

Alley Rundown - May 5-6, 2018

Bible Story: Beware of Scam (Naaman and Elisha's Servant, Gehazi) • 2 Kings 5

Bottom Line: When you are not truthful, you lose trust.

Key Question: Why is it important for people to trust you?

Memory Verse: "Anyone who lives without blame walks safely. But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught." *Proverbs 10:9, (NIV)*

Worship Experience Supplies Needed: 1 Note Card and Pen per Student

Begin Rundown...

"What's up Alley? I'm so glad you're here today! Let's have a show of hands . . . How many of you love desserts like brownies, cupcakes, cookies, etc.? (Pause for response.) Wow! That's what I thought—there are tons of you with a sweet tooth. How about everyone gather in your Small Group to discuss your all-time favorite dessert?"

Allow groups about a minute to discuss favorite desserts. Once groups finish, allow a couple of kids to share. Optional: Share an age-appropriate story about a time you lied to get something you wanted.

"Those sound delish! Now, I don't mean to brag, but my mom makes the BEST dessert . . . EVER! It's a homemade banana cream pie. I mean the BEST. When I was a kid, I'd help her put away the groceries when she got home from the store just so I could see if she had bought any bananas and whipped cream, and if she HAD, I would go hog wild."

"I used to DREAM about that sweet, banana-cream filling hitting my tongue with the crunchy, graham cracker crust! But my mother was a devious woman, and 99% of the time when she made banana cream pie for dessert, she would also make vegetable lasagna for dinner. As much as I love banana cream pie for dessert, I absolutely DETEST vegetable lasagna for dinner. It is the worst! But the rule in my household was hard and fast: no dessert unless you clean your plate."

"So one night mom made some wonderful banana cream pie and some vile vegetable lasagna, and I decided to get sneaky—instead of EATING my lasagna to clean my plate, I would just feed my lasagna to the dog, which was basically a furry little garbage disposal. So I fed my lasagna to the dog veeeery discreetly, and when my mom came around with the pie, she looked me dead in the eyes and asked, 'Did you clean your plate?'"

"Now, technically I did not clean my plate. My bottomless pit of a canine companion did. But I wanted that pie. I needed that pie! If I didn't have that pie, I was going to lose my mind! But getting to that pie meant lying to my mom—lying right to her face."

"Obviously, dishonesty was not the best choice. However, who wouldn't go to desperate lengths to get mom's banana cream pie? If lying gets us something awesome, who wouldn't at least entertain the notion of stretching the truth? Especially if the dishonesty could get you an extra roll in the cafeteria, out of trouble with your parents, or a new pair of shoes."

"Has this ever happened to you? Have you ever wanted something SO BAD that you were willing to tell a lie to get it? That you DID lie to get it? If you're sitting there thinking, 'Yep, that's me,' know you're not alone. Long ago, there was a guy who was also tempted to tell a lie to get something he wanted. His story can be found in 2 Kings of your Bible in the Old Testament."

"To tell this story, we'll take a look at this week's episode, but before we do, it's time to take up our offering!

OFFERING:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

"Offering Time is important here in the Alley, because it gives you all an opportunity to worship God by giving your money generously. Here at (your campus), we give our offering to help support (your campus child) in Kenya. Our offering goes to show kindness to them by buying clothes, and food, and other materials they may need. If you brought an offering today, you may bring it up when the video plays and place it here (*show offering container*). If not, that's ok too. You can bring an offering next week. The Bible tells us this about bringing our offerings to Him..."

CG: Offering Verse JPEG (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

"Let's take a look at this week's episode!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 12:30)

"We see in this story that lying and dishonesty are nothing new, but they have serious consequences. Gehazi learned the hard way that consequences for being dishonest can be intense. When you are not truthful, you lose trust. When your friend asks you to keep a secret but you tell your best friend the secret, there are consequences. When your mom wants you to eat all of your vegetable lasagna but you feed it to your dog instead, there are consequences."

"As we wrap up our time together today, think about this question."

CG: Key Question Slide

"Why is it important for people to trust you? Why do people need to believe you'll do what you say? We'll explore this a little more in Small Group, but before we do, let's take some time to worship..."

CG: Worship Experience Video (Runtime: 5:00)

NOTE: Students will be given a pen and a note card. They can choose to write something that they've been dishonest about, give that thing to God, and tear up their card and throw it away, or they can simply take the 3 minutes to pray and ask God to make them truthful.