

Integrity

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WHAT IS INTEGRITY?: WEEK 1

WEEK 1 - BIBLE CLUB

LESSON AIM: To help the child understand the concept of integrity and how to practice integrity in his life.

SCRIPTURE: Job 1

MEMORY VERSE: “He who walks with integrity, and works righteousness, and speaks truth in his heart”
Psalm 15:2

The Bible tells us Job was **blameless**; he **stood upright** and **refused to do evil**. He honored God and gave Him glory for all he had received. Job was a man of integrity.

But perhaps his commitment to God was just because the Lord had given him so much. Who wouldn't be committed to God if he had been blessed with a large family and abundant wealth?

Satan challenged God to allow him to test Job's integrity. God gave Satan permission to take everything but Job's life. Would Job remain righteous when stripped of everything?

Job responded by tearing his robe, symbolic of internal pain, and shaving his head, symbolic of the loss of an individual's self-worth. And then Job cried out,

“Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart.

The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised.” (Job 1:21)

Job acknowledged God's sovereignty. Because God was the One who was in control, Job would trust God even though everything had been taken from him. His trust and commitment to God were not based on what God had given him, but on who God is. God's Word tells us that through all Job's trials, he never accused God of doing anything wrong. Job remained righteous, and continued to follow God's moral code.

Webster defines integrity as “firm adherence to a code of especially moral or artistic values: incorruptibility.” Job displayed integrity through his commitment to God; he was a man of integrity.

Discipleship
Tip

DISCIPLESHIP TIP: In one-on-one time with a child, ask them to tell you about hard times and losses they've faced. Inquire how they've felt toward God concerning those losses. Teach them how to talk to God about their feelings. Explore with them how they've seen God provide for them since.

 **Hook**

MATERIALS: Small baggie of M&M® per child (no more than 12 in a bag), masking tape, a treat for the children at the end of Bible Club (optional)

- Hand out a bag of candy to each child.
- Lay down a long strip of masking tape.
- Tell the children they are to stand on the tape on one foot until you tell them they can move.
- If a child puts down her other foot or moves off the line in any way, take an M&M® from the child.
- Have each child do 50 push-ups. If they cannot do 50 push-ups, take an M&M® from them.
- Have an adult from one of the other groups come in and demand that each child give him 10 M&M's®.
- You as their leader remain passive. If the children complain to you, tell them they are to do as the other adult has asked.

DEBRIEF

What did you think when you were given the bag of M&M's®?

What did you feel when you lost your first M&M®?

What did you feel when you lost your second M&M®?

What did you feel when you lost the last of your M&M's®?

Do you think I could have kept you from losing your M&M's®?

How do you feel towards me right now?

Say: Today we are going to learn about a man who loved God very much. He was a wealthy man and he had a lot of things; he also had a wife and many children, but God allowed him to lose everything.

Think about how you felt when you lost your M&M's® and how this man might have felt when he lost everything. Pay close attention to find out how he responded to his loss.

Bible Story

MATERIALS: Skit props including masking tape, handmade signs (see story below), paper crowns, cleaning supplies, crumpled paper, a paper lamb, tattered old bath robe that can be torn, swim cap/skullcap or something that makes you look bald

SETUP:

- Ask a man to play the part of Job. (If you have high-schoolers this might be a great opportunity for one of them.)
- Prepare props.
- Lay masking tape around a designated area on the floor that will be “Job’s land.”
- Choose a second individual to distribute the story props, and move the children around at the appropriate time.
- Action instructions are italicized in the story.
- Gather all the classes together for the story time.
- **Note:** The man playing Job should dress in character and be familiar with the Scripture. Make sure he has adequate time to learn the script; he should not memorize it, but paraphrase as he goes.

SKIT:

“My name is Job. I lived many, many years ago in what today is Northern Arabia, at the very top part of the continent of Africa.

“I was a very wealthy man, I had seven sons and three daughters.

(Pick out 7 boys and 3 girls and have them sit in “Job’s land.” Put crowns on these “sons and daughters.”)

”I had 7,000 sheep, *(Choose two kids and give them the 7000 sheep sign to hold. Have them sit in “Job’s land.”)* **3,000 camels,** *(Choose two more to hold a 3000 camels sign in “Job’s land.”)* **500 yoke of oxen,** *(Choose a child to hold a 500 yoke of oxen sign in “Job’s land.”)* **500 donkeys,** *(Choose a child to hold a 500 donkeys sign in Job’s land.)* **and a large number of servants.** *(Choose several children and have them each hold items denoting a servant: perhaps a broom, rag, dustpan, bottle of glass cleaner, etc.)*

“I was thought of as the greatest man in the east.

“My sons loved to have parties. They would invite their sisters to their parties and the eating and drinking would go on for days.

“I don’t want to sound proud, but if you read the Bible you will see that God viewed me as being blameless (*Job, walk out amongst the kids, moving so they stay engaged with you.*) I hated evil. I loved God and was committed to serve Him in all I did.

“I loved my children and was concerned that they would love God as I did. I wanted to make sure they too were seen as blameless before God. So every morning I would sacrifice a burnt offering for each of them, (*Job, lay out the crumbled paper. Lay the paper lamb on top. Depending on your facility you may want to actually burn the little paper lamb.*)

“A burnt offering was when we took a perfect lamb and laid it on an altar and burned it. God had told us to do this as a payment for our sins. I know this must seem strange to you because Jesus has paid for your sin. But I lived before Jesus had come to earth, so this is how God had told us to pay for our sins.

“Then one day, the angels came to stand before God and Satan, the evil one, came with them. He came before God with the good angels and the Lord asked him what he had been doing. Satan said that he had been roaming the earth.

“God asked Satan if he had noticed his servant Job...that’s me!

“God went on to say that there was no one like me, that I was totally blameless, and that I feared God.

“Satan sneered at God and said, ‘Do you think that Job fears you just because he loves you? I think he fears you because you have given him so much. Look at all he has. (*Walk over to “Job’s land” and wave your hand over your belongings.*) What would he do if you were to stretch out your hand and destroy everything you have given him? He will curse you if you do that.’

“The Lord told him, ‘O.K., everything he has is yours to do with as you please. But you cannot touch Job himself.’

“Then Satan left God’s presence and returned to the earth.

“One day my children were having a party when a servant came to tell me that raiders had come from another land and killed all my oxen and donkeys. (*Take the appropriate signs and tear them up, removing those children from your land.*) The servant also told me that he was the only servant left; they had killed all of my other servants. (*Take all the items you had given the servants and send them from your land.*)

“While this servant was speaking, another messenger came and said, ‘A great fire has fallen from the sky and burned all your sheep.’ (*Tear up the sheep sign; send the children from your land.*)

“He had barely finished speaking when another messenger came and said that an army from yet another country had come and taken all the camels with them. (*Tear up the sign and send the children from your land.*)

“Then, yet another messenger came with the news that a mighty wind had come upon the house where my children were feasting, and the house had collapsed on them killing everyone. *(Have the children fall down dead, then take their seats in the crowd.)*

“I could not believe it; I was devastated! I tore my robe *(Tear your robe.)* and I shaved my head. *(Put on a swim cap or something that looks like your head is shaved).*

“Then, I fell to the ground and worshipped God. *(Fall to the ground, but make sure the children can hear you as you speak)*

‘Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I shall depart.

The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised!’

“I didn’t understand why God had allowed these terrible things to happen to me, but I knew that He had a reason. I knew that I must trust God no matter what He allowed to happen to me.

“The Bible says that I did not sin throughout all of these horrible circumstances.

“I hope my story helps you as you are learning to live a blameless, upright life, doing what you know God wants you to do.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Who was the man we learned about today? *(Job)*

What did you learn about the man Job? *(God said he was righteous; he loved God; he had 7 sons and 3 daughters, and lots of camels, sheep, donkeys, and oxen. Satan destroyed everything Job had).*

What did Job do when Satan destroyed everything? *(He was very sad. He tore his robe and he shaved his head, then worshipped God. He said that no matter what happened, he would praise the Lord.)*

When Job tore his robe it showed those who were with him that he was really hurting inside.

Have you ever hurt so bad you wanted to tear your clothes?

When Job shaved his head, it told the people who were with him that the honor God had given him had been taken away. Job did not think bad of God even though God had allowed Satan to do all these horrible things to him.

How do you think you would have acted if you had all those things and God allowed everything to be taken from you?

Job had great integrity! That means he did what he knew was right to do even though the things that were happening to him seemed very unfair. Job had not done anything to deserve these bad things.

Week 1 – What is Integrity?

How did Job show that he was a man of integrity? *(Even after all the horrible things were done to him he continued to serve God. He did nothing that was wrong in the sight of the Lord.)*

What about tearing his clothes and shaving his head? Was that bad? *(No. Job felt very bad. It was a custom of his day to tear your clothes to show how bad you were hurting inside. It was also a custom to shave your head to show you had lost honor. Feelings are real; we can't ignore them.)*

What could we do today to show our feelings? *(If you are frustrated or angry, get a ball and throw it against a wall, get a pillow and keep hitting it. If you are depressed, go talk to someone who will care. Don't be afraid to cry, etc.)*

Remember, we show integrity by our actions, not because of the way we feel. Feelings just exist; they are neither right nor wrong.

What are some bad things that may happen to you that seem unfair?

What do you feel like doing when that happens? What will you choose to do?

Help the children to think through the appropriate action to deal with their feelings. Remind them that men and women of integrity follow God's laws. Have a time of prayer, thanking Jesus that He will give us the strength to be people of integrity if we depend on him.

WEEK 1 - SKIT

CHARACTERS: LaTasha, Maria, and Reuben

SCENE: The girls are sitting at a table during recess; they notice a really cute hair bow lying on the ground underneath the monkey bars. Reuben comes by, picks it up, and carries it over to Maria.

Reuben: Hey, Maria, is this yours?

Maria: Nope, but it sure is pretty.

LaTasha: Maria, let me see that. *(She looks it over.)* Hmm...sure is a great bow. This would look great in my hair. The colors are perfect for my blue sweater. What do you think?

Maria: Yeah, it looks good on you.

Latasha: Well, whoever lost it sure did me a favor...finders keepers, losers weepers...

Reuben: LaTasha! That's not yours! I bet whoever lost that bow will be looking for it. They'll probably ask at the office and the lost and found. It's not yours to keep! You should turn it in.

Latasha: Well, I don't know - let me think about it. Maria, what do you think I should do?

As you are learning this week, the Bible teaches us that we should be people of good character, people of integrity. Sometimes it is hard to make the right choice, and it is tempting to be dishonest. LaTasha really would like to keep the bow even though it isn't hers...

DISCUSSION

What do you think the girls should do to show integrity? *(Turn in the bow to a teacher, the office, etc.)*

How is LaTasha feeling? *(Unsure of what to do; she'd like to keep the bow.)*

What does Reuben do to help the girls? *(He pointed out the right thing to do.)*

Not every girl would make the choice to return the bow to the office. Some would just keep it. That would be like stealing - taking something that didn't belong to you. The Bible says that we are to be honest and truthful and live our lives following the right path. Jesus can help LaTasha make the right choice as she remembers the verse on integrity.

WEEK 1 - MEMORY VERSE

MEMORY VERSE: “He who walks with integrity, and works righteousness, and speaks truth in his heart” Psalm 15:2

The man/woman of integrity does the things that are right. He/she lives by God’s standards. When he/she speaks the words he/she speaks from his heart. He does not say one thing and think something else.

The term “walk” is used throughout the Bible when speaking of one’s actions, behavior.

Doesn’t this sound like the kind of person we would like to be around? We could trust such a person. I would not be afraid of being knifed in the back when I least expected it.

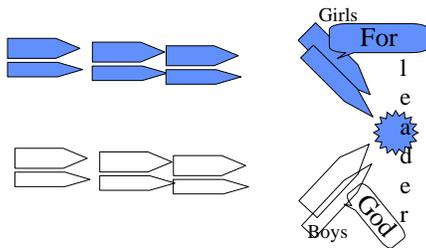
Before teaching the children the following game, **read all of Psalm 15** to put the verse in context.

- Break the children into three groups.
- The first group stands up and says, “He who walks with integrity.”
- They walk in place while saying the verse.
- Then they sit down.
- The second group stands up and says, “and works righteousness.”
- They pretend to work while saying their section of the verse.
- Then they sit down.
- The third group stands up and says, “and speaks truth in his heart.”
- They pretend to speak with their hand and then place their hand over their heart
- Then they sit down.
- As a group, act out Psalm 15:2
- To act out Psalm the children will take their finger and touch their mouth.
- From that position they will pretend that their finger is the music coming out of their mouths.
- Tell them they are doing that because the Psalms were songs that use to be sung in the Old Testament days.
- For 15:2, hold 10 fingers up and then five while saying fifteen.
- Next, clap twice for number two.

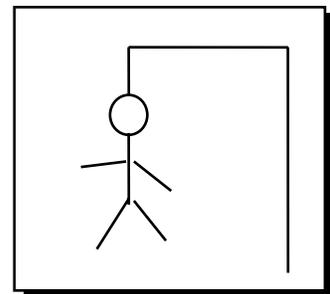
On the last day of your week play the following game to see if the children have learned the verse.

MEMORY VERSE HANGMAN

- Have the girls be one team and the boys be the second team. This is an easy way to mix the ages.
- Each team sends two people at the same time to the front (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.
- 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

Integrity In Your School Work

Explain to the kids the tie-in between integrity and developing study skills -- it is important to do your own work and acquire your own knowledge so that your grades and education will truly be your own.

One does not use integrity when he copies off of others work, cheat off of someone else's test, or always depends on someone else to "help" you do your homework when they're really doing it for you.

All this can be avoided if the children develop a conviction and a passion for owning their education.

ACTIVITY

There are different ways to do this activity. Choose your option according to what time allows.

Option A:

- Divide the kids into groups and pass out the attached scenarios, one to each group.
- (For younger kids, it's fine to just discuss these scenarios as a class.)
- Ask each group to discuss their scenario and answer the following questions in front of the class.

How would you handle this situation with integrity? Why?

How would you handle this situation if you weren't using integrity? Why?

Option B:

- Divide the kids into groups and pass out the attached scenarios, one to each group.
- Have each group perform a skit of either handling the given situation with integrity or not handling the given situation with integrity.
- After they perform the skit, have the class guess whether they used integrity or not.
- If they did use integrity, ask the group how their situation would've looked if they hadn't used integrity.
- If they hadn't used integrity, ask them how they could've used integrity in the situation.

SCENARIOS

You are about to take a spelling test that you did not study for. You're not sure how to spell most of the words. Tiffany, who always gets A's on spelling, is sitting right beside you.

You are at the S.A.Y. Yes!® center during homework time. You are sitting with Robert, who has the same homework assignment as you. His homework is already half done, but you haven't even started yours.

You are at the S.A.Y. Yes!® center during homework time. Cynthia, a new volunteer, is helping you. Cynthia is the type of volunteer who will tell you all the answers if you act confused. This assignment is taking a long time, and you want to finish so you can go to computers.

You are at the S.A.Y. Yes!® center during homework time. You have been working for a long time and are tired of homework. The only thing you have left to do is study your multiplication tables for tomorrow's test. However, that's not written anywhere, so your center teacher doesn't know you need to study. As soon as you're finished with your homework, you can go to computers.

You're at home in the evening. You didn't get all your homework done at the center, so you still have one story to read before tomorrow. There is only an hour left before you go to bed, but your favorite TV program is on. Your mom doesn't ask you if you have any homework left to do, so you are free to watch TV if you want.

DISCUSSION

Use the following key questions to start a class discussion:

Let's talk about integrity and our schoolwork. You can't do well on your homework and tests if you don't know what the teacher expects from you. So, **what are some things we can do at school to ensure we know what the teacher expects from us?** (*Look at the teacher, listen to instructions, ask questions when you don't understand, read all instructions on our papers and in our books*)

What are some things that keep us from knowing what the teacher expects? (*Talking to our neighbor, daydreaming, watching outside, playing at our desks, not reading written instructions before we ask questions*)

Once you understand how to do your assignments, you have to follow-through by doing it. **Why do you think teachers assign homework?** (*They want you to apply what you learn, they want you to learn by doing, home work helps you study for the test*)

So now we know that to do well in school, we've got to pay attention in class and complete our homework assignments. This is the only way that we can really get a good education today so that we can glorify God and help others later.

WEEK 1 - READ-A-LOUD

“The Emperors New Clothes”

By Hans Christian Andersen

The Book of Virtues, William J. Bennett pg 630

Read the story. Make sure that you tell the story with lots of enthusiasm. Change your voice for each character as they speak.

DURING THE STORY stop and ask:

What is a rascal? (In second paragraph)

What’s a loom and shuttle? (Fourth paragraph)

What do you think the minister considered worthy? (paragraph 7)

Exquisite - beautiful, special

What is a rogue? (3rd page paragraph 3)

AFTER THE STORY, ask the following questions:

Which person showed integrity in the story?

Why did the others lie about seeing the cloth?

Would you have lied or told the truth?

Now have the children retell the story with you. Have them tell it as if the men who went to see the cloth had been men of integrity.

WEEK 1 - CRAFTS

✂ Integrity Banner

MATERIALS: Burlap or poster board or butcher paper; glue, magazines, scissors, yarn, cloth, construction paper, marking pens

- Ask each child to think about what kind of person is one who has integrity. Discuss in small groups so each child has the opportunity to state his/her opinion.
- Have them create something that can be attached to the banner which depicts integrity. (Examples: a heart with “Care for others” written on it; a shovel with “help others” written on it; a Bible - one who has integrity lives by the truths in God’s word; etc..)
- Try to let them come up with their own ideas but be prepared to help them if they need help. You may have more than one of an item on the banner, that is o.k..

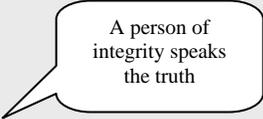
GUIDED CONVERSATION:

As the children work on the banner, you can talk continually about what integrity is.

Look for teachable moments. As the kids work together do they use integrity? Do they put others first? Do they share joyfully? Do they speak with respect to those with whom they are interacting?

SYMBOLS OF INTEGRITY

Ten Commandments	
1	6
2	7
3	8
4	9
5	10



WEEK 1 - RECREATION

DAY ONE: Squirt Bottle Tag

MATERIALS: A squirt bottle or gun (empty bottles can be purchased at most large markets) could also use Velcro balls; towels or blankets to sop up any extra water; pieces of scrap paper; blindfold

SET-UP:

Make a circle out of masking tape or string

Pieces of scrap paper are laid out in the circle

TO PLAY

Each player stands on a sheet of scrap paper

A chosen player “IT” stands in the center of the circle

“IT” is given a squirt bottle or Velcro ball and is blindfolded

“IT” can shoot only when the leader says, then he can only squirt once

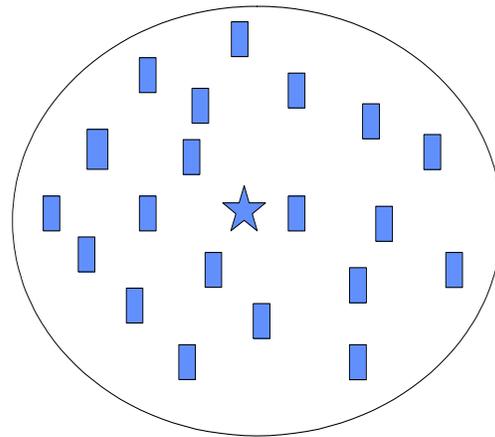
Players cannot move off of their piece of paper

The quieter the players are, the harder it will be for “IT” to hit them with a “squirt of water”

Every once in a while the Leader shouts “MOVE” all players change to a different piece of paper, trying to get as far from “IT” as possible. They also must move at least five papers away from the paper they were just on.

When a person is hit with a “Squirt” she must perform a consequence

After three or four minutes choose a new “IT,” someone who hasn’t been hit



DISCUSSION

Were the players people of integrity today? Were they loving, caring, forgiving, helpful, encouraging?

How did the kids play? Did they follow the rules faithfully? This type of game is not fun when players cheat. To have a really good time the game requires people with integrity.

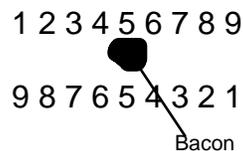
Did people get upset when they didn't get to be a squirter? Did they care for others as much as they cared for themselves?

DAY TWO: Steal The Bacon

MATERIALS: Something to use as the “bacon”.

SETUP

- 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.

DISCUSSION

How did the players participate?

Did they encourage each other? Did they complain when they didn’t win? Did they accuse others of cheating?

A person of integrity is going to understand that having fun is more important than winning. **Everyone** can have fun, not everyone can win.

True winners are not the ones with the most points but the ones who have truly enjoyed themselves.

DAY THREE: Cat and Rat

- Have all the players line up in rows of about 5



- Players all face the same direction
- Players in the same row hold hands
- One player is selected to be the “Cat” (✓) and another player is selected to be the “Rat” (6)
- When the leader says “GO” the “Cat” begins to chase the “Rat” up and down the rows
- When the leader shouts “Switch” the rows suddenly switch direction and grab hold of the hands of the players that were in front and behind them. Thus new rows in a different direction are formed
- The “Cat” and “Rat” have to suddenly switch
- It’s amazing how the kids get into this game
- Switch “Cat” and “Rat” from time to time
- If the “Cat” catches the “Rat” the “Cat” may choose a new “Rat”

DISCUSSION

Did players play with Integrity?

Did the rows encourage the “Cat” and “Rat”? Was there grumbling because they didn’t get to be the “Cat” or “Rat”?

DAY FOUR: Free Play

MATERIALS: Balls, jump ropes, board games, hoola hoops, marbles, etc..

It is important for children to learn to play on their own with little adult interference. As they make rules, decide teams, determine which game to play they are learning how to interact in a reasonable way. These are skills they need for adulthood.

From learning to form a team and set rules they learn how to run a government. They discover who the leaders are and who the followers are. They learn to negotiate and solve problems.

Adults need to be present merely to make sure nothing dangerous happens. Allow them to work through any disagreements.

Encourage the kids to go out and play individually or to form games

Encourage them to even makeup games

DISCUSSION

Were the participants people of integrity today?

Ask the children to tell you of instances when another player showed real integrity. (Example: "Antonio let me go in front of him in line.")

LIVING TRUTH: WEEK 2

WEEK 2 – BIBLE CLUB

LESSON AIM: To help the child understand that there are biblical standards of right and wrong by which to live.

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 15

MEMORY VERSE: “You shall know the Truth and the Truth shall set you free.”

John 8:32

Who is worthy to be a guest in the Lord’s kingly house? In Psalm 15 David tells us who is able to claim such an approving place.

When David speaks of the sanctuary he is referring to the tabernacle, when he speaks of the holy hill he is referring to the City of David. But what the question really is asking is **who is eligible to enter the presence of God?**

David goes on to list some things which one must adhere to if he desires to enter God’s presence. These are not religious rituals but a moral lifestyle.

He must be **blameless** - a blameless person is honorable, he lives in obedience to the Lord.

He does what is **righteous** - he lives according to God’s standards. He **speaks truth** - it isn’t just words flowing from his mouth but it is what he believes in his heart.

He is **not a slanderer** - he does not try to cause a scandal nor try to ruin another.

He does his neighbor **no wrong** - he isn’t going to steal from his neighbor or cause him any harm.

He **doesn’t blame** others - he is careful how he uses his tongue.

He **despises** those who are immoral but **honors** those who fear the Lord.

He **keeps his oath** even if it hurts - perhaps he made a promise without thinking and now it costs him dearly, he will not break the promise.

He **does not take advantage** of those to whom he lends money.

He **does not accept a bribe** against the innocent.

To enter the presence of God one must be a man or woman of integrity. The standards laid out by David are similar to the Ten Commandments. One who follows such standards would certainly be an individual of integrity.

Jesus is truth. The truth of Jesus sets us free from the bondage of our sin. We can be people of integrity because of the truth of Jesus.

Hook

- As you begin Bible Club time, tell the children that you are excited because they are a part of your group of children. You might tell each child why he or she is special (heart for God, cares for others, encourages you, etc. Remember every child can be a winner - it is up to us to discover how he can win.)
- Have the children sit in two rows on the floor (perhaps lay down masking tape on which they are to sit). Place the rows about 2 ft. from each other, or at least close enough so they can touch any other players. Each row should have the same number of children.
- Tell the children you are going to read them a story, but as you read they are to follow some important directions
 - They are not to touch any other child
 - They are not to speak unless asked to speak
 - They are to listen carefully and answer each question that is asked
 - If you call a child by name he/she is to respond by looking you directly in the eye and keeping eye contact with you until you are finished talking to him/her
- Find a short book which you can read to them.
- Read, stopping from time to time to call a child by name and ask him/her a question.
- If a child disobeys one of the “rules” you laid out before you began reading have the child leave the room (perhaps there can be one central place where children who have to leave a room goes there would be one or two adults to watch over them.)
- At the end of the time, all the children who remained are given a prize of some kind. It should be something that the children who had to leave would want.

DISCUSSION:

Was it hard to obey the rules? Why or why not?

What did it feel like when you had to leave the room?

What did it feel like when you realized you had lost out on a gift?

I was grieved when some of you disobeyed and had to leave the room. As I told you at the beginning; I really love each one of you and I enjoy having you in my group. But the rules were given to be followed and I couldn't just let you break the rules.

Bible Story

- You are going to lead the children in a Reader's Theater. This would be a great reading to work on and present on a Sunday morning in the adult service.
- It may help the kids if you highlight each child's part.
- The passages read by EVERYONE are taken directly from the New International Bible. The passages read by READERS are explanations of the Bible passage.
- Explain before you begin that they will be learning about a Psalm. A Psalm is like a song or a poem that was written during the days when the Bible was written. This particular Psalm was written by David. David was a shepherd boy who God made king over the nation of Israel when he grew up. This is the same David that killed the giant Goliath.
- Have the children first read the EVERYONE parts together so they know what the Psalm actually says. Explain that the other parts explain the Psalm.
- Assign who is READER 1, READER 2, etc..
- The second time through you may want to read each section and then stop to discuss what it actually means.

See following page for "script"

Readers Theater

EVERYONE: Lord who may dwell in your sanctuary (pause)

READER 1: A Sanctuary is a place of protection

READER 2: King David was referring to the tabernacle

EVERYONE: Who may live on your holy hill?

READER 3: King David here was referring to the City of David - Jerusalem.

READER 4: What King David was really asking was who can be a guest in God's kingly house?

READER 5: OR who can draw close to God?

EVERYONE: He whose walk is blameless

READER 6: A blameless person is honorable, he lives in obedience to Jesus.

EVERYONE: and who does what is righteous.

READER 7: He lives according to God's standards.

EVERYONE: who speaks the truth from his heart

READER 8: When he speaks he says what he truly believes, not just words to win friends and influence people.

EVERYONE: and has no slander on his tongue,

READER 9: He does not try to cause a scandal nor does he try to ruin someone else.

EVERYONE: who does his neighbor no wrong

READER 10: His neighbor is anyone with whom he has contact.

READER 1: He will not steal from his neighbor or cause him harm in any way.

EVERYONE: and casts no slur on his fellow man,

READER 2: He does not try to cause a scandal nor try to ruin another.

EVERYONE: who despises a vile man but honors those who fear the Lord,

READER 3: A vile man is one who does not follow God's Commands

READER 4: A person who fears the Lord follows God's Commands

EVERYONE: who keeps his oath even when it hurts

READER 5: Perhaps you make a promise without thinking how hard it will be to keep.

READER 6: It may cost you a lot of money, or cost a lot of time or maybe even take emotional strength you don't feel you have.

READER 7: But because you made the promise you will keep it.

EVERYONE: who lends his money without usury

READER 8: He won't take advantage of those who have to borrow money from him.

EVERYONE: and does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

READER 9: He has a concern for the poor and needy.

READER 10: He is a generous man.

EVERYONE: He who does these things shall never be shaken.

READER 1: He will be a man of integrity. He will know God and walk in the truth of who Jesus is.

GIRL READER: Of course this applies to women also.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Who wrote this Psalm we read? *(David. David was made King by God. This is the same David who killed the giant Goliath.)*

What is a Psalm? *(A poem or song which was written long ago during the time of the Old Testament)*

What was this Psalm about? *(It is about who can come into the presence of God.)*

What kind of people can come into the presence of God? *(People who obey God and live according to the way He wants them to live.)*

What are some of the standards David told us we must obey if we want to be in God's presence? *(Let the children mention the items they remember. After each one discuss what it really means. What does that mean for them at their age and where they live?)*

Would it be hard to obey all these standards all the time? Why or why not?

These rules are much more difficult to obey than the ones I gave you when I read the story to you. Yet some of you couldn't keep those rules. Those of you who kept those rules maybe did so because they weren't so hard to keep.

I had to send you away because you broke those rules. It made me very sad. I'm sure you were sad too. In the same way when we disobey God's rules we move out of His presence.

It is impossible for us to keep all of God's rules. So God sent His Son Jesus to pay the price so we wouldn't have to leave His presence.

Our memory verse this week says, "You shall know the Truth and the Truth shall set you free." The truth is Jesus. Jesus wants to set us free from our sins.

Go through the Six Steps found on the following pages with the children.

PRESENTING THE GOSPEL TO CHILDREN

In presenting the gospel to children you want to state the facts, perhaps even share your own personal testimony, but in no way pressure the children to respond.

Because children want the approval of adults who they admire they are apt to respond just because it will make you happy. If the Holy Spirit is working in the heart of the child all you need to do is present the truth.

You may want to say, "If you want to receive Jesus into your life come and talk to me afterward."

Following are steps if you are starting from the beginning with a child.

When God created man and woman He placed them in the Garden of Eden. God told them that they could eat of anything in the garden except the fruit on one tree. That was a rule or law God gave them.

Eve, the woman, was tempted by Satan to eat the fruit from that tree. She gave into the temptation, ate the fruit and then convinced the man, Adam, to eat too. They disobeyed God, they broke God's rule (law), they sinned.

That was the very first sin. Since then, every man and woman who has lived has sinned (Romans 3:23).

When Adam and Eve sinned they immediately realized that there was something different - they were separated from God. Not physically, but in their relationship. Have you ever been with somebody, but they were upset with what you had done to them so you didn't dare speak to them? In fact, it was almost like you were dead to them. The Bible tells us that the price that has to be paid for sin is death (Romans 6:23). This isn't physical death. It means we can't be with God. When we talk to Him He doesn't have to hear us.

But God loves each one of us. He doesn't want us to be separated from Him. But our sin had to be paid for. So God the Father sent His only Son, Jesus to die on the cross for us. When Jesus died on the cross He paid for our sin. Jesus had no sin of His own. God's Son, Jesus, came to earth and was born as a man - this is a mystery we don't fully understand (John 3:16).

Now if we admit that we are a sinner, if we are sorry for our sin, Jesus will forgive us and we can live forever with Him (1 John 1:9)

Jesus has a great plan for you. He wants you to have a joy filled life (John 10:10)

Therefore, if you speak the truth with your mouth that Jesus is the Son of God; and you believe that Jesus died on the cross to pay for your sin and then arose victorious over death you will be saved. Being saved means you will never be separated from God (Romans 10:9).

THE SIX STEPS

Remember to explain all words the children might not understand. So you can be sure they understand ask them questions that can't be answered with a yes or no.

John 3:16 **BELIEVE - THAT JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD**

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

God sent His Son Jesus to pay the price for our sins. When we believe that Jesus is God's Son and He died for our sins, that is the first step towards His becoming our Savior. (Sin is whenever we break one of God's laws. Faith is sitting on a chair and trusting it will hold you.)

Romans 3:23 & Romans 6:23 **ADMIT - "I AM A SINNER"**

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

We are all sinners. Ask them if they can each tell you a sin they have committed. Tell them a sin you have committed.

2 Corinthians 7:9&10 **REPENT - OF MY SINS**

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

God promises to forgive our sins if we confess them. Step three is to tell God we are sinners. This means to tell Him the sins we have committed. He knows, but He wants us to tell Him.

(Being really sad over the sin. It's kind of like the feeling one gets when you've done something you weren't suppose to do and your mother is hurt by your behavior. You wish you would have never done it. Confession is telling God how I have broken His rules. He already knows but He wants us to agree with Him.)

John 1:12 **RECEIVE - JESUS INTO YOUR LIFE**

"Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God."

Talking to Jesus, telling Him that we have faith He died for us. Telling Him I know I am a sinner and confessing sins I remember. Then, Jesus is our Savior. In Ephesians 2: 8&9 we are told our salvation is by faith. Each step is done by faith.

Romans 10:10

TELL - THAT I HAVE GIVEN MY LIFE TO JESUS

It is important that once we have given control of our lives to Jesus that we tell others what we have done. When we do so, some people will be excited, others may make fun of us because they don't understand., some times people even get angry because they worship a false god.

John 10:10 **LIVE - AN ABUNDANT LIFE**

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

Jesus wants us to have a life filled with joy. Joy is not the same as happiness. Joy is an inner peace, a contentedness. It is feeling safe and secure because we know that Jesus wants what is best for us.

WEEK 2 - SKIT

Skit #1

CHARACTERS: LaTasha, Reuben, Maria, Bobby

SCENE: Bobby and Reuben are in the same class. The end of the semester is coming up soon and the teacher is giving a big test in social studies. The kids are meeting after school and walking home.

Bobby: Wow, Mrs. Wilson sure has given us alot of homework.

Reuben: Yeah, that social studies test is really an important one. Did you bring your book home to study?

Bobby: Sure, I'll read over it later. There's plenty of time to study. Hey, Reuben, you want to go shoot some hoops? I've got some new moves to show you.

Scene 2: Have someone announce or walk through with a sign; "Next morning on the way to school..." All four kids are walking together.

Reuben: Hey, Bobby, did you study last night for the social studies test today?

Bobby: Well, sort of.

Maria: Reuben really studied. He wouldn't even play a game with me.

Reuben: I hope you're telling the truth Bobby. I guess if your not, you'll pay the consequences.

DISCUSSION

Do you think that Bobby was being truthful? What do you think will happen when Bobby takes his test?

The Bible always gives us encouragement to tell the truth. When we try to hide the truth it never stays hidden for long. Eventually, the truth will come out. To help integrity to grow in our lives we need to tell the truth even when it might be difficult or embarrassing.

Jesus says that telling the truth is always better than a lie. The truth will make your conscience clear.

What do you think is meant by "The truth of Jesus sets us free"? *(When we are obedient to the commands of the Bible, God's truth, we are free from all the entanglements of sin. Sin is like rope wrapped around us and holding us down. God's truth allows us to live without fear, guilt or a hardening of our hearts.)*

The truth of Jesus sets us free!

Skit #2

CHARACTERS: Maria and LaTasha

SCENE: The girls are in class. Maria and LaTasha are busy working on a group project using some felt markers.

Maria: Smell these markers, LaTasha. They smell like candy!

LaTasha: Yeah, these are cool. We can color our whole project with these. Sure hope we have enough to finish the drawing.

Maria: Look at all these markers! Of course we'll have enough. Infact I think I'll take some home tonight. These will be great with that new coloring book I have at home.

LaTasha: I don't know if that's a good idea. We need to finish this project first or we could run out of color.

Maria: Oh, don't worry! No one will notice they're gone.

Scene 2: Have someone announce: "The next day and the children are again working on their group project."

LaTasha: Maria, didn't you bring the markers back? We need them.

Maria: LaTasha, we got a problem. A couple of the markers are all used up! How are we going to finish our picture?

DISCUSSION

What does Maria need to do to demonstrate integrity?

Even when people don't notice what you're doing the Bible says we need to be honest and truthful. **What would have been a better decision for LaTasha to make? What were the results of taking the markers home and using them?** LaTasha is going to have to tell the truth to her teacher.

Remember God sees everything we do even when other people can't. We want to live our lives in a way that pleases God. Ask Jesus to help you each day to make right choices.

WEEK 2 - MEMORY VERSE

MEMORY VERSE: “You shall know the Truth and the Truth shall set you free.”

John 8:32

The truth is the truth of the gospel - Jesus has paid for our sins. If we believe in Him, repent of our sins, and accept the salvation He offers we will be set free from the bondage sin holds over us.

God’s Word is filled with His truth. When I make the choice to follow God’s truth and not take that which belongs to someone else I can live with a free conscience. I need not fear being caught, I will not have to live with the feeling of guilt. I do not need to push down all my feelings, becoming hard and cold so I won’t have to face what I have done.

Living by God’s truth frees me to live life to it’s intended fullest.

This week the children will be doing a clapping pattern to the memory verse. The pattern is listed below.

You:	both hands slap you lap
shall:	clap hands
know:	point to you head
the:	clap hands
Truth:	both hands snap fingers
and	clap hands
the:	clap hands
Truth:	both hands snap fingers
shall:	clap hands
set:	both hands slap you lap
you:	clap hands
free:	open arms wide and spin around in place
John:	make a heart on your chest because he was considered the disciple of love
8:	put up 8 fingers
23:	put up two fingers, and then three while saying 23

Do the pattern several times, then start the pattern slow and speed it up till they can’t do the pattern anymore.

On the last day of your week play the following game to see if the kids have learned the verse.

Finish The Verse

- 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 counseling teams.
- If a mistake is made the team must begin again at the beginning. However, then change the person who starts so the kids aren't saying the same part of the verse.

WEEK 2 - PRACTICAL LIVING

Integrity On The Playground: Are You A Good Sport?

PREP

- Choose three games that you can play in quick succession. Because you will only play each game for about 5 minutes, it is most helpful if the games meet the following criteria:
 - games well-known to the children (no need for long explanations)
 - games that are formatted similarly (transitions will be easier)
 - games that are intended for large groups (so that all children can participate)
 - games that will touch on the emphasized character qualities (i.e. “Red Light, Green Light” is a game in which children easily cheat.)

We suggest these 3 games in the following order: “Red Light, Green Light,” “Red Rover, Red Rover” and “Steal the Bacon.” (Look in Topical Index for directions to all three of these games.)

ACTIVITY

- Take the kids outside and run through all three games, spending about 5 minutes of actual playtime in each game. Be sure to observe the children’s sportsmanship (specific actions and attitudes) so you can use relevant examples during discussion. After the games are finish, pull the kids together for a discussion time.

DISCUSSION

After you’ve got the kids settled down, lead them in the following discussion.

We’ve been learning about integrity this month. Even when playing outside, it is important to use integrity. It’s so important that we even have a word that measures how well you play with others. **Does anybody have any idea what that word is?** (*Give children a chance to respond and if no one says the word, help them out*)

Has anyone ever heard of the word “sportsmanship”? What does sportsmanship mean? What does it mean if someone says you’re being a good sport? (*How well you play with one another, how much integrity you use on the playground, whether you’re nice or mean, etc.*)

SUGGESTION

Write the following list of words on a chalkboard before or during discussion. As you go over each word, ask the children whether it implies good sportsmanship or bad sportsmanship and discuss how it's relevant to the topic.

- cheating
- sharing
- swearing
- cheering on your team
- throwing a temper tantrum when you lose
- participating in all games, even ones you're not good at
- bickering
- taking equipment from someone else
- bossiness
- using safety precautions
- 3winning graciously
- ridiculing others who don't play as well as you
- mistreating equipment

Why do you think Jesus wants us to be good sports and use integrity on the playground? *(It's more fair, it makes everyone happy, it's no fun to play with people who are bad sports)*

Think about the sportsmanship you displayed on the playground today. **Were you a good sport or a bad sport?**

If you were a good sport, you should thank Jesus for helping you to treat others fairly.

If you were not a good sport, you should apologize to Jesus and ask Him to help you do better.

WEEK 2 - READ-A-LOUD

Indian Cinderella

By Cyrus Macmillan, found in *The Children's Book of Virtues* by William Bennett, pg. 88

- Have the children listen to the story to see who showed the most integrity.
- Read the story to the children.
- After the story answer the following questions.

Who do you think showed the most integrity in the story? Why did you pick that person?

What showed Strong Wind that she was a woman of integrity?

How can we show others that we have integrity?

What are things that we can do to develop more integrity in our life? (*Write the answers to question #4 on a board.*)

Have them pick one thing that they can do this week to develop their own integrity.

If you can set up a way to hold them accountable it will be more effective. Otherwise they walk out the door and forget what they were going to attempt to do.

Example:

“I am going to speak truthfully all week.” Jose

“Jose, I will meet with you during snack next Tuesday so we can talk through how you did during the week on being truthful.” Adult leader

Then you meet and ask him if he was truthful all week. When was it most difficult to be truthful? Is it difficult to be completely truthful with me right now? Is it difficult to be truthful with yourself?

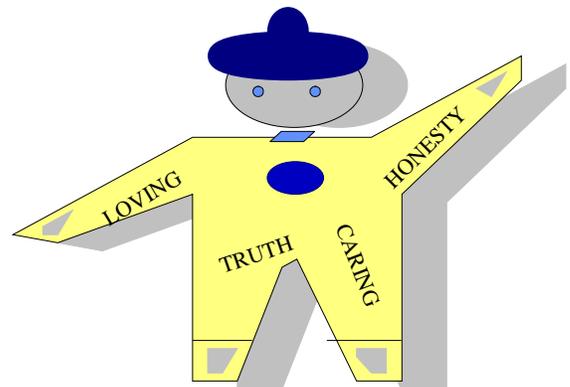
WEEK 2 - CRAFTS

✂ Body Trace

MATERIALS: 1 sheet of butcher paper per child (length of child), marking pens, newspapers, staples, scissors

Determine if you want to cut double sheets, staple them together and stuff them. If you do, cut each sheet of butcher paper twice as long and fold in half.

- Ask the children to find a partner
- Demonstrate how one person lays down on a sheet of butcher paper while her partner traces her
- The partner then lays down on a piece of butcher paper and is traced
- Each child then decorates his/her traced body. Suggest they draw on clothing but also they write on words or statements of how they want to be a person of integrity (Example: truthful, helpful, care for others, etc..)
- You could have yarn and cloth and glue for the kids to use in decorating their paper-self
- Have the children cut out the tracings
- If you doubled the butcher paper, show them how to staple part of it and stuff it and then staple the remainder.



WEEK 2 - RECREATION

DAY ONE: **Hide and Seek**

MATERIALS: None

OBJECT: To be the last person found

This game can be played either inside or out. Be sure to set boundaries of where they are allowed to go to hide. Where you play will depend on your facilities. If you have no outdoor space in which to play don't let that stop you. Kids can have great fun finding hiding places inside. It challenges them to be a little more creative.

- One player is chosen as "It"
- While he counts to 50 everyone else scatters and hides
- "It" calls out, "Here I come, ready or not" and takes off in search of the others
- If "It" spots someone he calls out the person's name and runs back to the home base
- If the person whose name was called beats "It" he can go out and hide again
- If "It" reaches home first then the player called joins "It" in searching for the others
- To avoid cheating those who join "It" can be given a red piece of paper they show when they call out someone's name (anyone who cheats should automatically be out of the game - they sit and watch)
- The last person called can either be the next "It" or he gets to choose the next "It." His choice
- Let them play a couple of times then sit down and talk about the integrity shown or lack of integrity shown as they played.

If children cheated, talk about how that affects the fun of the game. Cheating shows a lack of integrity. The person who is cheating may think they are getting away with it, but they don't even realize how much fun they are throwing away by choosing to be a person who lacks integrity.

When we cheat, we know inside that we are really losing. The person it is most important to have integrity with is ourselves. Part of the reason we grow hardened hearts is that we don't want to face ourselves. We pretend to ourselves we are someone else.

DAY TWO: Team Sardines

MATERIALS: None

OBJECT: To be the first team to have all it's players find the opponent's "Sardine"

- The children play in their two large teams.
- Each team selects a person to be their "Sardine."
- The "Sardine" goes out and finds a place to hide. It must be large enough so that all the children from the other team can squeeze into the hiding place.
- When both "Sardines" have found their hiding places the other children go out to find them.
- When the opposing "Sardine" is found the player gets into the hiding place with the "Sardine." The player must remain very quiet so it continues to be difficult for others to find them.
- **RECREATION COORDINATOR:** watch the play carefully. If children cheat by making noise or telling others where a "Sardine" is, points must be taken away from that team.

The first team to have all it's players hidden away **with the opposing** "Sardine" is the winning team.

Talk about the importance of using integrity as they played this game. Players could make noise when hiding with the "Sardine" and thus draw their teammates to them, but would that have been wise? (No, for though they may have won the competition part of the game they would have lost in Spirit Points which are more important)

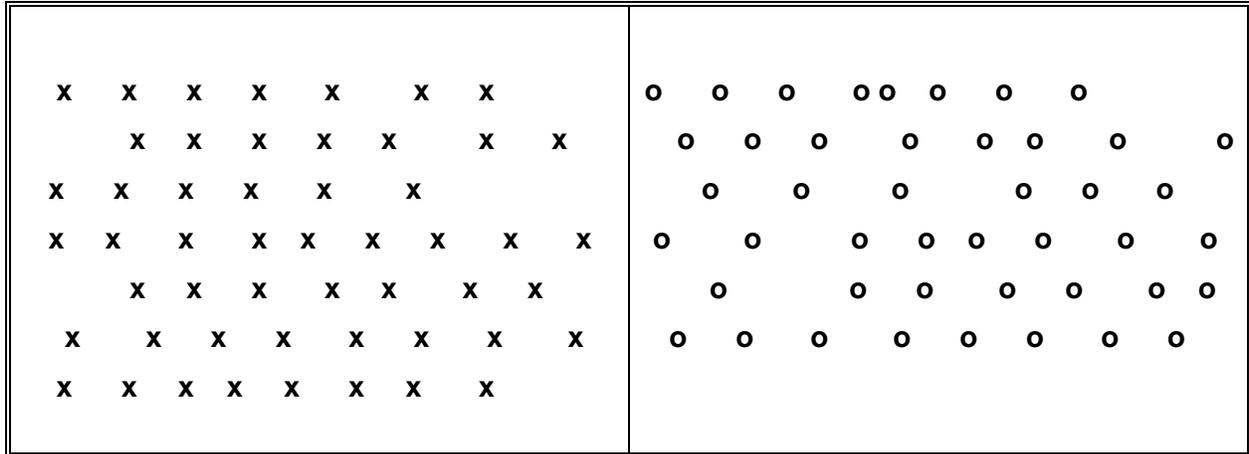
If they were putting their own team together what kind of players would they want on their team?

If there is time play the game again and see if they use more integrity.

DAY THREE: Balloon Volleyball

MATERIALS: Balloons; a "net" - rope laid on ground or chairs to divide teams.

OBJECT: To be the team that scores the most points by not allowing the balloon to touch the ground on their side.



- Divide players into two teams
- Players sit on the floor facing the "net"
- A Counselor bats a balloon to one team
- They try to keep it in the air and over to the opposing side
- Only 3 touches of the balloon are allowed by a team before it goes over the "net"
- Players must keep their bottoms on the floor at all times
- Points are scored if:
 - the ball touches the ground on opposing teams side
 - more than 3 players on the opposing team touches the balloon before it passes over the "net"

This is a game where it is hard to use integrity and keep the bottom on the floor (remember the rule of the game is to keep the bottom on the floor at **all** times). The kids get excited and forget. A great discussion can take place about not getting caught up in something so we forget to use integrity.

DON'T MISS THESE TEACHABLE MOMENTS

DAY FOUR: Free Play

- Free play is an important time for the kids to learn to interact with each other.
- Set out balls, jump ropes, etc. they can play with then let them create their own games.
- Remember this is a time for them to learn self-discipline and self-direction. Intervene only in dangerous situations.

RIGHTEOUSNESS... DOING THE RIGHT THING: WEEK 3

WEEK 3 – BIBLE CLUB

- LESSON AIM:** To help the child understand the importance of making right choices.
- SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 1
- MEMORY VERSE:** “Righteousness guards the man of integrity, wickedness overthrows the sinner.” Proverbs 13:6

In this passage two different types of people are described - righteous and sinners.

The Psalmist (the author is unknown) over and over tells us that the righteous man is he who will be happy (blessed).

The first part of the verse is a warning to the righteous. The righteous are capable of being influenced by sinners. A righteous man will be “happy” if he is careful to not be in a place where he may be even casually influenced by sinners.

God’s Word, the Bible, is the influence the righteous should seek. The righteous are continually going to the Bible for the wisdom they need to live this life. The Scriptures has all the answers they will need.

As the righteous one seeks God’s wisdom, he becomes like a healthy tree which bears an abundance of good fruit. However, the fruit isn’t going to come at the whim of the planter. It has it’s own time in which it will come. It will not wither; it will not go bad.

Now the Psalmist turns our attention to the sinners. These sinners may be “good people” in the eyes of the world, but they do not seek God’s wisdom. They live by their own moral system. They will not last! That which is useless is blown away from that which is good.

The sinners will not be able to withstand the judgment of God. They will be separated from the righteous.

God is aware of how each one of us has lived his/her life (the Lord watches, literally knows). Most important on the Day of Judgment is that we have a relationship with God.

He who knows God is going to live his entire life based on the Word of God. He is going to be one who blesses others not uses them. What the righteous does will last, as opposed to the sinner, whose works will vanish.

Hook

Have the room set up with enticing items - not all in one spot. Perhaps a computer that is turned on, a dish of candy, a bowl full of soapy water (best if there are bubbly suds), and a small bowl of glue sitting next to small cut up pieces of paper.

DON'T MENTION THE UNTOUCHABLE ITEMS! The purpose is to see if they can roam around the room trying to accomplish something else without touching these enticing items that seem to be just sitting there. The staff should be watching the children closely to see who touches anything that they are not supposed to touch.

Any activity in which the children are to move around the room will work. A great idea would be some sort of scavenger hunt. Such as:

Room Scavenger Hunt

Give each child a piece of paper with items they are to look for in the room.

For older children you can just name the item, such as: jar with pencils, box with scissors, three glasses, etc.. that they are to look for in the room.

For younger children, draw pictures for which they are to look.

- The children write down or draw where they found the items. For the younger children, you may have the items they are to look for drawn on the left side of the paper and on the right side have drawn where the items might be found. The child then draws a line from the item he finds to the picture of where he found it. In the sample below, there is a happy face on a clock. This could be a little smiley face sticker stuck on the clock in your room that the children would have to try and find. You could lay a pair of glasses on a book and let the children try to find those. Remember, the point is having them walk by the tempting things without touching them. You can have them look for what ever you want.
- Tell the children they are not to touch anything in the room except the paper and pencil with which they are recording their finds.
- Observe the children as they walk around looking for the Scavenger items. What choices do they make? You may want to write down who does what so you don't forget.
- Give a coupon for each correct answer. Give 5 extra coupons for each enticing item not touched.

DISCUSSION:

Were there any items laying around the room that enticed you to touch them? What were they?

What made you decide to touch or not touch those enticing items??

Did peer pressure (seeing others touch or not touch) have anything to do with your choice?

How do you feel now about your choices?

Bible Story

This week the children are going to create and then act out the story.

- Divide the children in your class into **two different groups**.
- Have group one work with Psalm 1-3 and group two work with Psalm 4-6.
- If you do not have two adults in each group ask one of the older children to work with the younger groups to facilitate them in the creation of their skit.
- Give each child a copy of the verses typed on the following page.
- Help the children find the passage in their Bibles. It might help to give them the typed up pages from the NIV that is provided so they will all be working from the same version if one version of the same bible is not available in large quantities.
- Each group is to:
 - **read** their verses
 - **discuss** what they mean
 - **create** a skit which will tell the other group what their verses say.
- Read the overview (for yourself NOT to the children) for a clearer understanding of the verses. Put the words into language the children can understand.
- Let the children discuss how they will act out the words of the verses. Their discussion of this will help you know how much they truly understand.
- Have them practice.
- The first group performs their skit. Then, the second group performs its skit.
- Read over the “Discussion Questions” to assist you in facilitating the children in the creation of their skit.

Psalm 1

Blessed is the man
who does not walk in the
counsel of the wicked
or stand in the way of sinners.
or sit in the seat of mockers.
But his delight is in the law of the
Lord,
and on his law he meditates day
and night.
He is like a tree planted by
streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither.
Whatever he does prospers.

Not so the wicked!
They are like chaff
that the wind blows away.
Therefore the wicked will not stand
in the judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the
righteous.
For the Lord watches over the way
of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will
perish.

New International Version

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New International Version

Week 3 – Righteousness... Doing the Right Thing

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What does a happy man do? *(He does not hang out with the wicked. He stays away from the wicked so they are not influenced by the wicked at all.)*

What does a happy man do day and night? *(He reads his Bible. He thinks about what the Bible says about how he should live his life.)*

What part of nature is the happy man like? *(He is like a tree which is planted near a stream of water. Trees are happy when they are close to water for they need water to grow. When a tree has plenty of water, it will bear good fruit.)*

What is the good fruit this man may produce? *(Lots of friends, contentedness, peace, joy, etc.)*

What is a wicked man like? *(He is like the straw and other useless things that may get in with the wheat when it is picked. It is blown away by the wind and only the good wheat is left. He will not be able to withstand the judgment of God. Every person has to stand before God one day.)*

What does God do? *(He watches (knows) the righteous man, he blesses that which the righteous does. That which the wicked does will vanish, it will one day be no more.)*

What do you think the activity we did earlier had to do with this passage of Scripture? *(The righteous (the person who does what is right) makes his/her decisions based on the Bible. Each time there is a choice to make the righteous asks, "Is this what God wants me to do." The wicked just do whatever they feel like doing.)*

Each of you had choices to make today. You could do what you were told to do, or you could choose to just do what you felt like doing. What were the consequences of your choices? *(They lost out on their extra reward if they just did what they felt like doing.)*

How did you know what was the right choice? *(They were told not to touch anything. Most centers have "to respect others property" as one of their standards. If we respect others property we won't touch things that don't belong to us unless we are given permission.)*

One day we all stand before God - the wicked and the righteous. For the wicked, it will be a very sad day. They will weep but it will be too late. But for the righteous, it will be a glorious wondrous day.

We are made righteous through our relationship with Jesus. None of us are good enough to deserve any of our works to be noticed by God. But when we accept Jesus as our Savior, He pours his righteousness over us. God the Father then sees us as if we have always made the right decision.

WEEK 3 - SKITS

Skit #1

CHARACTERS: Reuben, Maria, LaTasha, Bobby

SCENE: The kids are going to the corner liquor store to buy some candy. They pretend to be throwing a ball or balls back and forth. Remember, pantomiming holds the kids attention more than if you actually use a ball. It also engages their imaginations.

Bobby: Boy, I sure hope they have some of those fire balls at the store. Those things are HOT!!!

Reuben: Yeah, I love those things. They really burn your tongue.

Maria: I got enough money for a popsicle. That sure sounds good!

LaTasha: My grandmother gave us enough for both!

Bobby: Who stays out here with all our stuff while the rest goes in to buy the candy?

Reuben: I'll stay out here. Mr. Wan doesn't like when we bring our balls into the store. I want a cherry fireball and a grape popsicle.

The other three pantomime going into a store, looking for the items they want, paying an invisible clerk and come back out of the store. Reuben stands outside pantomiming bouncing a ball.

LaTasha: Wow, look at this! That guy gave me too much change. They gave me an extra fifty cents!

Bobby: Well, you aren't going to keep it are you?

LaTasha: What does it hurt anyone? He made the mistake.

DISCUSSION:

What does this skit say about integrity?

Is it true that no one would be hurt in this case?

What about the clerk who may lose his job because he will come up short at the end of the day? What about the owner of the store? What about LaTasha - remember what we learned last week about how we feel when we disobey God's laws? (Guilt, fear of being caught, hardened heart that doesn't allow us to be honest with ourselves and experience our true feelings.)

The Bible teaches us that we need to consider other people and to help them in their mistakes. We need to be honest when we live in this world. Listen to what Jesus says about treating others. He says to love God with all your heart, soul, and mind and to love your neighbor as yourself.

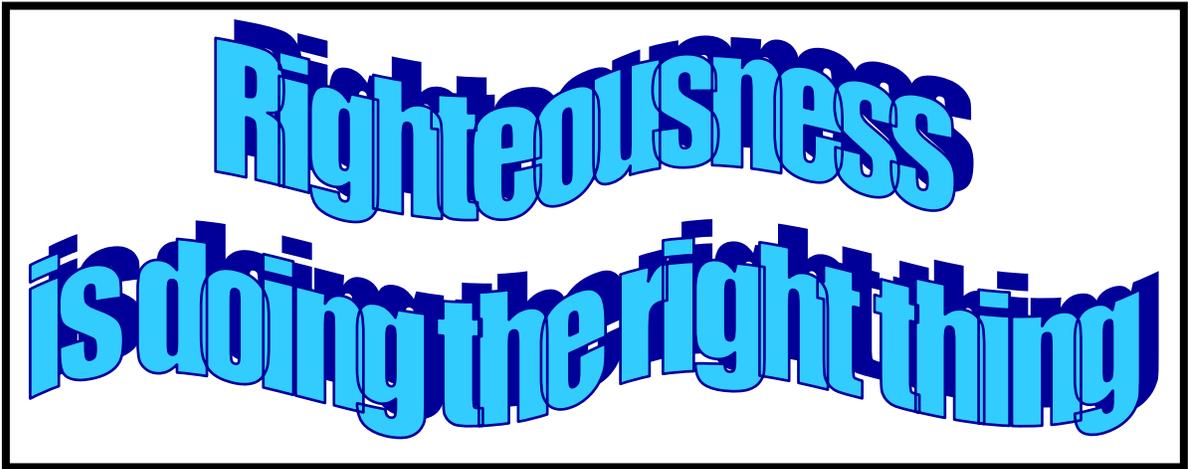
Week 3 – Righteousness... Doing the Right Thing

Who is your neighbor?

Is the corner liquor store clerk your neighbor? Should we treat him honestly?

If you do the skits in a time other than Family Time, have the discussion in small groups.

It is difficult to carry on a sensible interaction with children in a large group. Someone is always going to try and take control, get attention.



Skit #2

CHARACTERS: Bobby and Reuben

SCENE: The boys are visiting their friends church youth group on Wednesday night. Several of the boys climbed up into an attic.

Bobby: Hey, Reuben, the guys just went up into that hole in the ceiling.

Reuben: Really? Why'd they do that?

Bobby: I don't know, but it sure looks like fun. What do you think, should we go up after them?

Reuben: Well, I don't think that the youth group leaders would like it. I think it's against the rules. And besides, it's so dark, someone could get hurt. They kind of expect us to make the right decisions even if it's not real popular. I know you want to impress those guys and be cool with them, but let's do the right thing.

DISCUSSION

The boys are faced with an opportunity to exercise integrity and to make the right choice.

What do they need to do to show integrity in their lives?

Do you think that the decision is made more difficult because of their friends? Why or why not?

What would you choose to do? Why?

It is significant for the children to know the importance of following rules that are set up in certain situations. Many times these rules were made to keep us safe and allow us to reach our potentials. It is not always popular to choose to do the right thing...to obey the rules. Learning to be obedient in spite of what others are doing shows that we are growing in our respect for God and for ourselves

Remember our goal of wanting to live a life that is pleasing to God. It makes God happy when we choose to follow Him and make right choices when presented with the choice. Which way to chose? Ask Jesus to help you make the decisions that will bring Him honor.

What do you think Reuben and Bobby should do to show integrity? The Bible encourages us to become people of integrity. People who are honest, truthful and willing to do the right thing even when it is unpopular.

Bobby is struggling to make the right choice. Reuben is helping him. What should they do next?

What would you do? Why?

Week 3 – Righteousness... Doing the Right Thing

Make a stand for goodness and integrity. Do the right thing. The Lord encourages us to make these right choices and to stand up for truthfulness. Integrity is something that God wants to grow in our lives. He will help us to be honest, truthful and to make right choices when we ask Him to.

Imagine that! God wants to make us boys and girls of good character, of integrity!

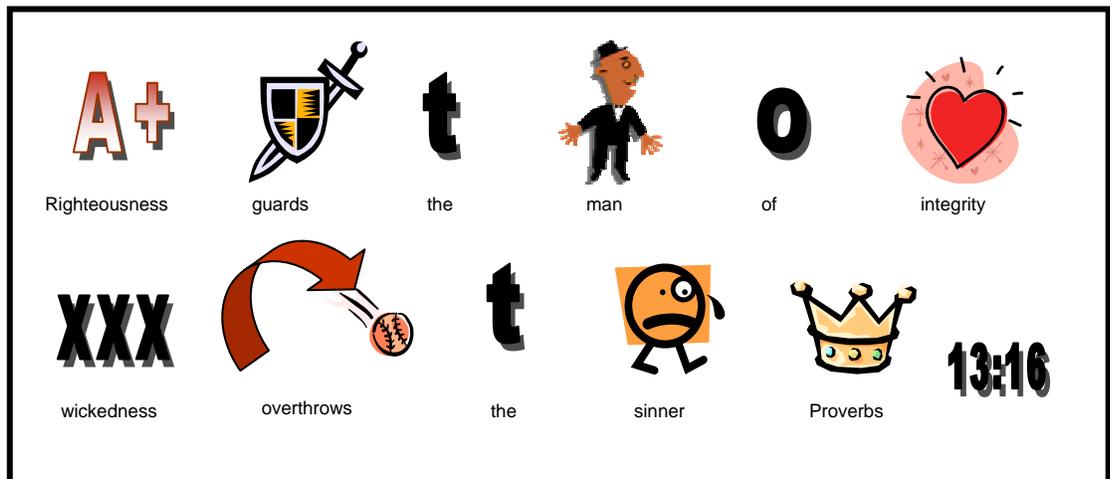
WEEK 3 - MEMORY VERSE

MEMORY VERSE: “Righteousness guards the man of integrity, wickedness overthrows the sinner.” Proverbs 13:6

For this memory verse you will make a sign to put up in the room. On the sign there will be symbols representing each word. Under each symbol, write the word that the symbol represents. Then, at the end of the week, cover up the words and see if the children can quote the verse from the symbols. The symbols are listed below.

- Righteousness:** A+ (when you are righteous you deserve an A+)
- guards:** Draw a shield (a shield guards us from the enemy)
- the:** t (little t stands for the)
- man:** Draw a man
- of:** o (little o stands for of)
- integrity:** Draw a heart with lines coming from the heart so the heart looks like it shines (when we have integrity our hearts shine.)
- wickedness:** XXX (there are three strikes against you when you are wicked)
- overthrows:** Draw a wall with an arrow going over it, and draw a baseball on the other side. (The arrow goes over the wall and you throw a baseball.)
- the:** t (little t stands for the)
- sinner:** Draw an unhappy face (when we sin we are unhappy)
- Proverbs:** Draw a crown (Solomon wrote the proverbs and he was the wisest king that ever lived)
- 13:** write 13
- 6:** write 6

Example of the sign:



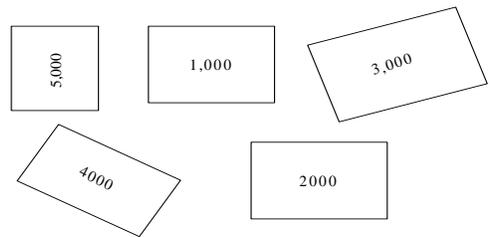
Week 3 – Righteousness... Doing the Right Thing

On the last day of your week play the following game to see if the kids have learned the verse.

Dizzy Drop

MATERIALS: Proverbs 13:6 written on small pieces of paper; a penny; a blindfold; small pieces of paper with 1,000; 2,000; 3,000; 4,000; 5,000 written on them.

- Lay on the floor the pieces of paper with the numbers written on them.
- Divide the group into two teams
- Select a volunteer from team #1 to quote the verse from memory
- If he is able to correctly quote the verse he is blindfolded, spun around and given the penny to drop. His team receives the points closest to where the penny dropped
- If he is unable to correctly quote the verse he does not get any points
- Next select a volunteer from Team #2 to quote from memory the verse



WEEK 3 - PRACTICAL LIVING

Integrity in the Community

The focus of this lesson is to teach children that not using integrity in the community is sin, and there are always consequences to sin. Many times our integrity (or lack thereof) comes out the most when others aren't there -- when we find money that isn't ours, break something when no one is watching, or tell a "little lie" that is unlikely to be detected. No matter whether others are watching or not, there will always be a consequence for sin -- even if it's only internal.

Sometimes internal consequences (such as a hardened heart) are the worst we suffer. This lesson gives the children a chance to think through the sin nature of different scenarios and realize the consequences that may occur. It also gives them a chance to identify that some commonplace, accepted "activities" that are actually lying, stealing, disrespect for others, etc. This will also help them think through some of the consequences that occur as a result of these actions, consequences that they normally may not be aware of.

ACTIVITY (K-1)

- For the children in this age group, you will only need to run off a game board -- you may keep a sheet of cards to refer to if time permits, but you will not need them for the children's' play.
- Sit the children around a table with the game board in the middle.
- Before you begin, discuss each sin category, giving examples to the children and allowing them to give examples of their own. Make sure they have an understanding before you begin.
- Then, read through each square on the board. With the children, square by square, identify the nature of the sin in each scenario and mark it as suggested. (Allow the kids to take turns placing the marker -- this will allow them to feel more a part of things and keep them interested.)
- After all the squares are marked correctly, talk with the children about the hidden consequences that occur as a result of these sins. (This would be the time to refer to the consequence cards for ideas if you wish.)

ACTIVITY (2-3) and (4-6)

- Divide the kids into teams of three-five people.
- Use the attached form to run off game boards, one per team. (Make sure that your good readers are spread evenly throughout the teams.)
- Within each group, starting at the top, each child is to take a square and read it. They are to then mark their square according to the sin chart on the board.

Week 3 – Righteousness... Doing the Right Thing

- For each correctly marked square, they receive a ticket.
- After all the squares are marked, the kids should take turns drawing a consequence card.
- After the student reads the card aloud, the group must decide which scenario the consequence belongs to.
- When the group has their board completed, everyone in the group receives a ticket for every correctly matched card. Discuss as a class what they learned from the game.

Week 3 – Righteousness... Doing the Right Thing

GAME BOARD: **Truth** or *Consequences?*

<p>TO PLAY: Identify the sins committed by putting all necessary markers on each square</p> <p>LYING = 1 PENNY ON SQUARE STEALING = 1 NICKEL ON SQUARE DISRESPECTING OTHER'S PROPERTY = 1 DIME ON SQUARE</p>	<p>Todd wants to go out and play with his friends after school. Even though he has a ton of homework, he tells his mom he's finished so that he can join friends outside.</p>	<p>Mrs. Gomez is at the mall but doesn't see a parking spot. She pulls into the handicapped spot at the front, even though she is not disabled in any way.</p>
<p>Josh is at the corner store. The cashier gives him 50 cents too much change. He's excited because this will give him money for a Coke at school tomorrow.</p>	<p>Gloria wants to go see a movie that is rated "R". Because she looks older than she is, the ticket seller doesn't ask if she's 17. Gloria then walks right into the theater.</p>	<p>Robert has just moved to a new apartment. Two days later, food stamps arrive in the mail for the people who used to live there. Robert gives the stamps to his mother, who then uses them to buy groceries.</p>
<p>Mrs. Campbell wants to go to Las Vegas with her sisters but doesn't have any vacation time left. She decides to call in sick on Friday, then leaves for Vegas with her sisters.</p>	<p>Hosea just finished eating a bag of Cheetos. He looks around for a trash can but doesn't see one. Since no one is around, he just throws the bag on the ground.</p>	<p>Marcelle finds a wallet on the way home from school. It is full of money and credit cards. The man who owns the wallet lives nearby. Marcelle keeps the money and throws everything else in the trash.</p>
<p>LaTasha walks into Target with a Coke in her hand. Near the front, she sees the sign that says "No food or drink in the store please." LaTasha ignores the sign and walks past it into the store.</p>	<p>Juan is at the mall when he sees a watch he's been wanting. When the sales clerk walks away to help a customer, Juan puts the watch in his pocket and walks out of the store.</p>	<p>Naheem's friend Eddie is ditching school for the day. He invites him to go along. That morning, Naheem leaves the house as usual but heads to his friend Eddie's house for the day.</p>
<p>Maria and her friends are at Golf-N-Stuff. They all want to ride the go-carts, but Maria doesn't have enough money. While her friends distract the staff, she jumps the turnstile & gets in line for the cars.</p>	<p>Curtis is wrestling around with a friend when they bump into a table. A vase belonging to Curtis' mom falls to the floor and breaks. Curtis picks up the pieces and throws them away, hoping his mom won't notice.</p>	<p>Timika is reading when her mom yells to her that Shelisa is on the phone. Timika and Shelisa have been into it lately, so she doesn't want to talk to her. She asks her mom to tell Shelisa that she's sleeping and can't talk.</p>

CONSEQUENCE CARDS

Cut out, shuffle, & stack face down by the game board. Place title card face up on top.

He doesn't get caught this time, so he continues to ditch school. Eventually he's so behind in school that he cannot catch up. You don't see him at graduation because he joined the other 50% of the students and dropped out.

He gets an "F" on the assignment. Unprepared for the test he barely passes. Discouraged about his grades, he continues to ignore his assignments. He keeps failing. Having never learned discipline, he struggles all his life just to keep a job.

Your grandmother comes to the mall to get her arthritis medicine. Unable to find a handicapped spot open, she ends up going home. Even though she desperately needs her pills, she knows she can't walk the length of the parking lot.

The owner of the corner store is having trouble making ends meet. You notice that prices have started going up and feeding your family is not as cheap as it used to be.

The owner of the park is losing money because of too many people sneaking in. You notice that he's hired a security guard. Your family can't afford to go there anymore since he's raised prices to pay for the guard.

Lying to the ticket seller was easy. Lying for other reasons is now easier too. In the future, she lies whenever it seems to benefit her. She soon finds herself lying as often as she tells the truth, almost as though she can't stop herself.

Your friends who were supposed to receive the food stamps realize too late what's happened. Now they must go to the social services office and fill out paperwork. In the meantime, they have to call family members to try and get food. They feel humiliated.

Because of her example to her children, they become liars too. Lying is just an accepted practice within this family; no one seems to realize it is wrong. You know her child as that "friend" who trusts no one and is not trustworthy himself.

Your city is in a dilemma -- the trash problem is growing all over town. If nothing changes, your city will continue to look trashy. If they hire a company to do clean-up, they will have to raise your taxes. Either way, the entire community pays.

Your uncle is now unable to buy your cousin's birthday present because of the money lost in the wallet. It takes him 2 months to replace all his missing identification. He also has to cancel all his credit cards to make sure no one uses them.

The store takes thousands of dollars in losses every year due to shoplifting. The store then writes off the losses on their taxes. You as a taxpayer end up picking up the tab for thieves. The store also charges you more to help recover their loss.

You are walking too fast down the aisle to notice the Coke puddle in the middle of the floor. Just as you step into it, you feel your legs go out from under you. As you fall, you hit a display rack and end up breaking your arm.

This isn't the first time she's lied to her friend but it will be the last. Shelisa finds out that she lied and blows up. Even though it was only a "little lie", she's tired of not being able to trust Timika. The friendship is basically ruined.

His mother does notice the vase, and it doesn't take her long to figure out what happened. Now she's twice as mad because he wasn't honest. As punishment he has to work to pay off the vase, but he's also grounded two weeks for lying.

**Truth
or
Consequences?**

WEEK 3 - READ-A-LOUD

New!

“The Tale of Toad Lee Purrhart, a Toad with a Pure Heart”

O. Whillikers in the Hall of Champions, Chapter 6

SUMMARY: This is a story about a toad that has a pure heart. The problem is his father is a bookie and his mother is a heavy drinker who dates bad people. They are divorced and the toad lives with his dad. His dad has a live-in girlfriend, but one that he has been with for a long time. There is no one home when Toad Lee gets home, so he has to make decisions about who he hangs out with so he won't end up on the same path as his parents.

This week you are talking about righteousness and doing the right thing. This character helps his parents see that their lifestyles don't reflect integrity.

OR, you may read the following ...

The Honest Disciple

The Children's Book of Virtues, by William J. Bennett pg. 70

- Assign the children roles in the story.
- Have them act out the story while you read.

At the end of the story ask the following questions

Which disciple showed the most integrity?

Why do you think his answer was honest?

What part of his answer showed that he had made the right choice?

How can you be like the honest disciple?

Have them draw a picture of themselves relying on God. We can only trust in Him to make us a man or a woman of integrity.

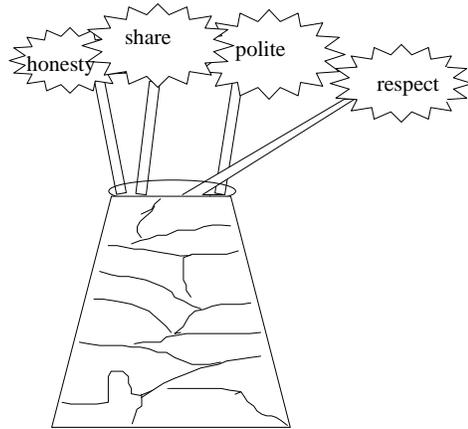
WEEK 3 - CRAFTS

The following craft will be worked on for the next two weeks. You will do half this week and half a week from now.

✂ Integrity Vase

MATERIALS: Bottles (you determine size and shape, may be dependent on what you can collect) - one per child; masking tape; shoe polish and/or marking pens; cotton balls; napkins; tissue paper; sponges; glue; drinking straws

- Give each child a bottle
- Have a roll of masking tape for every two or three children
- Show the children how to take a strip of masking tape and attach it to the bottle
- They should completely cover the bottle with masking tape so there is no portion of the bottle showing, the tape will overlap
- The children then take shoe polish or marking pens to color the “vase”



The Following Week

- Show the children how to make flowers from napkins, cotton balls and/or sponges. Take and wad the napkins up (you may want to glue it together a little - be sure to experiment before Craft time). Use your imagination and encourage them to use theirs also
- Take a straw and glue the “flower” onto the straw
- Demonstrate taking a piece of construction paper writing on an attribute of integrity and gluing it to a flower

Week 3 – Righteousness... Doing the Right Thing

GUIDED CONVERSATION

As the children work on their vase talk with them about integrity. Make it natural conversation. As their hands are busy you will discover they are more open to talk and be vulnerable.

Do they know what it means to be a person of integrity? (*Someone who chooses to do that which is right in the eyes of God.*)

Ask them to tell you what it means to do what is right in the sight of God? (*Speak truth, care for others, don't steal, be faithful, doesn't take advantage of others, doesn't accept a bribe, doesn't blame others, doesn't put others down, etc.*)

Look for the teachable moments that come as the children work together. Are they sharing? Are they courteous to one another? Do they encourage one another?

DAY TWO: Red Rover Red Rover

- Players form two lines facing each other
- Stand about two yards from each other



- Each team holds hands
- A leader is selected for each team
- The leader from Team #1 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 Laticia is not able to break through 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

DISCUSSION

How did the children play? Did they hold as tight as possible even when it was one of their teammates coming at them? Were they people of integrity who made the choice to play fairly?

What other choices did players make? Did those choices display integrity or lack of integrity?

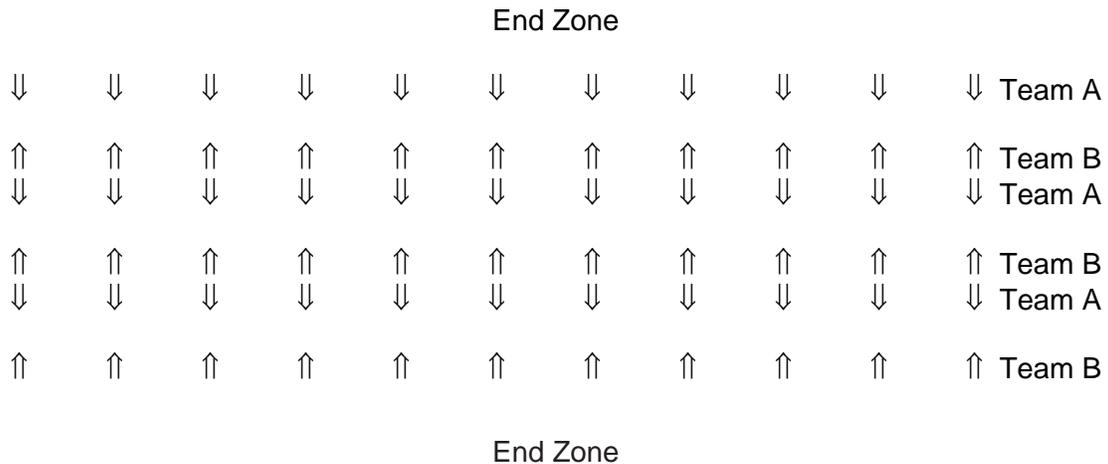
DAY THREE: Balloon Ball

The children will have to choose to work as a team. If they are selfish and try to be the one to always hit the balloon they will ruin it for their team - thus they will lose too. Stop mid way through Recreation time and talk about the choices players are making.

MATERIALS: A chair for each participant (unless participants elect to sit on the floor); balloons.

OBJECT To get the balloon into the opposing team's end zone.

SET-UP: Arrange chairs as shown:



TO PLAY

- Divide players into two teams
- The players sit back to back with opposing teammates
- All players facing the same direction are on the same team
- When all players are seated the Counselor tosses a balloon into the center of the group
- The players may not stand
- Players bat the balloon with their hands trying to move it towards the opposing team's end zone
- Counselors should stand along the sidelines to throw back any balloon which goes out-of-bounds.

DISCUSSION

Was integrity displayed? How?

In what ways could there have been a better display of integrity

Look For Teachable Moments

DAY FOUR: Free Play

MATERIALS: Balls, jump ropes, chalk, Frisbees, hula hoops, etc.

- Let the children choose what they would like to play today.
- As you observe them playing ask yourself
 - Have they learned anything this month as displayed in their actions?
 - Who are the leaders?
 - Who are the encouragers?
 - Who are the individuals who demand justice?
 - Is there a loner who needs help socializing?
 - Are there cliques within the center?

As you continue to observe, pray for the children, bringing each child's special need to the Lord.
REMEMBER! This is not a time for **your** socialization.

BLAMELESS... FEELINGS OF INNOCENCE OR GUILT: WEEK 4

WEEK 4 – BIBLE CLUB

LESSON AIM: To help the child know and understand that the result of living a life of integrity leads to feelings of innocence.

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 19 & 20; Deuteronomy 5

MEMORY VERSE: “The man of integrity walks securely, but he who takes crooked paths will be found out.” Proverbs 10:9

God gave us the law to demonstrate to us (experientially) that we are incapable of saving ourselves.

There are two parts to the law

First 4 commands = Relationship with God

Second 6 commands = Relationship with man

- #1 God does not tolerate rivals! He is the only God
- #2 God demands total loyalty! Those who do not submit to God will experience His wrath.
- #3 God's name is not to be used in trivial ways.
- #4 God expects that every 7th day will be set aside as a time for believers to testify of their commitment to the one-true God before their non-believing neighbors.
- #5 Honor your parents - recognize their authority. Respect who they are, not necessarily what they do.
- #6 Do not take another's life outside of God's sanction. Only the Creator has the right to extinguish life.
- #7 Marriage is a holy commitment between man, woman and God.
- #8 Do not take what does not belong to you. How can there be a stable society if people do not respect others.
- #9 Do not unjustly injure another's reputation.
- #10 Do not become attached to what does not belong to you. Longing for what belongs to a neighbor can lead to the breaking of commandments 6-9.

When God's law is broken, there are always consequences. Man's spirit is aware that there will be a consequence to the breaking of God's law. Therefore, when he breaks God's law he suffers from guilt, fear of the consequence or a hardened heart as he blocks out truth.

When Jesus died on the cross, he completed the law (Matt. 5:17). Though our obedience does not save us, we are saved to obey (Ephesians 2:9&10). When we do not obey, our spirit experiences the loss of fellowship with God (I John 1:6-8).

If we want to experience the peace that comes with innocence (lack of sin), we must obey God. When we do sin, repent and confess quickly (I John 1:9).

Week 4 – Blameless... Feelings of Innocence or Guilt?

Hook

- Create an atmosphere of excitement. Perhaps have a mini-carnival set up:
 - 4 soup-size cans, 3 ping pong balls - throw balls into cans
 - 3 coke bottles, 3 curtain rings - toss rings over bottles
 - 5 plates, 3 pennies - toss the pennies on the plates
 - 1 trash can, 3 wads of paper, masking tape - from behind line of masking tape toss wad into basket
- When a child gets a ball in or a ring over, give him/her one S.A.Y. Yes![®] Dollar.
- Display excitement, encourage the kids, remind them that they can win “dollars.” You want to build the desire to win.
- As the children play, observe if they try to cheat, do they get angry, are they polite to other children waiting in line, etc.

DISCUSSION:

What was the most fun about the games?

Did anyone really want to win? Why or why not?

Think about the way you acted while you were playing the games. I was observing while you played, this is what I observed. I'm not going to name names, you know who you are. (Example: “I saw one person shove another person.” “I saw a person get angry when he didn't land any pennies on a plate.” “I saw someone tell the leader they had gotten three ping pong balls in the can when they only got two.”) **You don't have to answer me but just think, how do you feel now?** There might be several different feelings.

Guilt - You know you broke one of God's laws and you feel bad.

Fear - You have been caught breaking God's law. What will the consequence be?

Who cares? - Your heart has begun to harden, so you don't even recognize when you have broken God's law.

Today, we are going to learn what we must do if we want to experience God's peace at all times.

Bible Story

Tell today's story as dramatically as you can. Challenge the children to listen because at the end you will play a game to see who has listened most carefully. Listening and gathering information is an important skill they need to develop. It will come more naturally to some than to others so the game at the end is set up so everyone is challenged to participate. Put the story into your own words - the kids will listen more if you don't use notes so you can keep eye contact. If you need, fix yourself a few notes.

The story I am going to tell you today happened about three months after the people of Israel had escaped from Egypt. They had been held as slaves by the Egyptians. Who can tell what a slave is?

They were now camped by a mountain called Mt. Sinai in an area where no one else lived.

Moses, their leader, went up the mountain to speak with God. God called to him and said, "This is what you are to say to the house of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel."

God then reminded the people what He had done to bring them out of Egypt. Then, He promised them that if they obey Him they would be His special treasure. They would be special over all other nations.

Moses went back down the mountain and told the people of his meeting with God.

What would you think if you were one of those people and Moses told you he had just had a personal meeting with God? What would you feel?

Moses told the people what God had said and they all responded with, "We will obey God. We will do what God wants."

So Moses returned to the mountain where He again spoke to God and told Him that the people had agreed to all he had said.

God told Moses that He now wanted to meet with the people personally. But the people would have to prepare themselves by going through the following cleansing process.

Wash their clothes.

They could not touch the foot of the mountain.

Whoever touches the mountain will die. He will be stoned or shot with arrows.

Animals too will die if they touch the mountain.

When the ram's horn sounds a long blast, the people may go up to the mountain.

They must abstain from sexual relationships.

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On the morning of the third day, there was thunder and lightning and a thick cloud came over the mountain and there was a loud trumpet blast.

Everyone in the camp trembled. Who can show us what it means to tremble?

Then Moses led the people out of the camp and they went and stood at the foot of the mountain ready to meet with God.

God came down in fire and smoke covered the mountain, the mountain trembled and the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder. THEN Moses spoke and God answered him.

God told Moses to go down and warn the people not to force their way up the mountain or they would be killed. The priests were not even allowed to see God. Moses told God that the people could not come up because limits had been put around the mountain.

God told Moses to go get Aaron, Moses brother.

When Moses returned to God on the mountain, God gave him 10 Commands which were for all people to obey.

You shall have no other Gods. I am the only God

You shall not make idols. You must be completely loyal to me.

You shall not misuse my name.

Make every 7th day holy by worshipping me and resting.

Honor your father and mother.

Do not kill.

Be committed in marriage.

Do not steal.

Do not lie about your neighbor.

Do not long for what does not belong to you.

As the people listened to the trumpet and they watched the smoke cover the mountain, they trembled with fear. They said to Moses, "Tell us what God has said, but do not have God speak to us. We are afraid if He speaks to us we will die."

Moses told them that God had appeared as He had so that the people would fear and think before they disobeyed God.

God then told Moses to have the people build an altar to him and to worship him. **What is an altar?**

Reversed Hangman

- Divide your small group into 2 teams - A & B to ask them the questions below.
- Ask a player from team A the first question. If he/she answers the question correctly, have him/her draw the first piece of the HANGMAN.
- If the player does not feel he can answer the question, he/she may ask his entire team to conference and assist him/her. If the team together comes up with the correct answer the player may draw only half of a leg, arm, head, etc.. that he would have normally gotten a full part for if they would have answered it on their own.

QUESTIONS

When did today's story take place? *(3 months after the Israelites escaped from Egypt.)*

What was the name of the mountain by which the Israelites camped? *(Mt. Sinai)*

What did God promise the people? *(If they obeyed Him they would be His special people)*

How did the people respond to God's promise? *(They said they would do whatever He said.)*

What were three of the things the people were to do to prepare to meet with God? *(There were five actions listed: wash clothes, not touch the foot of the mountain, keep animals from the mountain, when the ram's horn blasted, they could go up to the mountain, abstain from sex)*

What happened to the mountain on the third day? *(There was thunder, lightning, a thick cloud covered the mountain, and there was a loud trumpet blast.)*

What did God give the people? *(10 Commandments)*

What was the response of the people? *(They didn't want to meet with God for they were fearful they would die if they did.)*

Now go into your smaller groups

Why do you think the people were afraid of meeting with God?

Would you be afraid to meet with God? Why or why not?

We have no need to be afraid of God when we are obedient.

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When you disobey, how do you feel afterward? *(We will feel guilty, fear the consequence or if we have closed out truth completely we may not feel anything. Help the children talk through the feelings.)*

Do you think you will ever be able to always be good?

Since we can't always be good do we need to fear God? *(NO! If we come to Jesus He will cover us with His righteousness. Jesus never did one thing wrong - He was/is perfect. Thus when we give our life to Jesus , God the Father looks at us He sees us as being perfect.)*

Be prepared to again go over the gospel. See last weeks Bible Club curriculum.

WEEK 4 - SKIT

After you have presented the Bible Club time ask a group of the older kids to create a skit for Family Time.

Make sure they have practiced it.

Remember it won't be like the skits you have been doing. Let them feel as though they have accomplished something.

This is an opportunity for an adult to spend some quality time working with these kids. It will be most effective if it is done outside of S.A.Y. Yes!® Center time. The kids will then be paying a "price" to participate. They will, thus, be more serious about what they are doing.

Before they begin to create the skit, talk through the message they want to get across to the younger kids.

WEEK 4 - MEMORY VERSE

MEMORY VERSE: “The man of integrity walks securely, but he who takes crooked paths will be found out.” Proverbs 10:9

- The:** put one finger in front of you and point to the ceiling
- man:** make the muscles on your arm stand up
- of:** make an o by putting your thumb and index finger together
- integrity:** put hand over heart
- walks:** march in place
- securely:** wrap your arms around yourself and give yourself a big hug
- but:** clap hands together
- he:** pretend to touch a hat
- who:** pretend to take the hat off (make a big gesture for this)
- takes:** pretend to reach out and grab something
- crooked:** put both hands together and curve them around like a snake
- paths:** place both hands at your side and then sweep them out in front to make a path
- will:** jump with determination
- be:** pretend your finger is a bee and fly around
- found:** pretend you have a bag in front of you and you are “finding” an object in the bag
- out:** make an X with your arms

On the last day of your week play the game found on the following page

Duck Duck Verse

- Have everyone sit on the floor in a large circle
- One player is chosen to be “It” (perhaps a child who has been well behaved during the day)
- “IT” goes around the circle tapping each player on the head and saying, “Duck, Duck, Duck, Duck, **VERSE**”
- The player whose head is tapped “VERSE” stands up and chases “IT”
- If “IT” makes it around to the space of the player she touched then “IT” has the opportunity to say the verse
- If the “CHASER” tags “IT” before “IT” gets to the vacant spot then “CHASER” gets the opportunity to say the verse
- If the player is able to say the verse give him 5 S.A.Y. Yes!® Dollars

WEEK 4 - PRACTICAL LIVING

Taking A Personal Inventory

INTRO

This month we have been learning about integrity. The Bible tells us in Psalm 51:6 that God desires us to have truth in the “inner parts.” If we are to be people with integrity we must be able to be honest on the inside, with ourselves, about how life is going.

It is important to take time every now and then to evaluate our life from the inside out.

One way to do that is by taking a “**personal inventory**” such as we’re doing today. A personal inventory allows us to see whether or not we’re pleasing God in the different areas in our life. When we see areas where God has changed us, we can praise Him.

When we see areas where we still need work, we can pray and ask God to help us change. Then we must be open to letting Him change us in those areas.

Remember: without God changing us, we will never really change. We do not have the power to change ourselves.

Activity (K-1)

Discuss the five areas that we will inventory with the children (relationships with God, relationships with others, health, schoolwork, and morality) so that they understand each area. Then have each child choose one of the five areas, and draw a picture split into two areas ... “Who I am Now” and “Who I am Becoming.” Have a sharing time with the class whenever everyone is finished.

Activity (2-3)

Discuss the five areas that we will inventory with the children (relationship with God, relationships with others, health, schoolwork, and morality) so that they understand each area. Hand each child the attached form and read through it as a class. Having them fill out the form as you go along. encourage them to think a bout how God has already changed them as they think through each area. When every child has finished, allow them to share one area where God has changed them and one area where they want God to change them.

Activity (4-Up)

Discuss the five areas that we will inventory with the children (relationship with God, relationships with others, health, schoolwork, morality) so that they understand each area. Instruct them on how to fill out the attached form. After everyone is finished, allow each child to share one area where God has changed them and one area where they want God to change them.

CLOSING

Have the children close in prayer, asking God to change their lives in the areas where they need it. Remember to give each child a chance to pray.

"How Can I Improve in the Area of...?"

Fill out the following form by putting a **plus (+)** in the box if you're **doing well** in that area and a **minus (-)** if you're **not doing so well**.

My Relationship With God

Do I believe God loves me?

Do I need to read my Bible more?

Do I need to talk to God more about my problems?

Do I need to pray for others more?

Do I need to attend church more often?

Do I need to tell more people that Jesus loves them?

Do I know how to trust God when troubles come up?

Do I put other people and activities before my relationship with God?

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My Relationships with Others

Do I speak to my parents and relatives with respect?

Do I speak to my teachers with respect?

Do I speak to my friends with respect?

Do I share willingly with my friends and siblings?

Am I obedient to my parents?

Do I listen to my teachers?

Do I talk about my friends and family behind their backs?

Do I have someone in my life whom I go to when I have a problem?

Do I get mad at people too easily?

Do I go off on people when I'm mad at them?

Do I easily get in fights with others?

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My Health

Do I eat too much candy and junk food?

Do I eat enough fruits, vegetables, and other healthy foods?

Do I try to get enough sleep?

Do I watch too much TV?

Do I play outside and get enough exercise?

Do I try to take good care of my appearance?

My Schoolwork

Do I try to finish all the work that the teacher assigns?

Do I try to do my best on all my work?

Do I do my own homework?

Do I try not to cheat on assignments and tests?

Do I do take my time to do my work neatly?

Do I keep track of the work I've finished so that I can turn it in?

Do I work harder in the areas where I need to improve?

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My Morals

Do I lie to others?

Do I steal from others?

Do I cheat at games and in my schoolwork?

Would Jesus watch the TV programs I watch?

Would Jesus like the music I listen to?

Would Jesus go to the movies I watch?

Do I pretend that I'm not home when someone calls me and I don't want to talk?

Do I return money if the store cashier gives me too much change?

Is my language clean enough that Jesus could talk like I do?

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After you have finished filling in all the boxes, calculate which category has the most minuses. Look back over the boxes under the category. What way do you want to improve in this area? On the proper line below, write a prayer asking God to change you.

Dear God, help me to please You more in the _____

_____ area of my life. Change me so that

I'll _____

Now look back at your “pluses.” Have you always done well in these areas? How has Jesus helped you to change since you've come to know Him? Write a praise to Him for changing you.

Dear God, thank You for changing me already. You've helped me

not to _____

_____ like I used to.

WEEK 4 - READ-A-LOUD

“The Conscience of the Nation Must Be Roused”

By Frederick Douglass; found in *The Book of Virtues*, William J. Bennett, pg.253

If you can find a biography about Frederick Douglass which also has pictures read that to the group.

The reading this week is heavy. However, it is a great piece to use to stretch the children and help them learn critical thinking. We want them to move beyond their comfort zones. You may want to read it and discuss it as a staff team to prepare yourselves. You may just want to read the biography for the youngest children.

You may need to stop and explain as you read. You may want to ask questions which will help clarify.

Although Frederick Douglass was persecuted he made the right choices. He was a man of integrity. He was a man who loved Jesus and served Him faithfully. He spoke the truth even though at times that truth was painful for many to hear.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Have the discussion in small groups

Can you put in your own words what Frederick Douglass said in this speech?

Do you think he was right or wrong to give such a strong speech? Why?

What kind of feelings do you think the people who owned slaves had? *(They probably had hardened hearts. They refused to look at the truth in the Bible or they twisted God's truth. There were probably some who felt bad but they kept denying those feelings because they were afraid of what others would do or say to them.)*

Do you think it was a difficult choice for Frederick Douglass to give this speech? Why or why not?

Whose feelings would you most like to have - those of Frederick Douglas or those of the slave owners? Why?

WEEK 4 - CRAFTS

✂ Integrity Vase (continued from previous week)

- Directions are found in Craft - Week 3.
- The children will be finishing the vases they began a week ago.

DISCUSSION

As the children work on their vases ask them if they have learned anything about Integrity during the past week. If so what?

Do they find it easy to be people of integrity?

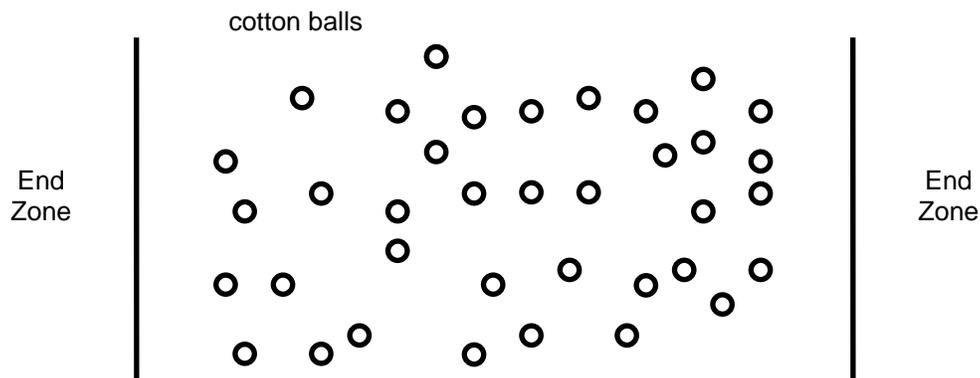
What is the most difficult for them in trying to be people of integrity?

Remind them that none of us are able to do it on our own. We are totally dependent on the strength and wisdom we receive from Jesus.

WEEK 4 - RECREATION

DAY ONE: Cotton Ball Hockey

- Divide the group into two teams - 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
- 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



- When time is called the team with the most cotton balls in their end zone is the winner
- Players should discover that they need to work as a team and build a strategy
- The team that plays as a team and not a bunch of individuals is the team most apt to win.

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DISCUSSION

Why do you think the winning team won?

Which kind of stick was easier to work with, the newspaper or the paper towel tubes?

How do you feel about the way you played? Who feels they used integrity? Observe the hands of your neighbors - do you think those with their hands up have made a good self-assessment? Why or why not?

Does anyone feel bad about the way they played? If so why?

In playing a game what is most important? (*Having a good time; Winning is not as important as the participation and interaction with others. You can have fun playing a game and still lose the game.*)

DAY TWO: Blindman's Bluff

MATERIALS: Blindfold

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

- A "Blindman" 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 "Blindman"

DISCUSSION

This is a game requiring a great deal of integrity. Most children want the opportunity to be the "Blindman," 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 "Blindman."

Play for a minute or two and then talk about why it is important, even though you may want to be the "Blindman" that you try as hard as you can to not get caught. Why be the "Blindman" if there is no challenge to it?

ALTERNATIVE GAME:

- You may have the person grabbed do a consequence and then the "Blindman" gets to choose someone to be the next "Blindman."
- Set a time limit for the "Blindman," if she doesn't grab someone within the time limit she must do a consequence and the person furthest from her gets to be the next "Blindman."

DAY THREE: Fruit Basket Upset

MATERIALS: Chairs for all but one player

- Place chairs in a circle facing in
- Choose a leader
- Everyone, but the leader, sits in a chair
- Beginning with one player go around the circle naming the children; apple, orange; peach; banana
- Thus there are several children who are apples, oranges, peaches, and bananas
- The leader stands in the center of the circle and calls out the name of a fruit. Example “Oranges”
- Everyone who is an “Orange” gets up and tries to sit in a different chair while the leader tries to get into a chair also
- Whoever is left standing is the next leader
- The more players the more fun because of the excitement of so many people moving
- The leader may call “Fruit Basket Upset” and then everyone moves

DISCUSSION

This is a game where children will cheat by not trying to get into a chair because they want to be the “leader.” This behavior of course ruins the game. For the game to be truly fun everyone must follow the rules.

As we played the game what do you think showed integrity? What do you think showed lack of integrity?

How did you feel when others didn’t follow the rules?

If you didn’t follow the rules, what were you thinking and feeling while you were “doing your own thing.”?

When we insist on doing our thing we actually ruin life for those around us as well as ruin it for ourselves. We may allow our heart to be hardened and thus not be able to see the truth. We convince ourselves that doing our own thing is the best way, but if we are honest with ourselves we will see that it is not the best.

Take some specific examples from the playing of the game to show how misdirected thinking can ruin life for us.

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DAY FOUR: Free Play

MATERIALS: Balls, jump ropes, chalk, Frisbees, hula hoops, etc.

SETUP:

- Let the children choose what they would like to play today.

On this last day of your study of Integrity be sure to observe how the kids do interacting on their own.

Have they learned anything this month? Are they trying to be people of integrity?

Remember they are still kids and are in process. Aren't we all!!!

Are there some children for whom you need to get some prayer warriors? Ask 7 people to pray for a specific child everyday for a month. Give the 7 "Warriors" particular items for which they can pray for the child.

*"I looked for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found none."
Ezekiel 22:30*

Some of our children need adults to stand in the gap for them.