

NOTE: The below activities are intended to be led from the Stage. Feel free to alternate the activities with other Leaders. The more Leaders the kids hear from, the better!

ALL TOGETHER ACTIVITIES:

1. Leader, May I?

What You Need: White Floor Tape to Mark Finish Line (1 roll per campus)

What You Do:

- Line up kids on one side of your room.
- Mark a finish line with tape on the opposite side, as far away as you can from your group, and leader stands at finish line.
- Call out a category from the list below, having the kids move one step forward if it applies to them.
- Continue until all categories until one child reaches the finish line – you may continue to play until all kids pass the finish line.

Categories:

- Kids with a summer birthday (June, July, or August)
- Kids with more than one sibling
- Kids with no siblings
- Kids wearing sneakers
- Kids wearing pants that aren't jeans
- Kids wearing jeans
- Kids with brown hair
- Kids with green eyes
- Kids who are left-handed
- Kids who don't like fruity candy
- Kids with curly hair
- And so on—if you're running out of time and need to finish the game quickly, call out broader categories like “everyone with socks on” or “everyone with a nose.”

What You Say: “Great job, friends! This game was sort of a picture of how hard it can be to be honest when you really want to win, or get something you really want. You could have taken a step forward even if it was wrong, and maybe nobody would have known. But when we are dishonest, it's like moving away from God. But God already knows what we've done, and He ALWAYS forgives us when we're honest. 1 John 1:9 tells us that when we confess our sins, when we're honest and admit what we've done, He will forgive us and make us pure. So this week, when you find yourself hiding something remember that **[Bottom Line] being truthful with God keeps you close to Him.”**

2. Emoji Faces

What You Need: “Emoji Faces” (1 prepared set of cards per kid and 1 set per leader)

What You Do:

- Hand out a set of prepared “Emoji Face” Cards to each kid, keeping a set also for yourself.
- Instruct the kids to shuffle the “Emoji Faces” cards and lay them face down on the floor in a grid pattern in front of themselves, without looking at the faces.
- Leader will pull one of their own cards and place it facing the kids.
- Kids turn over one of their cards to see if it matches the leader's card.
- If it does, they keep that card face up. If not, they turn it back over.
- The leader continues to put out their cards until everyone's cards face up.
- Encourage each kid to select one emoji face that depicts how they're feeling today.
- Kids can take home their cards or discard them before leaving.
- ***PLAY Multiple Rounds!***

What You Say: “Great job everyone! It can be really tempting to flip over our cards, and not tell the truth, just because we want to win. But God loves it when we don't keep secrets, and tell the truth with integrity. Being honest is better than winning a game. You guys all did great showing integrity during this game!”

AT COMMUNION CALL: Turnin' It Around

What You Need: Magnets (1 set per group)

What You Do:

- Hold up two magnets for the kids to see. Bring the magnets together. Flip one magnet over and show the kids what happens when you try to push them together.
- Discuss the following:
 - What happened with the magnets the first time when they faced each other?
 - What happened the second time when I turned one magnet in the opposite direction?
 - Why do you think the magnets refused to go together the second time?
- Hold up the two magnets with one facing in the opposite direction.
- Point out how this is a picture of our relationship with God when we mess up and try to hide what we've done. Our dishonesty separates us from God.
- Then, flip the magnet over so they come together.
- Talk about how when we are honest about what we've done (when we confess and tell the truth) and turn to God, we can have a right relationship with Him.

What You Say:

"In our Bible story today, we talked about how we ALL mess up. You mess up. I mess up. Your parents and grandparents, siblings and cousins, teachers and coaches—EVERYONE messes up. We all at some point think our way is better than God's way, and we choose to be dishonest. And a lot of the time, when we mess up, we try to hide what we've done OR we try to make up for it by doing lots of other good things. But the awesome, amazing, wonderful thing about following God is that we don't EVER have to be afraid to tell Him when we've messed up. He knows, anyway. And when we're honest, it's like turning that magnet around. When we turn back to God, He always forgives, always accepts, always offers His love to us. So remember this week, if you're tempted to keep something from God, or you find yourself acting like it's no big deal, think about these magnets and remember that **[Bottom Line] being truthful with God keeps you close to Him.**"

[Make it Personal] (Tell your few about a time when you messed up and didn't talk to God about it. Maybe you lied about something, and it started to eat away at you or it forced you to tell other lies to cover it up. If possible, select an example from childhood that kids can relate to. Give specific examples of how you felt disconnected from God and how eventually being honest helped you feel closer to God. And as always, make sure your example is age appropriate.)