

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

A Matter of Trust Naaman and Elisha's Servant 2 Kings 5

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

When you're not truthful, you lose trust.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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

MONTHLY VIRTUE

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

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

STORY: COMMUNICATING GOD'S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS (25 MINUTES)

WORSHIP: INVITING PEOPLE TO RESPOND TO GOD (10 MINUTES)

1. OPENER/CLOSER

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Host
- Worship Leaders (to assist with the game)
- Masking or gaffer's tape
- Eight to ten inflatable circular pool floats—that ideally look like tires, like these: <u>https://bit.ly/3oLkke6</u>
- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- Fun music for the game (suggestion: "On the Road Again" by Willie Nelson)

3. BIBLE STORY

- WHAT YOU NEED:
- Storyteller
- Bible
- Game Show Music (provided)
 - 2 Kings 5:15 (NIrV)
 - 2 Kings 5:20 (NIrV)
 - Proverbs 10:9.



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LARGE GROUP

25 MINUTES

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 KIDS ENTER. SLIDE: THEME OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

Host enters.

10 MINUTES

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

OPENER

HOST: "Hello, my friends! It's so great to see you today. This month we're finding out how we can live with integrity.

SLIDE: VIRTUE OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO VIRTUE

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

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): VIRTUE TRANSITION TO THEME

"If you have integrity, that means that you're DRIVEN to be who you are, wherever you are. And the thing that drives you is your relationship with Jesus. Your faith in Jesus will make you want to live in a truthful way.

"Today, I want to see if you're DRIVEN to work as a team. We're about to see if you can roll some tires across the room! We've got two teams: this side of the room and this side. (*Reference the two sides.*) This tape line will be the dividing line.

"Everyone, spread out on your side to fill in the space. Make sure you've got some people close to the line, some in the back, and some between. But choose your spot carefully, because once you've found it, you have to stay right where you are. Once you've got your spot, give me a thumbs-up.

Give the kids some time to get in place.

Meanwhile, Worship Leaders enter and stand behind each team, carrying four or five circular pool floats for each side.



"All right. Good job, everyone. In just a minute, we'll pass out some of these (*air quotes*) 'tires' to the back row. (Hold up one of the circular pool floats.) The tires have to touch the floor at all times, and the only way to move them is to roll them. Your goal is to roll the tires across the line to the other team's turf. Because when the timer goes off, the team with the fewest tires on their side, wins!

"If a tire lands on the floor, don't worry. Just pick it up and roll it again. But be sure to keep your feet planted and stay in place. You must ROLL the tires. You can't toss them or push them along the floor.

"This game will take some real teamwork, but I can tell you're all DRIVEN to do your best! Are you ready? (Pause for response.) Okay, let's get started. Ready, set, go!

AUDIO: FUN MUSIC (SUGGESTION: "ON THE ROAD AGAIN" BY WILLIE NELSON) OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (60-SECOND VERSION)

If you're not using a screen countdown, set a 60-second timer on your phone.

When the timer starts, Worship Leaders roll half of the "tires" into their team's side from the back. Host: Comment on the action as the kids play the game.

About halfway through the game, the Worship Leaders should add two or three more tires at the back of each team.

When time is up, count how many tires are on each side and congratulate the winning team (i.e. the team with the fewest tires on their side). Worship Leaders collect the tires and put them away.

"That was really fun! Nice rolling, everyone. If I ever have to change a tire, I know I can just call you to help me out. Let's all get ready to sing and worship God."



WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hello, friends! It's always a good thing to give thanks and praise God. Before we get started in worship, let's watch this.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIVE LOUD VIDEO FROM GET REEL

"Last week we taught you a song called 'Sing Your Praise.' It's a fun one, and I am pumped to sing it with all of you. Listen to David's words from Psalm 30:12: 'My heart will sing your praises. I can't keep silent. Lord, my God, I will praise you forever.' (NIrV) God is always there to help us live with integrity. Let's stand and praise God with everything we've got. Come on!

AUDIO: "SING YOUR PRAISE" / TRACK 2 FROM MY LIFE FOR YOU OPTIONAL VIDEO: "SING YOUR PRAISE" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO

"God is always faithful. God always loves us! This song says, 'I am a child of a Father Who loves me. Yes I am. Yes I am.' Let's sing about how thankful we are to be children of God. Here we go!"

AUDIO: "YES I AM" / TRACK 5 FROM EVERYTHING TO ME OPTIONAL VIDEO: "YES I AM" LIVE LYRICS OR DANCE MOVES MUSIC VIDEO



BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Hi, everyone! I'm glad to be here with you to tell you a story of integrity from the Bible. (Hold up Bible.) Well. It's actually a story of someone who DIDN'T have integrity. We'll see what happened because of it.

"In the Bible, we find the books of 1 Kings and 2 Kings. These books tell the story of God's people while they were ruled by kings.

"In 2 Kings, we can read about a man named Naaman. Say that with me."

KIDS AND STORYTELLER: "Naaman."

STORYTELLER: "Naaman was a commander of the armies of Syria, so he was a really powerful man. But Naaman became sick with a skin disease, and no one could heal him. (*Mime like you're scratching your arms.*) A servant girl from Israel, who knew the One True God, said that there was a prophet named Elisha who could help Naaman get better. Everyone say, 'Elisha.'"

KIDS AND STORYTELLER: "Elisha."

STORYTELLER: "To tell you what happened with Naaman and Elisha, I thought we could play our favorite game show: What Happened Next?"

SLIDE: "WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?" AUDIO: GAME SHOW MUSIC

WASHING IN THE JORDAN

STORYTELLER: "Yes, that's right. This is the game where I ask you, 'What happened next?' And you try to guess!

"After Naaman had heard that Elisha could help him, he traveled to the place where Elisha lived in Israel. But Elisha didn't come out to meet him. Instead, Elisha sent a messenger out to talk to Naaman. The messenger told Naaman that Elisha said he should wash himself seven times in the Jordan River. (*Mime like you're washing your arms.*)

"So ... (point to the screen) what happened next?

"Did Naaman . . .

Hold up your fingers as you reveal each choice.

"1. stomp on the ground,

2. sing a happy song, or

3. do what Elisha said?



"Hold up your fingers and let me know which one you think is correct—one, two, or three. (*Pause for response*.) If you said three, you're right. Naaman wasn't happy about it, but he decided to do what Elisha said. He washed seven times in the Jordan River. And when he did, his skin disease was healed!

"Naaman was so overjoyed that he went back to Elisha and said this.

Open the Bible to 2 Kings 5:15 (NIrV) and read.

Now I know that there is no God anywhere in the whole world except in Israel. So please accept a gift from me.

"So, wow, Naaman was so thankful that he offered to give Elisha a gift! (*Mime like you're handing someone a gift.*) Let me ask you . . . (*point to the screen*) what happened next?

"Did Elisha . . .

Hold up your fingers as you reveal each choice.

"1. run away, 2. cry tears of joy, or 3. refuse Naaman's gift?

"If you said three, you're correct. (*Mime like you're refusing a gift.*) Elisha didn't accept Naaman's gift, because he didn't want to take a reward for something that God had done."

GEHAZI'S SNEAKY PLAN

STORYTELLER: "So Naaman started on his way back home to Syria. (*Walk in place, then stop.*) But there was someone who followed after him. It was Naaman's servant, Gehazi. Everyone say, 'Gehazi.'"

KIDS AND STORYTELLER: "Gehazi."

STORYTELLER: "Gehazi knew that Naaman had been healed, and he thought that Elisha should have accepted Naaman's gift. Gehazi said to himself . . .

Open the Bible to 2 Kings 5:20 (NIrV) and read.

My master was too easy on Naaman from Aram. He should have accepted the gift Naaman brought. I'm going to run after him. I'm going to get something from him. And that's just as sure as the Lord is alive.

"So, Gehazi ran after Naaman and caught up with him. (*Mime like you're Gehazi hurrying after Naaman and flagging him down.*) Naaman stopped and asked Gehazi if everything was all right. And then . . . Gehazi lied to Naaman. He said that his master Elisha had sent him to ask for 75 pounds of silver and two sets of clothes.

"So, let me ask you . . . (point to the screen) what happened next?

"Did Naaman . . .



Hold up your fingers as you reveal each choice.

"1. gladly give what Gehazi asked, 2. refuse because it was too late, or

3. run away?

"The correct answer is one. Naaman was so happy to help that he gave Gehazi the clothes he asked for . . . and TWICE the amount of silver. Gehazi took these gifts back to Elisha's house, and he put them away where no one would see them. (*Pause.*) I know. Sneaky!"

FOUND OUT ABOUT YOU

STORYTELLER: "Do you think Gehazi got away with his plan? (*Pause for response*.) Well . . . Elisha asked Gehazi where he had been. Gehazi lied–AGAIN–and said he hadn't gone anywhere.

"So, let me ask you . . . (point to the screen) what happened next?

"Did Elisha . . .

Hold up your fingers as you reveal each choice.

"1. believe Gehazi and take him out for an ice cream sundae,

2. tell Gehazi he knew what he had done, or

3. run away?

"If you said two, you're right. Elisha told Gehazi that he knew Gehazi had lied and taken the gifts from Naaman. In fact, Elisha told Gehazi that he would now have the same skin disease Naaman had before." (*Mime like you're scratching your arms.*)

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Gehazi didn't have integrity, did he? He didn't live in a truthful way. And because of that, Elisha knew that he couldn't trust Gehazi anymore.

"And Gehazi didn't just lose Elisha's trust. He didn't get to enjoy the silver and the fine clothes he had basically stolen. He had lost it all because he wasn't truthful.

"Here's what we need to remember today.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"When you're not truthful, you lose trust.

"Let's pray and ask God to help us choose to be truthful."

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND



PRAY

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You for the story of Naaman, Elisha, and Gehazi. It helps us see just how important it is to be truthful. Help us always remember that **[Basic Truth] we need to make the wise choice** and live with integrity. Give us the courage to be truthful in everything we say and do. We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."



CLOSER

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: "When Elisha gave Gehazi the chance to tell the truth or to lie . . . Gehazi lied. Do you think Elisha felt like he could ever trust Gehazi again after what Gehazi had done? (*Pause for response.*) No. I don't think so.

"It's a really big deal for us to live with integrity. When we lie, we break the trust we have with other people. And that really hurts our relationship with them. That's why it's so important for us to be truthful!

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"When you're not truthful, you lose trust.

"We all have times when we might feel tempted to tell a lie rather than telling the truth. Or maybe there are times when it's hard for us to tell the WHOLE truth. Can anyone raise their hand and tell us about a time when someone might feel tempted to lie?

Let kids share examples of situations when it might be tempting to lie. Talk about how to tell the truth in those situations.

"Remember, integrity is about choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do. So that means even when it's hard, we still choose to tell the truth.

"We can think about Jesus and remember how HE always told the truth. Jesus loved everyone with honesty and integrity. Jesus was truthful with His whole life. Even when it was hard, He still told the truth. We should follow His example and choose to live with integrity.

"Gehazi's story reminds me of our memory verse, Proverbs 10:9. Say it with me."

SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE

KIDS AND HOST: "Anyone who lives without blame walks safely. But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught." (Proverbs 10:9, NIrV)

HOST: "Let's be truthful so we can walk safely, friends! You can head to Small Group now and talk about that some more."

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT. SLIDE: THEME OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP