

City SG - May 5-6, 2018

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

Bottom Line: When you're 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. The Team Who Cried Lies

What You Need: "Truth or Lie" Activity Pages (one per group), painter's tape

What You Do:

- Tape your "Truth or Lie" papers on a wall or the floor.
- Divide your few into two teams and instruct them to form two lines about 5 feet from the Truth or Lie papers.
- Explain that you will read a review statement and the first kid in each line must decide whether it is a true statement from the story or a lie.
- As soon as you finish asking the question (not before), the first kid in each line will race to the taped sheets and touch the answer to the question (truth or lie).
- The first person to touch the correct answer wins.
- Continue until all review questions have been answered and every kid has had a turn.

Lie/Truth Review Statements:

- In today's story we learned about a rich army commander named Rumpelstiltskin. (*Lie. Naaman was the rich army commander.*)
- Although Naaman was incredibly rich, he had a problem his money couldn't fix: a runny nose. (*Lie. He had a skin disease.*)
- Naaman's problem was not a runny nose, but a terrible skin disease. (*Truth*)
- Elisha would not come out and see Naaman but gave a message to his servant to instruct him to run around in the Jordan River three times. (*Lie. He said to wash in the Jordan River seven times.*)
- He listened and watched his skin heal before his eyes. (*Truth*)
- Elisha nor Gehazi wanted any gifts or nice things from Naaman. (*Lie. Gehazi did.*)
- Gehazi lied to Naaman to get gifts, which he kept for himself. (*Truth*)
- In the end, Gehazi lost out on Elisha's trust. (*Truth*)

What You Say:

"You all were really paying attention to our story today. Awesome job! What did you think was the worst part of Gehazi's choice? (*Give kids time to think.*) Gehazi ended up making a pretty bad choice in not telling the truth, and in the end he lost Elisha's trust. I know I can sure relate.

[Make It Personal] (Share a personal story from a time you were dishonest and lost someone's trust in you. Remember to keep it age-appropriate.) Remember, no matter what you are facing, it's never worth losing someone's trust in you. **[Bottom Line] When you're not truthful, you lose trust."**

2. Emoji Scenarios

What You Need: “Emoji Scenarios” Activity Page (one per group), yellow construction paper (1/2 sheet per child), markers

What You Do:

- Give each child a piece of yellow construction paper.
- Set out the markers.
- Tell kids to draw two emojis: a “yes” or happy emoji, and a “no” or sad emoji.
- Hold up a piece of paper and demonstrate that they should draw one emoji on one side of the paper and the other emoji on the other side of the paper.
- Explain that you’ll read a scenario where someone could be truthful or not truthful.
 - If the person is truthful, kids hold up their yes or happy emoji.
 - If they’re not truthful, kids hold up the no or sad emoji.
- Read the “Emoji Scenarios” and allow the kids to respond.

What You Say:

“There are lots of times in our lives when we have the choice to be truthful or not be truthful. It’s important to be honest and tell the truth, no matter how hard it might be or how much we might get in trouble for telling the truth about something that happened. **[Bottom Line] When you’re not truthful, you lose trust**, and people won’t know if they can believe you in the future. You might get privileges taken away, or your parents might not trust you to do things you were allowed to do before—all because you weren’t truthful with them. There are lots of consequences to not being truthful, so let’s always choose to be honest with everyone.”

3. Truth It or Lose It

What You Need: Cardstock (10 pieces per bin), set of “Truth It Or Lose It Cards” Activity cards in a bucket

What You Do:

- Lay the 10 pieces of cardstock on the floor in a line to create a game board with a start and finish square
- Split the group into 2 teams, one team on the right side of the first square, one on the left.
- Explain that on their turn, they will draw a card, which will instruct them on how to move.
- Each child will take turns pulling a card until someone gets to the last piece of cardstock. (Keep recycling the cards if more turns are needed)
- As each “lie” card is chosen, ask various questions such as:
 - What do you think is the best part about telling the truth?
 - How does it feel to tell the truth?
 - How is losing a turn in this game like our Bible story from today?
 - How does it feel when someone stops trusting you?
- Continue until one kid reaches the end of the game board.

What You Say:

“That was one jumbo game board! Who got to move up some spaces while playing? *(Allow kids to respond.)* Who had to miss out on a turn or two? *(Allow kids to respond.)* Well, it sure wasn’t fun if you were the one losing out on moving forward in the game. Remind me, when we aren’t

truthful, what do we also miss out on? *(Allow kids to respond.)* Yes! Just like our Bottom Line says: **[Bottom Line] When you're not truthful, you lose trust.** As we could see today, it is never worth it to not be truthful and miss out on the great things ahead."

4. Prayer and Dismissal

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask your few: Why is it sometimes hard to be truthful?
- Allow time for kids to respond, giving everyone time to share if they wish to do so.
- Close in prayer, using the guide below.

What You Say:

"God, sometimes I find it really hard to be honest, especially when I don't want to let people down or I'm in a situation where I may look bad. But ultimately, I want to honor You. I know I can honor You when I am a person people can trust. I also know that **[Bottom Line] when you're not truthful, you lose trust.** So I'm asking that you give me courage and help in the times when I am struggling to be truthful so I can bring glory to Your name! I ask this in Jesus name, amen."

EXTRA TIME ACTIVITY: Seven

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Instruct kids to use their bodies to make the number seven in as many ways as possible.
- You might need to help guide them. Here are some options:
 - Individuals bend their bodies to make a 7.
 - Kids pair up and use their bodies to make a 7 on the floor.
 - Use everyone's bodies to create a huge 7 on the floor.
 - Use everyone's bodies to write the word "S-E-V-E-N" on the floor.

What You Say:

"That was so much fun using our bodies to make the number seven. Why do you think we did that? *(Pause.)* *[Transition]* Today's Bible story had something to do with the number seven. Can anybody tell me what that was *(Allow response)*? That's right! Naaman dipping in the water 7 times!"