

City Reopening Celebration (WEEK 1) October 11th, 2020

Today's Bible Story: Say Anything (No Secrets with God) • 1 John 1:9

Today's Bottom Line: Being truthful with God keeps you close to Him.

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

Early Arriver Activity: 2 Truths and a Lie (On-Screen Game)

10 minutes before the start of your service time, lead the kids in the On-Screen Game, allowing them to vote for A, B, or C. Keep the energy high by asking the kids which one they think is a lie, a truth, etc.

CG: Two Truths and a Lie Slides with Music

Once game is completed and it is time to start...

CG: Countdown/Welcome Video (Runtime: 2:00)

"Good morning City! So good to see you! Let's all jump onto our feet and get ready to sing and worship God!"

WORSHIP: "Higher than the Sky" and "Won't Let Go"

"Hello, friends! How's it going? I'm so glad you're here at The City! I can't tell you how good it is to see each and every one of you! Give me a thumbs-up (*demonstrate*) if you're having a great day. Give me a thumbs-down (*demonstrate*) if you're having a rough day. Give me a thumbs-sideways (*demonstrate*) if you're somewhere in the middle. Well, hopefully ALL of you will be feeling thumbs-up (*demonstrate*) by the time we leave here today. My name is [your name], and this month we're talking about integrity.

SLIDE: Integrity Slide

"Integrity is choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do.

"That means you don't have to try to be someone you're not. You're happy to be YOU! You can live truthfully and follow God, no matter where you are.

"To kick things off today, I want us to get started with a game that will get everyone involved! Today we are going to play a game right where you are seated. All you have to do is decide if each statement I read is a truth or a lie. If you think it's true, give me a thumbs up (*demonstrate*). If you think it's a lie give me a thumbs down. Are you ready? Here we go!"

GAME: True or False? (Read the Statements below, encouraging participation and asking kids what they think. Feel free to make some questions up on your own. Have FUN!)

- ❑ Kryptonite is Superman's weakness. (True)
- ❑ Spider-Man got his superpowers because he was bitten by a giant kangaroo. (False)
- ❑ The Hulk turns green when he gets mad. (True)

- ❑ The tallest roller coaster in the world is over 400 feet tall. (True)
- ❑ Some roller coasters go upside-down. (True)
- ❑ There's a roller coaster that shoots people all the way to the moon. (False)

- ❑ The moon is made of cheese. (False)
- ❑ You can't sneeze with your eyes open. (True)
- ❑ It is impossible to lick your elbow. (True)

“(After the game) That was awesome, and that’s no lie. Sorry, couldn’t resist. Our story today has to do with secrets, too. Our story today is all about being honest. We can be HONEST with God. We can tell Him anything and everything. We don’t have to try to hide our mistakes, because He already knows about them in the first place. In the book of 1 John, we can find out what happens when we tell God what we’ve done wrong. Trust me—this is REALLY good news!”

Open the Bible to 1 John 1:9 (NIV) and read.

“God is faithful and fair. If we confess our sins, he will forgive our sins. He will forgive every wrong thing we have done. He will make us pure.”

“That’s so good that I think we need to hear it again.

“God is faithful and fair. If we confess our sins, he will forgive our sins. He will forgive every wrong thing we have done. He will make us pure.”

“Right! Remember, God LOVES you! He’s always there to listen. He’s always there to forgive you for the things you’ve done wrong. So, you don’t have to carry around the heavy weight of your bad choices and mistakes. Because of what Jesus did for us on the cross, God forgives ALL of it! Wow. What a relief that God forgives all our mistakes! That’s what our story is all about today. Let’s take a look!”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 10:00)

“We can be ourselves with God. We can ALWAYS go to Him, even we’ve done something wrong. We can know for SURE that He will always forgive us! We might still have to face the consequences of what we’ve done, but we know that we never have to hide the truth from God. He loves us no matter what—and being honest with Him is always best.”

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] *“Being truthful with God keeps you close to Him. Let’s pray and ask God to help us live truthfully.”*

PRAY: *“Dear God, thank You for always loving us! Help us remember that **[Basic Truth]** we can trust You no matter what. Thank You for sending Jesus to pay the price for our sins so we can be forgiven for what we’ve done wrong. Please help us be truthful and honest with You and remember that You’ll always be there to forgive us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”*

“We never have to wonder if we can tell God about what we’ve done wrong. He ALWAYS loves us. He will ALWAYS forgive us! When Jesus gave His life for us on the cross, He made it possible for us to have a relationship with God. We don’t have to worry about our sin getting between us and God, because Jesus has already defeated sin and death! That means we don’t have to hide. We don’t have to keep secrets. We can be honest! We can have a CLOSE relationship with God, because of Jesus.”

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[Bottom Line] *“Being truthful with God keeps you close to Him. So, when you mess up, don’t try to hide it. Talk to God and tell Him you’re sorry. Remember—He always loves you, and He will always forgive you. We’re going to end our time together, with some fun activities, but before we do watch this!”*

CG: “Dear God” Video (Runtime: 2:00)

NOTE: After the video, refer to the “All Together Activities” Sheet for activities to be led from the Stage. Leader should dispense hand sanitizer to each child and themselves before beginning the all together activities. Leaders can alternate leading the activities as necessary.