



WEEK
ONE

OCTOBER 2023

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- Jesus compared Himself to a vine and those who follow Him as the branches connected to the vine. If He is the source of what we need to grow and bear fruit, what are some ways we stay connected to Him?
- If someone said they loved and followed Jesus but didn't act like it, what question should they be asking themselves?
- What are some better "fruit" you'd like God to help you show in your life? What would help you with that?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Just the Way You Are

A Tree and Its Fruit

Luke 6:43-45 (John 15:1-17)

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How do you want people to describe you?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Be truthful with your whole life.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Anyone who lives without blame walks away safely. But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught."

Proverbs 10:9, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

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

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



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MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment



4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles

WHAT YOU DO:

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Just the Way You Are

A Tree and Its Fruit

Luke 6:43-45 (John 15:1-17)

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How do you want people to describe you?

- Together, direct the kids to look up Proverbs 10:9, using the Bible Navigation tips below.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Be truthful with your whole life.

Finding verses with 4th-5th graders: Our verse is from Proverbs. Ask kids to tell you whether that's in the Old Testament or the New Testament. (Old) So we know it's toward the front of the Bible. Proverbs is close to the middle of the Bible. When they find Proverbs, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Tell them to find chapter 10. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell them to them find verse 9 in chapter 10.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Anyone who lives without blame walks away safely. But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught."

Proverbs 10:9, NIV

- Ask:
 - When we live with integrity, it's similar to living without blame. Why would someone who lives with integrity "walk safely"?
 - When we "take a crooked path," it's similar to living without integrity. What does it look like to live without integrity?
 - Is the fear of getting caught a good reason to be truthful? Why or why not? Are there other reasons you can think of to be truthful?
 - What would you say is at the heart of why we choose to be truthful? In other words, why should we care that we're truthful?

MONTHLY VIRTUE

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

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible

WHAT YOU DO:

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Just the Way You Are

A Tree and Its Fruit
Luke 6:43-45 (John 15:1-17)

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

How do you want people
to describe you?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Be truthful with your whole life.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**"Anyone who lives without blame
walks away safely. But anyone
who takes a crooked path
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Proverbs 10:9, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

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

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

"Verses to Take with You."

- Open the Bible to Proverbs 10:9 and read the first half out of the verse out loud.
- Invite kids to pray and ask for God's help to follow Jesus by choosing to be

truthful in everything they say and do.

- (Those who are willing can pray aloud.)
- Remove the cookie sheet with the straight path and replace it with the one containing the crooked path.
- Read the second half of Proverbs 10:9 aloud.
- Allow kids time to pray and ask God to forgive them for times when they were not truthful in the things they said or did.
 - (Kids can pray silently.)
- Close your group time by asking God to help the kids make wise choices this week.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, when we choose to follow Jesus, we know You will help us make wise choices. This week, help us to be honest in everything we say and do. We know that when we live with integrity—we have the best life possible. Protect us from a dangerous and crooked path. We want to live a life pleasing to You. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."