



WEEK
THREE

OCTOBER 2023

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- Even if you were guaranteed you wouldn't get caught in a lie—why would it still be important to choose to be truthful?
- Name two things you need to remember when you're tempted to make an unwise choice.
- If you could create a bumper sticker about something you've learned this month about integrity, what would it say?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Keeping the Faith

Daniel's Integrity with Food
Daniel 1

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When is it hard to do
what's right?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Do what's right wherever you are.

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 MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles,

WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure one kid has a Bible.
- Give each kid a car.
- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- Together, invite kids to look up and read 1 Corinthians 15:58, using the Bible navigation tips below.

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. (New) If it's in the New, instruct kids to start flipping from the back, going forward to find the book they're looking for. Once they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. First, have them find the chapter they're looking for. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse within the chapter they've already found.

- After reading the verse together, ask:
 - What are some words used in this verse that make it clear that doing what is right isn't an easy thing?
 - When you want to follow Jesus but those around you don't, what are some things you can do to help you not get discouraged and give in?
 - Why is it important to choose friends who have integrity?
 - Do you think the benefits of doing what is right outweigh the consequences of making a bad choice? Why or why not?

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Let your love for Jesus and your desire to follow Him be the fuel that drives you to choose to do what is right. God will help you stand strong!"

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5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Tissues, markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a facial tissue and a marker.
- Direct half of the group to hold their tissue so the fold runs vertically (up and down).
- Instruct the other half of the group to hold the tissue so the fold is horizontal (right to left).
- Ask everyone to gently draw an "X" in the center of their tissue, being careful not to tear the tissue as they draw.
- Instruct the kids to gently rip the tissue from top to bottom (depending on if they're holding the tissue vertically or horizontally) so that the tear runs through the middle of the "X."
- Show each torn tissue.
- Point out that one direction tore more neatly than the other.
- Say: "The fibers that make up the tissues run in a certain direction. When the tissue is torn in the same direction as the grain of fibers, it's a cleaner tear than when torn across them. Sometimes we feel doing what's right means we have to go 'against the grain' or against the crowd and not do what others are doing."
- Instruct the kids to pair up with someone who tore their tissue in a different direction than they did.
- Invite the kids to pray (silently or aloud) for the kid they're paired with to do what's right even when it feels like they're going against the grain.

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BASIC TRUTH

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, it's hard for us to go against the grain—to follow You when those around us are going a different direction. In our head we know what's right, but it's not always the thing we choose. Give us the help we need to be strong in times when we're tempted to make a bad choice. Help us love You more than we love what others think of us. Help us make the wise choice this week and do what is right in the things we say and do—wherever we are. We love You and we pray these things in Your name. Amen."