

# Alley SG -May 5-6, 2018

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

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

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

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

## 1. Get Your Head in the Game

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

- **Gather** kids in a circle with kids facing each other.
- **Instruct** kids to raise their right hand and grab the raised hand of someone across the circle from them.
- **Instruct** kids to raise their left hand and grab the raised hand of a different person. **Check** to ensure everyone is holding hands of two different people.
- **Challenge** kids to untangle themselves without breaking the chain of hands.
- If time is running out, **separate** one grip between two kids and **direct** the group to form a single line instead of a circle.

**What You Say:**

“It wasn’t easy to untangle yourself from each other, was it? **[Transition]** In Large Group we learned about what else can entangle us and trap us; a lie. It’s important to be truthful!”

## 2. Take a Snapshot

**What You Need:** A ball of yarn (one per group)

**What You Do:**

- **Gather** kids in a circle.
- **Read** one of the sentences below and **ask** kids to finish the sentence.
- As you say the sentence, **toss** the ball of yarn to a kid while holding on to the end of the yarn. Once the kid catches the ball of yarn, a piece of yarn will be stretched between the two of you.
- **Instruct** the kid, holding the yarn ball, to **finish** the sentence and then gently **toss** the ball to someone else in the group to give others an opportunity to finish the sentence.
- **Remind** kids to hold on to the piece of yarn as they toss the ball.
- As kids exhaust ways to finish the sentence, **read** another of the sentences below.
- **Starter Sentences:**
  - Dishonesty is . . . (*cheating, lying, not telling the truth . . .*)
  - When someone lies to me I feel . . . (*mad, sad, angry, revengeful . . .*)
  - I don’t trust people who . . . (*say one thing and do another, lie . . .*)
  - At school dishonesty can look like . . . (*cheating on homework, lying to the teacher why your homework isn’t done, lying about a grade you got . . .*)
  - At home dishonesty can look like . . . (*saying I don’t have homework and I do, saying I did a chore and I didn’t, lying about breaking something . . .*)

- When you are finished, you will have created “a web” across the center of the circle.
- **Ask:**
  - What is the purpose of a web? Why do spiders spin a web? (*to trap insects*)
  - How is being dishonest like a web? How can dishonesty trap you?
- **Challenge** kids to untangle the web.
- **Ask:**
  - Was it easy to untangle the web?
  - What was easier, creating the web or untangling the web?
  - Let’s say you bombed a math test. Is it easier to tell the truth to your parents or to lie? Why or why not? What about just not telling your parents anything? Is not mentioning the test dishonest? Why or why not?

*(Be sure to roll the yarn back into a ball for the next service)*

### **3. Verse to Take with You**

**What You Need:** Bibles, Two taped paths on the floor/table (floor tape or blue tape – 1 per bin), straws (1 per kid), ping pong balls (1 per kid, 10 per bin), (*optional*) mobile device

**What You Do:**

- **Read** the memory verse, Proverbs 10:9.
- **Ask:**
  - What do you think it means, “Anyone who lives without blame walks safely”? (*If needed, look up the verse in different translations to help answer*)
  - What could be a benefit of walking safely? (*You will keep your integrity, people will trust you, relationships won’t be damaged, etc. This is an opportunity to talk about the fact that your life won’t be perfect, but the consequences of your choices will be safer.*)
  - What do you think it means, “But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught”?
  - What are the results of a following a crooked path? (*Be sure to tie in with the previous activity and how our honesty reflects God to others.*)
- **Divide** the group into two teams.
- **Line** each team behind one of the taped paths on the floor: one path is straight and one path is crooked.
- **Give** each kid a straw and a ping-pong ball.
- **Explain** kids will compete in a race to move all of their teams’ ping-pong balls down the path.
  - Kids blow air through the straw to move the ping-pong balls down the path.
  - Teams can have multiple ping pong balls on the path simultaneously.
  - If a ping-pong ball travels outside the path, kids can touch the ping-pong balls with their hands to put their ping-pong balls back on the path.
  - The first team to move all their ping-pong balls down the path wins.
- **Repeat** the race with teams switching the path
  - **Ask:** Was there an advantage in this race? Was one path easier to navigate?
  - What were the challenges?
  - How do the two paths in our game reflect our Bible verse?

#### **4. Discussion Questions**

- Why should you be honest?
- Why is it important for people to trust you?
- What if no one is watching, why is it important to be honest if no one knows you weren't truthful?

#### **5. Make it Personal with Prayer**

**What You Need:** A tube of toothpaste (one per group, per service), paper plate (one per group, per service), craft sticks (one per kid)

**What You Do:**

- **Place** a tube of toothpaste and a plate in front of the group.
- **Ask** kids to give an example of a way to be dishonest. You can refer to the examples kids gave in the "Take a Snapshot" activity. For each answer, **instruct** kids to squirt out a bit of toothpaste on the plate.
- **Challenge** kids to work together to put the toothpaste back in the tube using the craft sticks.
- **Close** in prayer.

**What You Say:**

"Once the toothpaste leaves the tube, you may be able to get some of it back in the tube, but you can't get it all back in. It is the same with not being truthful. You may be able to repair some of the changes caused by being dishonest, but ultimately dishonesty changes relationships. When you are dishonest, people now have a hard time trusting you or believing what you say is true. When you decide to be honest and truthful, you not only reflect the type of person you want to be, but you also reflect to others that God values honesty."

"Let's Pray: God, You are honest, and we know we can trust You no matter what. God, sometimes being honest is hard. We are afraid we will get in trouble or people won't like us, but help us to remember that when we are honest we show the world we want to be someone who can be trusted. When we are honest, we show the world that we trust You. Amen."