



GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- 4 “electronic devices” (can be toys or broken or fake)
- Two blindfolds

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- Upbeat music to play during the game

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- Source Code Theme Slide
- Honesty Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- SGL’s will have microphones on stage and will be “navigating” their student to collect different objects in the room, like Siri on our phones.

2. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Two stools or chairs (or any two points you can use to make a paper towel bridge)
- Wide bucket to catch water
- Roll of paper towels
- Tape
- Several plastic soldiers or action figures (lightweight enough to balance on napkins)
- Watering can (with water inside)

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- Put the bucket on the floor. On top of it, place the stools or chairs a few feet apart, so they're ready for the Storyteller to build the paper towel bridge.
- Fill the watering can with water.

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Every Beat
- Sons And Daughters

Logic Error

Bible Story: Logic Error (David and Ahimelek) • *1 Samuel 21–22*

Bottom Line: When you're not truthful, you hurt others.

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 should treat others the way I want to be treated.

Story: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 35 minutes)

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

SFX: Play high-energy music as kids enter.

CG: Source Code Theme Slide

Host welcomes kids as they enter.

HOST: "HeIIIIloooo! How is everybody doing? My name is [Host's name] and I'm so glad you're here. If YOU'RE excited to be here, give me two thumbs up! (*Give two thumbs up.*) Fantastic! And speaking of fantastic, we have a fantastic Life App this month.

CG: Honesty Slide

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

SFX: Upbeat game music

"Everybody give your neighbor a high-five, because it's game time! Today's game is called 'Technology Troubles.' Let me get two of you up here to play, and each of you can bring up your Small Group Leader too.

Bring two kids and their SGLs on stage. Give the blindfolds to the two SGLs.

"Here's how 'Technology Trails' works. Each Small Group Leader will be blindfolded. (*To the two SGLs*) You two can start blindfolding yourselves, please.

(*To audience*) "[SGLs' names] will have to make their way through the crowd to collect as many of the Technology items in the crowd.

Point to the items in the crowd

“They will only have their helpers’ directions to guide them through. (*Point to the two kid contestants.*)

“It takes a lot of TRUST to listen when you can’t see what’s next. Small Group Leaders, do you trust your helpers to lead you in the right direction? Do you think they’ll be honest with you? (*Pause for response.*) Okay, great! Let’s see if that’s a wise choice. Let’s get you to the starting line.

Place SGLs just off the stage

“Audience, be sure to cheer them on! [SGLs’ names], when I say, ‘Go,’ listen for your helper! Ready? Go!

Encourage the audience to cheer as the kids lead their SGLs through the maze. Intervene if a SGL appears to be going in the wrong direction (or if he’s headed for danger).

When the first SGL reaches the end . . .

“[Winning SGL’s name], you trusted [winning kid’s name] and won! Great job. Let’s give both teams a hand for playing! You can have a seat.

Contestants return to their seats.

“In this case, trusting [kid contestants’ names] was a good idea. Both of them were honest and helpful. That’s good, because when we choose to act in a dishonest way, we can really hurt the people who trust us. We’ll talk about that some more later. But first, stand up, because it’s time to sing and worship together!”

Worship Leaders enter. Host exits.

Worship

WORSHIP LEADER: “Yes, everybody get on your feet. I’m so pumped to sing and celebrate with you today. This first song is one of my favorites.

Every Beat

“That was awesome! Let’s continue in worship. God is so special to us and is our Father in Heaven. We are all his sons and daughters, and he loves us in that way. Let’s sing this out to Him for the way he loves us.

Sons And Daughters

Storyteller enters. Worship Leader exits.

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Hey, hey, friends! I think you know this by now, but what are we talking about this month? (*Pause for response.*) That’s right: honesty. One of the cool things we get to do is look at how

these big ideas like honesty show up in the God's Word, the Bible. And today is no different. Let's check it out.

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

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

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

DAVID GOES TO AHIMELEK

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SAUL GETS WORD

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

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

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

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

SAUL AND AHIMELEK

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

Start placing plastic soldiers on the paper towels.

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

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

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

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

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

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

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

Pick up one toy soldier.

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

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

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

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

CG: Bottom Line Slide

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

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

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

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

Pray

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

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

Closer

HOST: “Can you imagine how David felt when he heard what his lie cost Ahimelek and Ahimelek’s family? We can’t imagine it, but I’m sure it was incredibly painful. See? Lying doesn’t pay off. It hurts us AND it hurts those around us. *(Pick up the soggy paper towel.)* Let’s take another look at our Bottom Line for today.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “When you’re not truthful, you hurt others. We want the people who trust us to be safe. We want to protect that trust by being honest all the time—even if it’s hard and even if it’s scary.

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

Dismiss children to their small groups.

SFX: Play high-energy music as the kids exit.