



WEEK
TWO

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:

- Even if you think no one is watching or will ever find out, why is it still important to be honest?
- If we don't get caught in a lie, it might feel like a victory. Why might not getting caught actually be worse than being found out?
- How can dishonesty affect a friendship? How does dishonesty affect your relationship with Jesus?
- Selfishness is at the heart of a lie. Do you agree or disagree? If you disagree, what would you say is the main reason we're tempted not to be honest?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

A Matter of Trust

Naaman and Elisha's Servant
2 Kings 5

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

Why is it important for people to trust you?

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, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

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

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.



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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

A Matter of Trust

Naaman and Elisha's Servant
2 Kings 5

- Bring everyone together and make sure everyone has a Bible.
- Together, look up Proverbs 4:26-27 using the Bible Navigation tips below.

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

Why is it important for people to trust you?

Finding verses with 4th-5th graders: Ask kids to tell you if the book of the Bible they're looking for is in the Old Testament or New Testament. (Old) Since it's in the Old, instruct kids to flip slowly, starting at the front of the Bible and heading toward the back, until they find the book they're looking for. When they find Proverbs, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Tell them to find chapter 4. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell them to find verses 26 and 27 in chapter 4.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

When you're not truthful,
you lose trust.

- Invite a kid to read the verses out loud as the rest of the kids follow along in their Bibles.
- Ask kids to listen for one or two key words or phrases in the verses that stand out to them then share with the group.
- Ask:
 - Why did those words or phrases catch your attention?
 - What do you think it means to: "Think carefully about the paths that your feet walk on"?

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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(4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU CONTINUED)

- Integrity is one of the paths we should walk on, so how do we keep our feet on that path?
- In our races earlier, the cars that were on the track had a better chance of reaching the finish line without veering to the left or the right. What are some things that help us stay on track when it comes to our integrity?
- Why is it important for people to trust you?
- If you veer off track and lose the trust of those around you, what can you do to gain that trust back?

WHAT YOU SAY:

“Everyone slips off the integrity path once in a while. If that happens, the best thing to do is ask for forgiveness and get back on track.”

“THINK CAREFULLY when you’re tempted to be untruthful. Losing the trust of others is not easy to gain back and is not worth any lie—big or small!”



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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: Penny (or other coin)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Say: "Losing trust is not easy to get back, so it's important to hold onto it tightly."
- Give each kid a coin.
- Instruct the kids to get into pairs.
- Challenge the pairs to take turns trying to gently pry the coin from the other kid's hand in 10 seconds.
- Encourage kids to use one hand to pry and to focus on being a constant point of tension rather than actually removing the coin.
- While the kids are holding tightly to their coins, encourage them to pray and ask God to help them protect, guard, and hold tightly to truth and integrity.
- Count 10 seconds silently and stop the kids when the time is up.
- After the pairs have tried to pry away the coins, invite the kids to ask God's forgiveness if they've not been honest or have done something to lose the trust of someone they know.
- Say: "You can keep the coins. I hope they remind you to hold on tightly to integrity this week."
- Close your group time in prayer.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, as much as You are willing to forgive, we know that You would rather we follow Your path and make the wisest choices we can. We get off track sometimes and mess up. Help us to choose to be honest in everything we say and do. We love You. Amen."