

UNMASKED DROP THE ACT



WEEK
TWO
OCTOBER 2020

LARGE GROUP
PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Say Anything

No Secrets with God
1 John 1:9

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What do you talk to God about?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Being truthful with God
keeps you close to Him.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Anyone who lives
without blame walks safely.
But anyone who takes a
crooked path will get caught.
Proverbs 10:9, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Integrity—Choosing to be truthful
in whatever you say and do

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways
WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)
GodTime devotional for kids
Studio252.tv
Parent Cue App

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25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

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LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS STUDENTS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

Host enters . . .

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND VERSION)

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

WELCOME

Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game, movie opening, a viral video on YouTube, etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.

OPENER

HOST: "Hey, everyone! So good to see you all today! Not sure about you, but I am excited to get started with a game that will get everyone moving! And on top of that . . . you'll also get a chance to get to know some of your Small Group Leaders a little better. Have you ever played Four Corners? Have you ever played Two Truths and a Lie? Well, get ready, because today we combine both of those into one epic game collaboration. I call this Three Corners of Truth and a Corner of Lies!"

"Yeah . . . I'm still working on a name. Anyway . . . here we go! So I have preselected several leaders who have some fascinating details to share about themselves. They will tell you three incredible facts that you may or may not have known. But somewhere mixed in among these facts will be one untruth—oh, okay, I'll just say it. It's a lie!"

"You have to figure out which one is the lie! But instead of shouting it out, you will let your feet do the voting. You will go to the corner that you think represents the lie. Was the second fact the lie? Run to number two! If you are right, you stay in the game. If you are wrong, you are out and come sit in the middle."

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Note: if you would rather not play this as an elimination game, you can just have everyone keep their own score and share how they did.

"Make sense? Okay, let's get everybody up, and let's get started!"

AUDIO: UPBEAT BACKGROUND MUSIC

Each leader's truths and lies equals one round of the game. Have a leader share, make sure the corners are clear, and then have everyone run to the "lie" corner. Reveal the right answer. Repeat with a new leader.

HOST: "(After the game) That was awesome, and that's no lie.

Give me a thumbs-up (demonstrate) if you're having a great day. Give me a thumbs-down (demonstrate) if you're having a rough day. Give me a thumbs-sideways (demonstrate) if you're somewhere in the middle. Well, hopefully ALL of you will be feeling thumbs-up (demonstrate) by the time we leave here today. **This month we're talking about integrity.**

SLIDE: LIFE APP

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO LIFE APP

"Integrity is choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIFE APP TRANSITION TO THEME

"That means you don't have to try to be someone you're not. You're happy to be YOU! You can live truthfully and follow God, no matter where you are.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Save the Date - MEGA AWESOME COSTUME PARTY and MOVIE NIGHT on October 30th**
 - fliers go out next week
- **LOVE WORKS SUNDAY - next week we are collecting items**
 - show flier

SEGUE INTO WORSHIP

Worship 1: Through It All

Worship 2: Let Go

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COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT (STORY)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Communicator entertaining as Worship Leaders exit.

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: "Hey, everyone! Good to see you all. Have you ever played hide and seek? Of course, I think everyone has played hide and seek when they were little. Funny thing about when you're little, you might think you're hiding, but actually pretty much everyone can see you."

"It was like you thought as long as you couldn't see other people, they must not be able to see you, right? Some of you maybe still are thinking that . . . just kidding! But this is so funny with kids. They think, if I can just cover MY eyes, then I am hiding and no one can see me."

"Might look something like this . . ."

SLIDE: HIDE AND SEEK EXAMPLES

Provide commentary as the pictures are displayed.

"Funny, right? But let's think about this for a moment."

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: "Have you ever had trouble hiding something? Maybe you bought a present for someone and you let it slip early? Or maybe you were excited about something and you couldn't hide your expression?"

"Or maybe it was something more serious. Maybe you did something you shouldn't have and tried to hide it from a teacher. Or you got in trouble and tried to hide it from a parent. There are a lot of ways we end up trying to hide."

"How about God? Do we ever try to hide things from God? That's an interesting question, right? And as we're talking about the idea of integrity this month, it's definitely one we should answer. We might end up wanting to answer a question like this too quickly. Like, of course I don't try to hide things from God. How can I? But then as you start to think about it, maybe we need to answer differently. Let's head to the Bible and see what we can find that can give us some insight into this idea of keeping secrets from God."

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: "Before we dig into the passage for today, I need a volunteer . . ."

Communicator chooses a volunteer and brings them on stage.

"Alright, thanks for volunteering. So, have you ever done anything wrong?"

Allow volunteer to respond.

"Oh really? Want to tell us all about it? Why don't you go ahead and reveal to all of us your deepest and darkest failures? (Pause.) Just kidding!"

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"But to be honest, it doesn't matter who is standing up here right now. We all have some things we have done that we are not so proud of. And we could all say that we have done things that go against what God has asked us to do, whether directly or indirectly. Do you know what it is called when you do what God has asked you not to do?"

Pause for response.

"That's right. Sin. And every single one of us has sinned and will sin again. Sometimes it's easy to feel like we are carrying the weight of all of that sin. Let me give you an example."

Communicator puts backpack on volunteer. There should be a clear backpack inside of the regular backpack, but don't reveal that yet.

"So, let's imagine there's a kid in school, and everybody gets pretty annoyed with him. To be honest, he can be pretty difficult to deal with. You hear some of the cool kids talking about him in the hallway, and you think, 'I've got a story to share about him that is so embarrassing. AND it will make these kids think I'm pretty cool for sharing it.' So . . . you tell the story and completely embarrass this kid. You know what that is?"

Take a weight and put it into the backpack, but make sure it also goes inside the clear backpack without anyone knowing yet.

"It's sin. And it's heavy. And we start to carry that weight around."

"Or let's say that your dad asks you to do some work around the house before you play video games, but you HATE cleaning your room. So you just stuff it all in your closet and just tell your dad it is all finished so that you can play. But is it? No. Were you honest? Not at all."

Put another weight inside the backpack (in the inner bag).

"Or maybe, you really want to be a starter on the basketball team, so you start to spread rumors about one of the other starters like how they said they don't even like the team and how they don't care about basketball. But that's not what they said. They told you after a particularly hard practice that sometimes the game is hard. But you twisted their words into something they didn't say."

Put another weight inside the backpack (in the inner bag).

"On top of all that, you talk back to your teachers. (Add weight.) You're jealous of your friend's birthday present and try to make them feel bad about it. (Add weight.) You fight with your sister and say mean things. (Add weight.) You take a look at the paper next to you while taking a quiz because you didn't know the answer. (Add weight.)"

(Looks at the volunteer) "What! How could you even think that about me!"

"And (Add weight.) the (Add weight.) weights (Add weight.) start (Add weight.) to (Add weight.) add (Add weight.) up."

(To volunteer) "How does that feel?" (Pause for response.)

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"And so we carry it around with us: the things we have done, the people we have hurt. We believe that nobody can see it."

Have the volunteer walk around the room a bit. If it is not heavy for them, push down on it a little. Just be cautious of the straps.

"And you know what we might even think? (*Stopping back centerstage*). We might even be tempted to think that we can hide it all from God. Maybe if we just do enough good stuff, too. Or say some nice things to cancel out the mean ones."

"But you know what the reality is?"

Communicator takes the backpack off and pulls the clear backpack out (with the weights in it) and puts it back on the volunteer.

"Trying to hide our sin from God is like trying to hide something in this clear backpack. God can see it all. (*Point through the bag at the weights.*) There's that mean thing you said about that kid when you were trying to be cool. There's the quiz you cheated on. There's name you called your sister. There's the lie you told your dad. It's all there. And God can see it all."

"But do you want to know what else is true? God knows what to do about it. Check this verse out from First John. John, who was a close follower of Jesus, wrote these words later in his life."

"(Reads directly from 1 John 1:9, NIV) 'But God is faithful and fair. If we confess our sins, he will forgive our sins. He will forgive every wrong thing we have done. He will make us pure.'"

"Did you catch that? That is great news. The fact is that there is nothing that we can hide from God. We can't do anything without God knowing about it. BUT . . . God is willing to forgive us for every single thing that we have done. Everything. But how can He do that?"

"It is because Jesus did this . . ."

Communicator takes the clear backpack off of the volunteer and puts it on himself/herself.

"Jesus took all of the weight of our sin on Himself. All of it. Every unkind work. Every hurtful action. Every careless thought. And He paid for it all. And what did John say? If we confess our sins, God is willing to forgive our sins. He will make us pure!"

"Give our volunteer a hand!"

Volunteer can be seated.

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: "Now it may seem like I was being tough on [*Volunteer's name*]. And obviously I was just making up some examples. I don't REALLY know what is 'in his/her backpack.' And you may not know what is in mine. But

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the reality is that we've all sinned and will sin. And another reality is that God knows it all. But the greatest reality of all is that God is able to forgive our sins because of Jesus. Not just able . . . willing!"

"So what does that mean? Well, the next time we find ourselves falling short and using hurtful words . . . we can ask for forgiveness from the person we offended, but we can also be honest with God. Why? Because He already knows about it. Remember, our backpack is see-through. And He is willing to forgive us and make us pure. When God sees us, instead of seeing our sin, God sees Jesus."

"Isn't it amazing that we can talk honestly to God? We don't need to hide anything from Him, but we can bring it all before Him. I think that is pretty amazing!"

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: "Today as you go to groups, think about this:

SLIDE: KEY QUESTION SLIDE

"What do you talk to God about?" Consider the ways you talk to Him, especially about the things you have done wrong, and how that might change if you realize that God already sees it all. You'll have a chance to talk more about all of this in Small Group. As you head out, let's pray and thank God for sending Jesus and offering us forgiveness. Let's thank God that He loves us so much and we don't need to hide anything from Him. Let's pray."

CLOSER

HOST: "We never have to wonder if we can tell God about what we've done wrong. He ALWAYS loves us. He will ALWAYS forgive us!

"When Jesus gave His life for us on the cross, He made it possible for us to have a relationship with God. We don't have to worry about our sin getting between us and God, because Jesus has already defeated sin and death!

"That means we don't have to hide. We don't have to keep secrets. We can be honest! We can have a CLOSE relationship with God, because of Jesus.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"Being truthful with God keeps you close to Him.

"So, when you mess up, don't try to hide it. Talk to God and tell Him you're sorry. Remember—He always loves you, and He will always forgive you. **Let's Pray.**

Dismiss kids to their small groups. With help from the Storyteller and Worship Leaders, pass out the candy as the kids go.