

## WEEK THREE - MAY 2018 - SECOND/THIRD

**Bible Story:** *Planting a Virus • 1 Samuel 21-22*

**Bottom Line:** *When you lie to help yourself, you hurt yourself instead*

**Memory Verse:** *"Anyone who lives without blame walks safely. But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught." - Proverbs 10:9 NIrV*

**Life App:** *Honesty - Choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do.*

**Basic Truth:** *I need to make the wise choice*

**Summary:** There's an important story about honesty throughout the book of Esther. Haman has just been promoted as the king's most important advisor. Haman lets this go to his head and commands that everyone bow to him. But there's one man who won't: Mordecai. Haman is so angry that he vows to destroy not just Mordecai, but all of his people, the Jews. Little does Haman know, but Mordecai has family in high places. Queen Esther risks everything to save her people. Once her plan with Mordecai is set in motion, Haman's dishonesty to hurt others ends up hurting himself instead.

**Bottom Line:** Sometimes we have a tendency to lie in order to make ourselves look good. But we can't keep the lie for long. Eventually we'll be found out and our lie will only hurt ourselves.

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**8:50-9:00 | 10:20-10:30 | 11:50-12:00 - EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES**

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### **1. Early Arriver Idea**

*Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery*

**What You Need:** N/A

#### **What You Do:**

- Before starting the activity, use this time to ask about the kids' weeks and what they may have done (the good, the bad, the silly, etc.)
- Share two statements about yourself: one true and one false.
- Let a volunteer guess which statement is true and which one is false.
- Then let kids share two statements: one true and one false.
- Let their peers guess the validity of the statements.

#### **What You Say:**

*"Today in Large Group, we are going to learn about someone else who tried to help himself win, but in the end he hurt himself instead."*

**Lead your group to the Large Group area.**

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**9:10-9:45 | 10:40-11:15 | 12:10-12:45 - LARGE GROUP**

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#### **OVERVIEW:**

**Bottom Line:** *When you lie to help yourself, you hurt yourself instead. Sometimes we have a tendency to lie in order to make ourselves look good. But we can't keep the lie for long. Eventually we'll be found out and our lie will only hurt ourselves.*

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**9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 SMALL GROUP**

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### **1. Who's Who**

**[Bible Story Review]**

*Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy & facilitates biblical application through role-play*

**What You Need:** "Who's Who" Activity Page; crayons/markers; scissors

### What You Do:

- Hand out Activity Pages to each kid.
- Encourage them to color and cut out each object
- As you work, encourage kids to identify who, from the Bible story, each object belongs to. (Crown with "#1" belongs to Xerxes; 2nd place ribbon is Haman; Queen's crown is Esther; rugged robe is Mordecai)
- Read each review question and encourage kids to answer by holding up the object of the person the question is referring to.
  - Q: Who was the king in today's story? A: Xerxes (Hold up the #1 crown)
- Review Questions:
  - Who was the king in today's story? (*Xerxes*)
  - Who held a very high position over the entire kingdom? (*Haman*)
  - Who was Xerxes' wife, also known as the queen of the kingdom? (*Esther*)
  - Who was Esther's cousin? (*Mordecai*)
  - Which characters in our story were Jewish? (*Esther and Mordecai*)
  - Who came up with a plan that all Jews would be killed because Mordecai refused to bow down to him? (*Haman*)
  - Who heard the news that King Xerxes put out an order to kill the Jews and reported it to Esther? (*Mordecai*)
  - Who risked their life by being honest with the king? (*Esther*)
  - Who was humiliated in the end all because he lied to make himself look good? (*Haman*)

### What You Say:

*"You clearly did an amazing job at paying attention to today's story. When Haman came up with his evil plan, he was going to ruin the lives of many people including Esther and Mordecai. Good thing God brought Esther into the story and used her to save all those people! Have you ever been faced with a situation where you needed to tell you truth, but you were a little scared? (Allow time for those who want to share stories.) Those were great examples! Haman was not concerned about telling the truth but was more concerned about making himself look good. We can learn from Haman's mistakes and understand that when you lie to help yourself, you hurt yourself instead."*

## 2. Pray and Dismiss

### [Prayer Activity]

*Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application*

### What You Need: N/A

### What You Do:

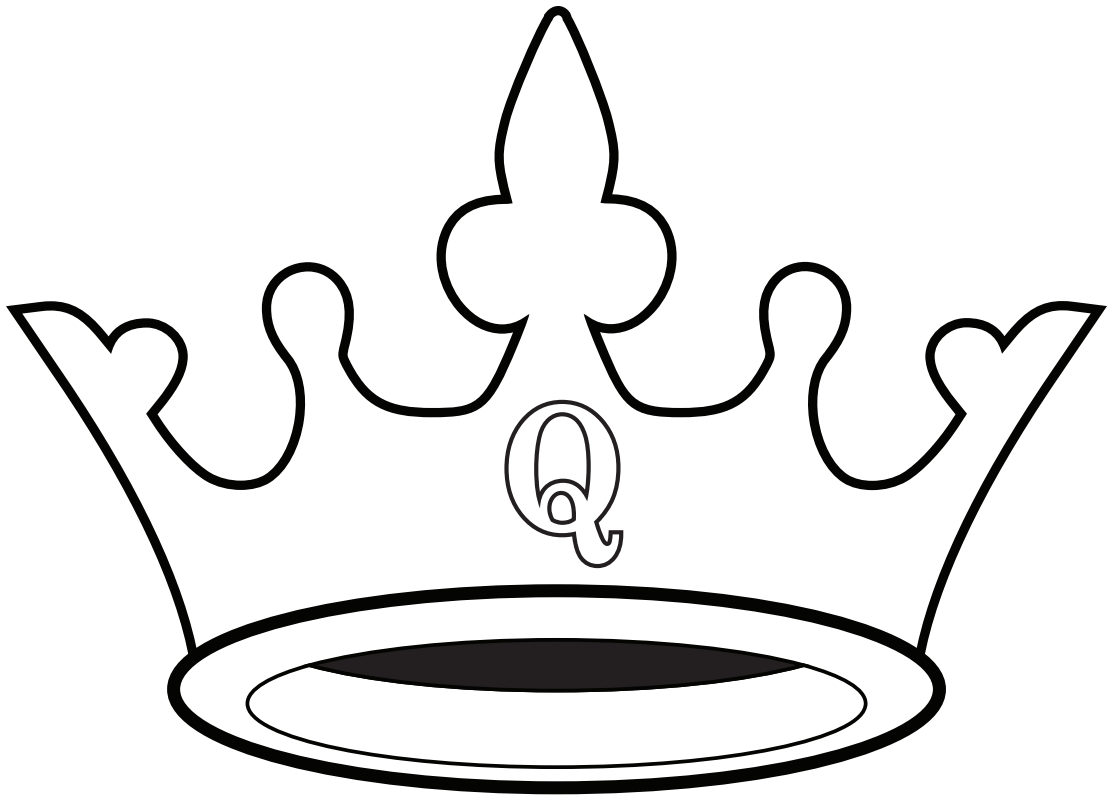
- Encourage your few to sit in a circle together

- Ask your group to close their eyes and think about a time when they've been dishonest.
- With their eyes still closed, encourage them to silently pray and ask God's forgiveness.
- Ask kids to open their eyes.
  - Explain that we all mess up every day and that no one's perfect.
  - Tell kids that God wants what's best for us and will always forgive us when we mess up.

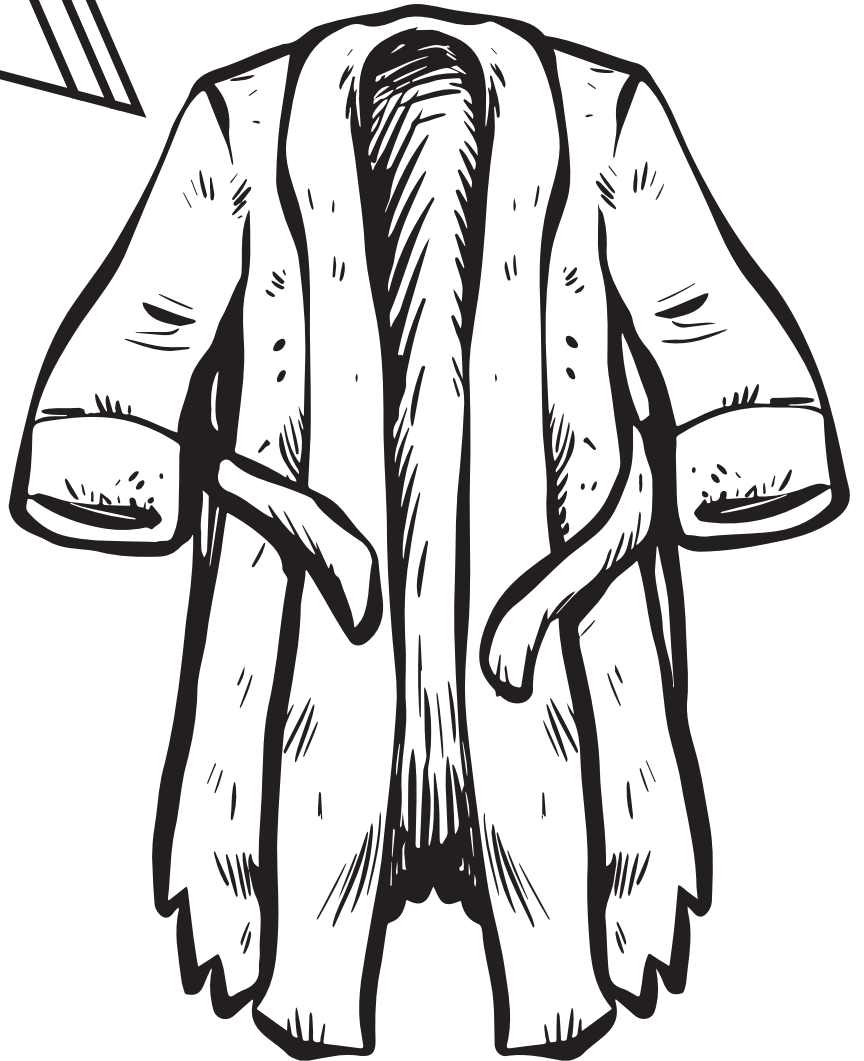
**What You Say:**

"Dear God, we come to you today with thankful hearts and lots of praise! We understand that there are times when we have messed up and have chosen to be untruthful. But, even in the midst of those bad choices, You still love us and forgive us. We are so grateful for the good path You have given us and worship You for the amazing and kind God You are! In Jesus' name, amen!"

*As adults arrive to pick up, tell them to ask kids what the Bottom Line is and the importance of it.*



**What to Do:**  
Print one set for each kid.



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Print one set for each kid.