingers on your left hand

- Continue the verse using the pattern above.
- After you have put the whole verse into the pattern, repeat the verse several times until the children feel comfortable with it. Once this happens, you can also start doing the verse really slow and then speed it up as you go along. Eventually, you will be going so fast that the children will break down in laughter. This is great fun!!!

WEEK 3 - PRACTICAL LIVING

How to Have a Clear Conscience

MATERIALS: Playdough or silly putty, enough for all the children to have a little bit to play with, pencils for each child, copies of the handout that goes with this lesson for each child

- Begin by putting a piece of Playdough in front of them. Tell them not to touch it at all.
- By the time you are done passing it out, most of them will be holding it.
- **Say:** “Raise your hand if you touched the Playdough at any time since I set it in front of you. I need you to be honest with me.

Everyone who touched it is guilty. You deserve to face the consequences of disobeying the rules. How do you feel inside?

Now, you may use your Playdough to make a face of how you feel.”

- Give them about 30 to 45 seconds.
- **Ask:** What do you think you could do to feel better?
- Wait for the students to respond. Here are some of the answers you are looking for:
 - Ask for forgiveness
 - Tell someone what I did and take the consequences
 - Apologize
- **Say:** These are some good ideas. After you do one or more of these things, do you feel relieved or have peace inside?

When we admit what we have done wrong and take the consequences, we can have a clear conscience because we are being honest with ourselves and God.

- **Ask:** Does anyone know what it means to have a clear conscience?
- **Say:** I will give you some situations and you tell me if you would feel guilty or have a clear conscience. The first ones will be easy and then they will get harder.

Before I read these, take one of the papers that is sitting at your table. It has some boxes on it.

When you hear a situation that you think you would have a clear conscience, put a piece of your dough in the box marked #1. Remember, when you are #1 you are a winner and have a clear conscience.

If you hear a situation where you would feel guilty, put a piece of your dough in box #3. If you don't know, put it in the middle, box #2.

Week 3 – Honesty With Ourselves

Let's do two practice ones and then you can try them on your own.

Practice

- First, you are at the store and put a piece of candy in your pocket. You turn around and there is someone who works at the store looking right at you? Are you guilty or innocent? GUILTY! Put it in box #3.
- That one was pretty easy, but here is one more for practice.
- You are at school and the teacher finds two people cheating on a test. You studied and didn't need to cheat. When she announced to the class that she had seen two people cheating, how do you feel? You have a clear conscience, put your clay in box #1.
- Now we have had some practice. I am going to read the next five situations and then you can tell me at the end, how many #1's you had and how many #3's and if there were any where you weren't sure. Here they are:
 - You find a dollar and return it to the person you saw drop it.
 - You can't think of the answer to a question on a test. You glance at the person next to you and you happen to see their answer and you write it down on your paper. No one saw you.
 - You lie to your mom about where you were after school.
 - Someone is missing a watch and the teacher holds everyone after class, you know that you didn't take it.
 - You buy a piece of candy at the store and the cashier gives you too much change. You give her back the extra that she gave you.

- Most people should have gotten three innocent (#1) and one guilty. (#3)
- Talk about each one and ask them what they would feel or felt.
- Now tell them to roll their Playdough into a snake.
- Have them make one end the pointer.
- You are going to begin by reading a situation, when you stop reading, they should put their arrow to what they feel now. Then call on a child to fill in that they would do next to make the situation better. Any child that feels innocent or has a clear conscience after the solution that is given, they should raise their hand.
- If the child giving the answer gets the majority of his or her classmates to raise their hands, they did good and can move on to the next one. If they didn't either give them a chance to make it better or have another child add something else to the other child's idea.

HERE ARE THE SCENARIOS:

This boy at school has a cool pencil that glows in the dark and you really want it. You see him drop it outside; you pick it up and put it in your pocket, after all “finders keepers, right?” The next day he is asking everyone if they have seen it. You know it is in your backpack. (stop and let the children respond with their snakes - then ask for a child to finish the story)

It is 30 minutes before school starts and you are riding the bus to school, all of the sudden you remember that you were supposed to do a page of math homework that you didn't do (let the children respond) On the bus with you is a friend of yours who is in your class. You know they did the homework. (Let a student finish)

This one is the last one and might be a little more complicated. Let's see how good you are with knowing what is right and wrong:

You come home from school and no one else is there. Your mom left you a note that says that you can have two cookies but no more because they will spoil your dinner. You get three cookies because you know that she will never know (let the children respond) she also said not to go outside or open the door for anyone, but you want to see if there is any mail in the mailbox. You could say you got it on the way in the door from school and she will never know. So you go and get the mail. There was nothing for you anyway. (Let the children respond) Then the doorbell rings, you just want to see who it is, so you look out the window and you see your best friend outside. You know your mom wouldn't mind if they were over so you let them in.

- After you have read this **ask**, “Did anyone notice that once you had moved your arrow to guilty the first time, there was no where to move it the second time, or even the third? Do you think this person had a clear conscious? When we do things like this all the time, whether they are little are big, the more we do the less we feel bad. Once we already fell bad for one thing, we don't feel as bad the second time, it is even less the third time and on and on. We have to be honest with ourselves all the time to have a clear conscious.
- What if the scene had read like this...
You come home from school and no one else is there. Your mom left you a note that says that you can have two cookies but no more because they will spoil your dinner. You get three cookies because you know that she will never know.
- **Okay now you are guilty for the first time.** Let's say right then, you decided to call your mom at work, because you know that's where she is and tell her what you did. You were honest with yourself and your mom. You ask her to forgive you, she says, “Yes, but remember, don't go outside and don't open the door.” You agree and hang up the phone. Now how do you feel? Better? You got the cookie thing over with. Now you think about the mail, do you think you will want to get it? Isn't it a lot harder to do it now that it was when you already felt guilty?
- When we have a clear conscious, it make it easier for us to be honest with ourselves and God. When we obey our mom and don't get the mail, what do you think God thinks of us?

Week 3 – Honesty With Ourselves

- Work this week on getting your arrow to be pointing to the number 1 all the time!
- If time allows, have the children think of some other situations that they find hard to get out of and figure out how to deal with them.

Teaching Tip: Research shows that many children who have a hard time listen in a lecture type situation, can actually listen better if their body is moving or if they are playing with something. Watch the children closely and see if squeezing the Playdough helps them listen better or if it is just a distraction. Don't judge their listening by if they "look like their listening", ask them a few questions afterwards to see if they heard anything and can remember what was said!

1.	2.	3.
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WEEK 3 - READ-A-LOUD

New!

Larry Boy and the Fib from Outer Space

A Veggie Tales Video

SUMMARY: This video would be a good summary of the month. It tells how lies can start off small and grow and grow.

OR, you may do the following...

New!

“The Tale of Rippon Tance, a Porpoise with a Purpose

O. Whillikers in the Hall of Champions by Jay Carty and Phil Nash, Chapter 2

SUMMARY: This story is about a porpoise who goes through a series of days making decisions about what to do in different situations. He is very influenced by peer pressure and lets them sway him onto many wrong choices. They are choices like lying to his mom, cheating on a test and stealing gum from the store. He redeems himself through repentance when he decides that he can no longer look himself in the mirror when he had done so many bad things.

This week talks about being honest with ourselves and would be great way to talk about how we need to be honest when we have made a mistake, confess it and make the right choice.

OR, you may do the following...

“The Honest Woodman”

Adapted from Emilie Poulsson; The Book of Virtues, William J. Bennett page 602

Also in the Children’s Book of Virtues, page 101

SUMMARY: This story is about a woodman who had to be honest about an ax that he lost in the river. Someone found an ax, though much better than his own, he still told the truth and admitted that it wasn’t his ax. His honesty got him two nicer axes and his old ax back. We want the students to see that when we are honest with ourselves even when no one is around that knows the truth, then our reward will be much greater in the end than what we think that we can gain by lying.

PRE READING QUESTIONS

Have you ever had someone ask you if you had lost a dollar and knowing that it wasn't yours said, "Yeah, I was just looking for that."? Why do you think people do that sometimes?

This story is called *The Honest Woodman*, from that title does anyone want to make a prediction about what they think might happen in the story?

Teaching Tip: You might want to be the one to make the first prediction. They need to see predicting modeled. Be sure to predict a wrong outcome so that afterwards you can say, "Mine wasn't right either." if they are feeling bad about making an incorrect prediction. Predicting is a critical thinking skill. Encourage any answer they give. The point is that they are thinking!

Let's find out if any of our predictions were right.

POST READING QUESTIONS

Can someone tell me what the woodman thought he would get if he lied? *(He thought he would have gotten a silver ax.)*

What did he get by telling the truth? *(He got the silver ax, gold ax and his old ax.)*

When he first said that the silver ax wasn't his, how did you feel? *(Thought he was stupid, wished he had lied)*

After hearing this story about this man, if he told you he was a Christian, would you believe him? Why?

How can being honest help us tell others about Jesus? *(They will trust us and believe what we say is true, so they will believe us when we tell them things about Jesus.)*

WEEK 3 - CRAFTS

✂ Stained Glass Mobile

MATERIALS: Black construction paper, colored cellophane at least three different colors, glue, hangers for each child, and thread or string

Today's craft is a stained glass mobile made of cellophane. When we are honest with ourselves, we become "transparent" to the world. We can help the children see that when we are honest with ourselves we are clean and people can see Jesus through our lives.

BEFORE CRAFT TIME

- Make some patterns of circles about three to five inches in diameter for the children to cut out when they start. You may have a variety of sizes. Plan on the children cutting 10 circles each. You might want to pre-cut the circles for the younger ones.
- Tear pieces of the colored cellophane large enough to cover all the circles. Plan on five pieces of cellophane for each child.
- Cut pieces of string different lengths to use to hang the circles on the mobiles.
- The string can be 5, 9, and 12 inches in length so that the circles will hang at different lengths.

DURING CRAFT TIME

- Begin by having children trace the patterns of the circles.
- Each child should cut 10 circles. There must be pairs of circles the same size.
- Then, take two circles that are the same size and fold them in half.
- On the folded edge, cut designs like you might do with a snowflake. Be careful to leave the outside edge.
- Now you should have two circles that are just alike.
- On one circle, glue a piece of the colored cellophane. Trim it to fit your circle.
- Glue a piece of string to the top.
- Now, put the matching circle on top and line up the design.
- The circles should be like a sandwich with the cellophane and string in the middle.
- Give it some time to dry while you make the other ones.
- Then tie them on to the hanger at whatever place you like.

GUIDED CONVERSATION

This craft we are making is like a stained glass window. Where have you seen a stained glass window before?

Have you ever met someone that seemed like they had no secrets and would tell you anything? Would it be easy to trust someone like this?

What does it mean to be honest with yourself?

When we are honest with ourselves, sometimes we see things about ourselves that we don't like or aren't very good. Who do we have to make our insides as pretty as this stained glass window? How does He do that?

WEEK 3 - RECREATION

DAY ONE: Frisbee Fling

MATERIALS: Two Frisbees

OBJECT: To be the team to get a Frisbee over its goal line to a team member.

- Divide the group into two teams.
- Each team marks its goal at a different corner of the playground.
- A player from each team should be stationed at a goal.
- Begin with both teams gathered in the center of the playing area.
- Randomly toss the Frisbees into the group.
- Team members toss the Frisbee from player to player but are not allowed to run while carrying it.
- A player who intercepts a flying Frisbee cannot move before throwing it again.
- The other players are not allowed to interfere with players throwing the Frisbee. However, the opposing team can jump up and catch the Frisbee, heading it towards their goal.
- Team members who are able to throw the Frisbee to the player at their goal win a point.

OBSERVE

- Do you see children who are not being honest about their foot leaving the ground?
- Are they throwing to everyone or only to the better children?
- Are they encouraging their teammates or are they making fun of them?

DEBRIEF:

How did it feel when your team scored a goal?

Was there any time when you know that the reason your team did well was because someone cheated? Maybe it was only a little, but did that feel as good as winning when you know you played by the rules?

Was there any time when someone accused you of cheating and because you knew that it wasn't that bad or that no one else saw you that you lied and said that you hadn't done anything wrong?

This week we are talking about being honest with ourselves. Sometimes it is hard to do. Satan wants to convince us that we shouldn't have to because he knows that if we are honest with ourselves we will feel a sense of freedom that a lie could never provide. Tomorrow in game time, we will be watching for people who are being honest with others and themselves. There might even be some rewards for those who are really trying to be honest.

DAY TWO: Cotton Ball Relay

MATERIALS: One egg carton per team, one spatula per team, cotton balls

OBJECT: To be the first team to have every player put a cotton ball in the carton

SET UP

- Divide the group into their two teams
- Each team is given a spatula, a container of cotton balls and an egg carton.
- The egg cartons are laid at one end of the room and the teams line up at the opposite end of the room.

^^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

ζ-egg carton

^ ^^ ^^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

ζ-egg carton

TO PLAY

- When the Counselor says, "Go," the first player on each team places a cotton ball on the spatula and goes as quickly as possible to the egg carton placing the cotton ball in the egg carton.
- If the cotton ball falls to the floor, the player must return to his team and get another cotton ball.
- Once the cotton ball is in the carton, the first player may return to his team handing the second player the spatula.
- The second player goes as quickly as possible to put a cotton ball in the egg carton, etc.
- The winner is the first team to have each member put a cotton ball in the carton.
- If there are more than twelve students on each team, have more than one container for them to fill with cotton balls.

OBSERVE:

- Who was being honest about if they really dropped the cotton ball? Who went all the way back because they did and were honest with themselves?

ALTERNATIVE GAME: Newspaper Balloon Relay

MATERIALS: Balloons (one for each team plus extras - just in case), sheet of newspaper per child

OBJECT: Be the first team to get players to goal and returned with an unpoped balloon

SET UP

- Divide the players into their two teams.
- Players stand in two lines.



TO PLAY

- The first player in each line is given a balloon.
- Each player is given a sheet of newspaper. The individual can decide how to fold the newspaper for most effectiveness.
- When the Counselor says "Go," the players with the balloons drop the balloons to the floor and using the newspaper begins to fan or push the balloon towards the goal.
- The players maneuver the balloon around the goal and returns to their teams.
- The second player then does the same.
- Play continues until all the players have been to the goal and back.
- The winner is the first team to get all their players finished and seated behind the starting line.
- HINT: This is best played on carpet or tile.

OBSERVE

- Today, the staff should have been watching for people who were honest in the relays, since you talked to the students about this yesterday. Choose four to six students from different age levels who did a good job being honest.

DEBRIEF:

Call them up one by one and tell the other students what that student did to get chosen today. Give a small reward. It is very important to give public verbal recognition for the thing that the students do that you wish to encourage.

How did you feel when you got an honest award?

How did you feel if you didn't get one?

Why do you think that we want to give reward for honesty?

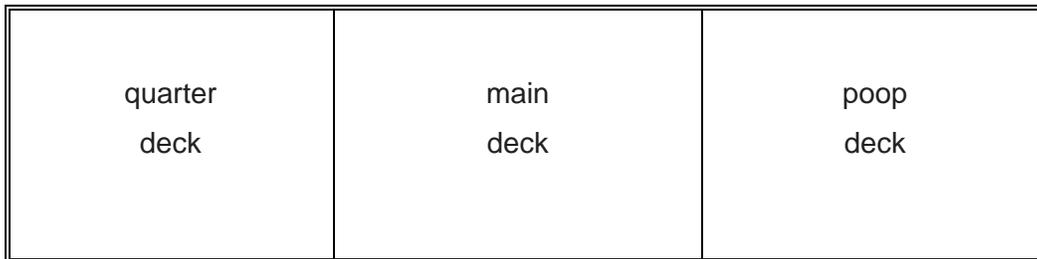
DAY THREE: Main Deck, Quarter Deck, Poop Deck

MATERIALS: Markers to mark boundaries shown in the illustration below.

OBJECT: To be able to listen to the location called by the leader, to go there as quickly as possible, and to be the last one in the game.

SET UP

- Begin by setting up a playing area like this one:



- Start with all the students standing on the main deck.
- Tell them that whatever name you call, they are to run to that place as quickly as they can.
- If they accidentally run the wrong way (to a different place than you called) they are out.
- Begin by calling places slowly that are next to each other.
- Example: “main deck, quarter deck, main deck, quarter deck, main deck, poop deck.
- Then, as the students become more confident, call the places more quickly and further apart. Example: Main deck, quarter deck, poop deck, main deck, poop deck, quarter deck.
- The person who is the last one in the game, can be the leader who calls the game next time.
- Play the game through several times and then discuss these questions.

OBSERVE

- Watch for children that are not listening and just watching other children. What happens when the child that they are watching gets out? Do they follow? How could they be honest with themselves and do what is right instead of always relying on someone else to tell them.

DEBRIEF:

When you were trying to get to the right place, what did you do to try to figure out where to go? (Remember or watch others)

If you watched what others were doing, did they sometimes lead you the wrong way? Were there times that you thought that they were going the wrong way and you followed them anyway?

In life, if we are to follow what others do, who is the one who has to pay the consequences? Will your friends be there to help you out when you get in trouble for something?

Do you think it would be better in the long run to be honest with yourself and do what you know is right or to follow the crowd? Why?

Teaching Tip: This game is very good for their listening skills. When you are the leader, try not to give them any hints about the way they are to run by your body motions. Let them try to listen and think for themselves.

DAY FOUR: Free Play

MATERIALS: All the fun play equipment that you have

- This is a time to let the students make up their own rules to games and enforce them. Feel free to play with them, but do not take control of organizing the game.
- Let them do this and follow their rules.
- Ask the students to try to participate with their friends in the best way possible. Remind them that the rules of the center should still be abided by during this time.
- Have fun!

DEBRIEF

Do you think this unit on honesty has helped you think more about being honest when the staff are not around? Do you do the same thing at school? Why or why not?

HONESTY WITH OTHERS: WEEK 4

WEEK 4 – BIBLE CLUB

- LESSON AIM:** To help the child understand how honesty with others affects our relationship with God.
- SCRIPTURE:** 1 Kings 1:5-53
- MEMORY VERSE:** Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Psalm 51:6

Adonijah tries to take David's throne

This story is a political drama, full of lies, greed and deception. Adonijah is the fourth son of David. (2 Sam. 3:4) He decides that he wants to be king so he makes himself look the part as he gathers horses and chariots for his new kingdom. The scripture says that he was very handsome, which probably means that this is the reason why people would take him as their king, not because of the content of his character.

Nathan, the prophet, heard about the whole situation and helped Bathsheba make a plan to go before the King to let him know what was going on in hopes that he could prevent it and make Solomon king as he had promised her. David listened to Bathsheba and Nathan as they presented the situation to David very humbly and he was able to remember his vow and act on it.

The part that we want the children to understand about this whole story is the way that Adonijah lied to the people, not so that he could protect them and serve them as a servant leader, but so that he could gain something by being king. The problem with people like this is when they get caught, so do you. Adonijah did so much lying that he was even lying to himself about the whole situation. We want the children to see that lies, no matter how well we think they might work for a while, will eventually crumble around us like Adonijah's kingdom did when David found out what he had done.

Also, when everyone found out the way that Adonijah had lied, they would not follow him any more and no one could trust him. Not only did he lose the kingdom that he wanted so badly, but he lost the trust of the people who had followed him in the beginning. Help the children see how much we have to lose when we lie to others.

**Discipleship
Tip**

Take some time this week to get one-on-one with your children. Ask them if there has ever been a time that someone lied to them to trick them into doing something. Ask them how that made them feel. Remind them that when people do things like this, that is what makes it hard for us to trust them. Inspire them to want to be someone that people can trust. Encourage them to think about times when they might have done something to someone else that might have made that person not trust them anymore. Pray with them and ask God what they should do about that situation and how they can prevent another one in the future.

Hook

MATERIALS: Apple slices for your regular snack time, (you could replace this with anything really, this is just an example)

- One staff, who might normally be in charge of the snack, should **tell the children**, “Today, you can only have two apple slices for snack today. It might look like there would be enough for more but, you can only have two so do not ask for seconds.”
- Meanwhile, another staff is in the other room. They didn’t hear the directions given by the first staff. (They pretend like they don’t know.)
- The first staff should now leave the room and the second staff enters.
- The second staff says, “I think you guys can have some more if you want to. Does anyone remember if _____ (the other staff) said anything about how many we should get?”
- If the responses are mixed, tell them, “Well, I guess all those that can remember the first staff saying you can have more I will give it to you. Those that think they said no more then I won’t give you any.”
- Then, the staff should go around and ask each student if they heard, “more” or “no more.”
- This gives each child a chance to lie or tell the truth.
- Once this staff has allowed everyone to make their own decision, the first staff should return.
- The first staff might say, “You all knew well that you were not supposed to take any more than what I gave you. Anyone who didn’t take anymore raise your hand. Give these students something better than snack. You could give them extra time in the computer room, you could give them extra recreation time, anything to reward them for telling the truth.”
- When you come in for Bible Club, ask these debriefing questions about the hook:

DEBRIEF

How did you feel when the first staff told you that you could only have two apple slices?

When the second staff asked how many you were supposed to get, did you see that as a way to get what you wanted?

If you did lie, what made you want to lie?

When you lied, you thought you were getting something good out of it. What ended up being the better of the two things? Do you think the second prize was better?

Do you think lying can be profitable sometimes?

Today we are going to hear about a man who tried to become king with his lies and here is what happened to him...

Bible Story

MATERIALS: Costume for Nathan (a simple robe and some sandals will work)

Today's story is told by Nathan the prophet who is visiting from afar. This script has been written so that you can have an idea of what to say. Read over it a couple of times and then tell the story from your heart. Trust the Holy Spirit to bring back the important details.

Script for Nathan from 1 Kings 1:5-53

Hello everyone. I am so surprised that someone asked me to come today. You see where I come from most people don't seem to like prophets because I tell them what they don't want to hear. By the way, do you know what a prophet is? A prophet was someone that God used back before the Bible was written to tell people what he wanted them to know. Sometimes God used prophets to tell people the answer to their prayers. Many times, prophets were asked by God to go and tell someone when they were sinning or making God upset. This is the hard part about being a prophet. When I have to show up and tell someone that God is not happy with them because they are doing something wrong.

Well, I have been asked to come and talk to you today about someone who lived at the same time that I did who wasn't very honest. You see, I was a prophet for King David. He was one of the most loved and respected kings of all time, but he still made mistakes too!

The situation that I am about to tell you about happened right at the end of his life. When a king dies, his son is supposed to take over and become king in his place. The problem was, King David had many sons. In fact, he had over 19 sons. Normally, the throne went into the hands of the oldest son. David had some trouble with his oldest children. Some of them had done some very bad things and now the first three had either moved far away or had died. Now, the oldest son in the area was a man named Adonijah. He was a very handsome man and many people liked him, but he wasn't the one who was supposed to be king. Many years ago David had promised Bathseba that her son Solomon would be king. I knew about this promise that David had made and I intended to help him keep it.

The problem came one day when David was sick in his bed because he was very old. Adonijah decided that this would be a good time to claim the throne that he wanted and become king. So, he got his chariots and horses together and fifty men to run ahead of him.

He got the support of one of King David's commanders of the army and some other important people. I did not join with his group though. I knew that this was not who the Lord wanted to be king. Then, he sacrificed sheep and cattle as a sign to the people that he could provide and protect them as their king. He invited all the royal officials that he thought would follow him. He didn't invite me though because he knew that I followed God and was dedicated to his father David.

After seeing all this take place, I knew something bad was about to happen, so I went and found Bathsheba. I reminded her about the vow that David made to her about Solomon being king. I knew if she didn't do something, and Adonijah became king, then he would probably kill all his brothers that were not in support of him. Solomon might be the first one he would kill because he knew that he was the one promised for the throne. Bathsheba said that she was willing to do whatever it took. I told her that she needed to go before David and remind him of the promise that he made and while she was still talking, I would come in and confirm what she was saying so that he would believe her in case he forgot.

So, Bathsheba did what I asked. She went before him and reminded him of his promise. She also told him what was going on with Adonijah trying to take the throne. She told him that everyone in the country was looking to him to see what he was going to do about Adonijah. She told him that as soon as he had died, she and Solomon would probably be treated like criminals.

After she had said these things, I came in and asked David if he was the one who gave Adonijah the permission to have these parties and to be working toward taking the throne. I said, "Is this something that you have done without your servants knowing who should sit on the throne after you?"

Then David said, "As surely as the Lord lives, who has carried me from every trouble, I will do what I promised and Solomon your son will be king and sit on the throne after me."

Bathsheba was so excited. She thanked David. Then King David told me, the priest Zadok and one other man who was the servant of Solomon to put Solomon on King David's mule and ride it into town and blow the trumpet and say, "Long live King Solomon." Then, we were to sit Solomon in the throne and let him rule in David's place.

So, we did what King David asked. Zadok took some oil and anointed Solomon king. When we rode into town blowing the trumpets, all the people got very excited and began rejoicing greatly. They made so much noise that the ground began to shake. The noise was so loud that it reached Adonijah and the people who were with him at the feast that he had prepared for them. One of the officials, Joab, wondered what the noise was. Almost as soon as he had asked this, a man named Jonathan came running up with the news of King Solomon being anointed King and how he had ridden into town on the mule of the King. He also told them how happy the people were to have Solomon as the new king and how even King David bowed down to Solomon from his bed recognizing that there was now someone to replace him.

Let me tell you, the people who were at Adonijah's party felt pretty stupid. They had believed the lie that Adonijah had told them. When they heard the news, they were afraid and left as quickly as they could. They did not want to be caught following this liar! Adonijah was so scared himself that he went to the altar of the Lord and held on to it so that no one could hurt him. He thought that no one could kill him if he were at the altar of the Lord. It was also as if he was placing his destiny in God's hands. Some of Solomon's servants told him what Adonijah was doing. They said that Adonijah was saying that he wouldn't let go until Solomon promised that he would not punish him by killing him. When Solomon heard this, he told his servants to tell Adonijah that if he can show himself to be a worthy man, nothing will happen to him, but if he is found to have any evil in him, then he will die. So they brought Adonijah to King Solomon and he

bowed down to King Solomon. When Adonijah showed that he was not opposed to King Solomon being king, King Solomon said, “Go to your home.”

So after all of that, the man who lied about being king got to go free because he did what was right and admitted that he wasn't king after all. So there you have it. The story of the man who lied about being king and was forgiven by a godly King. Well, I better go. I hope you will remember this story when you want something that God has not intended for you to have. You will be a much better person by telling the truth to everyone!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Who lied in this story? (*Adonijah*)

Why did he lie and who did he lie to? (*He wanted to become king so he lied to the officials and the people who had high position in the kingdom at that time.*)

Did you feel tempted to lie today to the other staff person when you knew that they didn't know how much of the snack that you were supposed to get? Why did you want to?

Do you think that could have been the way Adonijah felt when he wanted to be king so bad and he knew that the people wouldn't know if his father had really made him king or not? What do you think you would have done if you were in Adonijah's place?

What do you think that God thought about what Adonijah did? Let's look in our Bible to find the answer. Open your Bibles to **Proverbs 12:22**. **What does this verse say that about how God feels about mouths who don't tell the truth? He detests lying lips.**

What does this verse say that makes God happy? (*Men who are truthful.*)

When you tell a lie, name the three people you are hurting? (*God, yourself and the person you lied to.*)

When you are in a situation where you are tempted to tell a lie instead of the truth, what is something you could do to keep yourself from lying?

Many people lie so often that they have become very good liars. What are some of the things that a “good liar” might do? (*They might look you in the eyes; not hesitate or fumble around with their words; seem very convincing.*)

As Christians, do you think that we should be good at lying or be proud that we can lie well? (*No!*)

If you can do these kinds of things when you lie, you probably have a serious problem with lying. **What is one of the first steps you could take to begin to make your mouth something that only tells the truth that people can trust and that pleases God?** (*Tell someone about your problem that can pray with you. Ask God for help. Commit to God to try and change.*)

Remember no matter how good of a liar you think you are, God knows the truth about everything!! Lies always seem to start small and get bigger and bigger.

Take some time to talk to the students about how they feel they are doing with telling the truth. Pray together and ask God to help them recognize when they are lying and to help them stop and tell the truth. Remind them that this might not be an easy process but the reward for doing this is pleasing God and people will gain respect for your honesty.

WEEK 4 - SKIT

CHARACTERS: Maria, LaTasha, and voice of Maria's mom

SCENE: Maria and LaTasha are walking home from school and are stop to play somewhere that they have not told their parents about.

Girls are walking home from school

MARIA: Did you hear that Junior's dog had puppies?

LATASHA: No! He has that pretty dog too!

MARIA: I have been asking my mom for a puppy, but she says that I am not old enough yet to take care of a dog.

LATASHA: My grandma just doesn't want one! You know, he lives in the third house right down that street. We could stop by there and see them!

MARIA: He does? Do you think we would get in trouble? My mom always says to come straight home after school.

LATASHA: We will just stop for a minute. She will never know.

MARIA: Okay, let's hurry.

Girls run off down the street to the house.

Hold up a sign that says "one hour later." Now the girls are walking home again.

MARIA: Do you think it has been very long?

LATASHA: I don't think we were in there that long. Those puppies were so cute!

MARIA: I am going to ask my mom if we can have one.

LATASHA: You can't tell her that you saw them though, because you weren't supposed to be over there.

MARIA: I could say that he brought one to school and I saw it.

LATASHA: But Junior isn't even in our class, I don't think your mom would believe that.

MARIA: We shouldn't have gone. What time is it anyway?

LATASHA: I don't know but there is your house. You better get in there. Oh, make sure there is no dog hair on you.

Maria walks into the house and you hear a voice from off stage say, "Maria, is that you?"

MARIA: Yeah, mom it's me.

Maria disappears as if to walk in to the house

MOM: *(still from off stage)* Where have you been young lady? It is almost an hour after you should have been home....You smell like a dog, have you been holding a dog or something?

DEBRIEF

What do you think Maria should say to her mom?

What should she have done in the first place?

What if Maria tells her mom that she saw the dog at school? What tends to happen when we tell one lie?

WEEK 4 - MEMORY VERSE

MEMORY VERSE: Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Psalm 51:6

Memory Verse Jump Rope

MATERIALS: Three or four long jump ropes

- As a review of the memory verse for this month, divide the group into three or four groups.
- There should be no more than 8 in one group.
- Have the students make a jingle to jump rope to using the memory verse.
- They can use rhythm, repetition or anything else they can come up with to create their own jingle.
- As the students create their jingles, if you have time, have them let the other students try their jingles.
- Ask them if they think this will help them memorize their verse? Why? Encourage them to play this at school so that they can share with their friends what they are learning at the center.
- You might even want to offer some kind of bonus that they could earn if they put other memory verses from previous months to a jingle!
- Be sure to put some jump ropes out at recreation time so that they can practice their new jingle!

WEEK 4 - PRACTICAL LIVING

A Trip to the Dentist's Office

MATERIALS: A dentist to come and speak to the children, have him bring some tools to show the children so that they can see what he does

OBJECT: To help the children feel as comfortable as possible with a dentist so that they will not be afraid of going to the dentist.

Have the dentist that is going to come cover these things.

- What will you see when you walk in the door?
- How will they know what to do to you?
- Explain what dental x-rays are like.
- Explain what a teeth cleaning is like.
- What are some of the tools that a dentists uses?
- What happens if the dentist finds a cavity?
- What if you go to the dentist because you have a tooth ache?
- What is fluoride like?
- Who tells you if you need braces or not?
- Can I go to any dentist?
- How do you become a dentist?
- What do you like most about being a dentist?

After the dentist is done speaking:

- Let the children ask questions.

When we go to the dentist we have to be honest with him or her about how we take care of our teeth. If we have done a good job, it will show!

Teaching Tip: If it is absolutely impossible to get a dentist, have someone give a testimony of what it was like when they went to the dentist. You still want to cover the things above.

WEEK 4 - READ-A-LOUD

New!

“321 Penguins: Cheating Scales of Bullamanka”

A Veggie Tales Video

SUMMARY: This video is about a little girl who cheats in a game to win a championship. It teaches her how cheating steals the joy of winning.

OR, you may do the following...

“The Pied Piper of Hamelin”

Adapted from Joseph Jacobs story; The Book of Virtues, William J. Bennett, pages 627-629

SUMMARY: This is a classic story that many know but have forgotten the ending! The pied piper frees a town from rats with the agreement that he will pay them \$50. When he completes his task and asks for the money, the mayor doesn't have it. The piper warns them that they must honor their promise or pay in another way. They refuse to pay and he plays a song that draws out their children. All the children are led away and never seen again. The people realize that \$50 wouldn't have been that much. If they had only paid it, they could still have their children! We want the children to learn to be honest with others and keep their commitments!

PRE READING QUESTIONS

Have you ever told someone you would do something for them and then you realized you really had no way to do it and so you had to break the promise? How did the other person feel, how did you feel?

The story we are going to read today is called the Pied Piper. **Does anyone know what the word “pied” means in Pied Piper?** (*Pied means bright colors in blotches or wearing a multicolored coat.*)

Close your eyes, **can you get a picture in your mind of the Pied Piper? Is he tall or short? Slender or stout? Is he white, African-American, Hispanic, or Asian? Is he handsome?** After you get the picture of what the Pied Piper looks like in your mind, open your eyes and look up at me so I know you are ready and we can read the story.

POST READING QUESTIONS

What did the mayor promise to the Pied Piper? (*\$50 for clearing the town of rats.*)

Did he keep his promise? (*No*)

What did the Piper do after the mayor broke his promise? (*He played a song that all the children followed and took all of the children away.*)

Do you think it was right to not keep the promise? (*No*)

If someone had not kept a promise to Jesus, do you think he would have done what the Pied Piper did? Why or why not?

The Bible says that we are supposed to forgive each other, but it also says that we should not lie. **What do you think the most important lesson we should learn from this story is?** (*To keep our promises no matter how hard it might seem*)

WEEK 4 - CRAFTS

✂ An Honest Impression

MATERIALS: Potatoes cut in half, dull knives, tempera paint, plain white paper and newspaper

As Christians, we want to leave our mark on our society by being different. Honesty is something that can set us apart from the rest. Let this potato stamp represent each child having the chance to be honest and people noticing something different about them!

- Cut potatoes in half before craft time.
- Each child should get at least one half. It might be more fun to have two.
- Carve something out of the top of the potato cutting away what you don't want and leaving only what you want to make the mark.
- Have some examples of hearts and stars and circle.
- It will most likely take some time to get them to think in the right mind set, but be patient. They need to think in different ways.
- Let the children work together sharing different colors of paint.
- Have them decorate their sheet of white paper.
- They can make a sign for the center or a card for someone they know.
- Encourage them to let others use the stamp that they made.

GUIDED CONVERSATION

What is something that you would like to be known for 20 years from now?

When you are making a mark or stamp with this potato, you are showing everyone the result of all your hard work in carving it. What kind of mark do you think you leave at school? At home?

Would you like for people to say, "You know, (insert a student's name) is the one who told me so I know it is true?" What kinds of things would you have to do to get them to trust you like that?

WEEK 4 - RECREATION

DAY ONE: Red Light Green Light

MATERIALS: None

OBJECT: The winner is the first player to touch the leader.

TO PLAY

- The leader stands at one end of the room, while the players stand in a line facing the leader at the opposite end of the room



- The leader faces the wall with back to players and calls out “GREEN LIGHT.”
- The players move towards the leader until the leader yells out “RED LIGHT” and quickly turns around.
- Any players the leader observes moving when he turns around, must return to the start line.
- The winner is the player who gets to the leader first.

OBSERVE

1. If you used this as a hook earlier this month, notice if they are playing any differently.
2. Has this unit on honesty made any difference on if they try to cheat in this game or not?

DEBRIEF

After you have studied about honesty this week, did this change the way that you played this game? Why or why not?

If you had a chance to be a leader, did you try to always look for the same people to get out or were you honest and looking for anyone who moved? Why was this hard?

Is this game harder or easier when you are honest? Why is that?

DAY TWO: Red Rover, Red Rover

MATERIALS: None, unless boundary markers are needed.

OBJECT: To have the most players on your team when time is called.

Tell the students when they begin that this is the last day that they will have to earn points for the teams that they have been on all month. Encourage them to cheer for their team.

TO PLAY

- Players get to their two teams facing each other.
- Stand about two yards from each other. The closer the teams are the safer this game is. They have less space to gain momentum.



- Each team holds hands.
- A coin is flipped to see what team will go first.
- The team can decide together who they want from the other team to come over. Try to monitor the deciding process, so it doesn't take more than ten seconds. You might want to count out loud.
- Then, Team #1 all together calls out "Red Rover, Red Rover send Laticia over"
- Laticia, then runs across as hard as she can and tries to break through the opposing line where it is the weakest.
- If Laticia breaks through the line, she may choose two players to return with her to her team. (If your group is small, you might want her to only choose one player and then the game will last longer.)
- If Laticia is not able to break through the line, she must remain on the opposing team.
- The winning team is the one with the most players at the end of the time of play.
- The teams players will get mixed up on this game. The team that should be credited with the win for the competition points should be the team that makes up the most members of the winning team, regardless of what side they were on at the beginning the game.

OBSERVE

- Who is showing good team spirit on the last day of the month for their teams?
- Are the teams showing good sportsmanship?
- Were children being honest about whether or not they broke someone's grip or not?

DEBRIEF

Today was the last day of the month that you could score points for the team you were on this month, did that make it harder or easier to be honest? Why or why not?

Was there any point in the game when you thought that being honest wasn't really worth it and you just wanted to win?

Why do you think that God wants us to be honest in every detail of our life?

DAY THREE: Blind Man's Bluff

MATERIALS: Blindfold

OBJECT: To try to keep away from the "blind man."

This game is best played in a confined area - perhaps a small (relative to size of group) room

TO PLAY

- A "Blind man" is chosen and blindfolded
- As the other players move around him he tries to out fox them and grab one player
- If a player is grabbed he gets to be the next "Blind man"

OBSERVE

- Watch to see if certain children tease the blind man or not?
- Who is honest when they are tagged and who throws a fit?

DEBRIEF

Most children, when you play this game, will want the opportunity to be the "Blind man," but for the game to be fun each person has to try as hard as they can to not be caught. Thus not getting to be the "Blind man."

What happens when someone gives away where someone is or teases the person who is the "Blind Man"? How did that person feel?

When people are not honest we don't want to trust them. Do you want to be someone who is trustworthy?

What kinds of things could you do to become trustworthy?

ALTERNATIVES

- You may have the person grabbed, do a consequence and then the “Blind man” gets to choose someone to be the next “Blind man.”
- Set a time limit for the “Blind man,” if she doesn’t grab someone within the time limit she must do a consequence and the person furthestmost from her gets to be the next “Blind man.”
- Another solution might be to give everyone two S.A.Y. Yes![®] dollars to begin the game. Every time they get caught they have to give up one of their dollars. If they run out of dollars they are out of the game. Whatever money that they finish with they get to keep as extra money from recreation that day.

DAY FOUR: Free Play

MATERIALS: All the fun play equipment that you have

- This is a time to let the students make up their own rules to games and enforce them.
- Feel free to play with them, but do not take control of organizing the game. Let them do this and follow their rules.
- Ask the students to try to participate with their friends in the best way possible.
- Remind them that the rules of the center should still be abided by during this time.

OBSERVE

- Look for students who are displaying honesty during this time. Give out some extra S.A.Y. Yes![®] dollars to these students to encourage their right attitudes. When you give them the dollar, be sure to tell them what it was that you saw them doing that earned that dollar so they will know exactly what they did well!

DEBRIEF

What were some of the things that you learned this month about honesty is game time?

What will you be sure to do from now on during game time?

Do you feel better about playing games with your friends when you know that they want to be honest?