

CITY LG – October 7-9, 2023

Today's Bible Story: A Matter of Trust (Naaman and Elisha's Servant) • 2 Kings 5

Today's Bottom Line: When you're not truthful, you lose trust.

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

WORSHIP

No Pressure

Shine a Light

Have kids get into their small groups Before you start Large Groups

SLIDE: Theme

Hello, friends! It's so great to see you today in the CITY. This month we're finding out how we can live with integrity.

SLIDE: Virtue

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

SLIDE: Theme

If you have integrity, that means that you're DRIVEN to be who you are, wherever you are. And the thing that drives you is your relationship with Jesus. Your faith in Jesus will make you want to live in a truthful way.

I'm going to give you some time to discuss this question as a group....

Has there ever been a time when someone didn't tell you the truth? And how did that make you feel? *(walk around and listen to kids' answer in their groups. Bring them back together in a few minutes when most groups are done). If time, have a couple of kids share their answers with the group.*

Well today we are going to hear a story of integrity from the Bible. *(Hold up Bible.)* Well. It's actually a story of someone who DIDN'T have integrity. We'll see what happened because of it.

VIDEO: Bible Story (11:39)

Gehazi didn't have integrity, did he? He didn't live in a truthful way. And because of that, Elisha knew that he couldn't trust Gehazi anymore.

And Gehazi didn't just lose Elisha's trust. He didn't get to enjoy the silver and the fine clothes he had basically stolen. He had lost it all because he wasn't truthful.

When Elisha gave Gehazi the chance to tell the truth or to lie . . . Gehazi lied. Do you think Elisha felt like he could ever trust Gehazi again after what Gehazi had done? *(Pause for response.)* No. I don't think so.

It's a really big deal for us to live with integrity. When we lie, we break the trust we have with other people. And that really hurts our relationship with them. That's why it's so important for us to be truthful! Let's stand and practice our bottom line...

VIDEO: Bottom Line
SLIDE: Bottom Line

When you're not truthful, you lose trust.

We all have times when we might feel tempted to tell a lie rather than telling the truth. Or maybe there are times when it's hard for us to tell the WHOLE truth. Can anyone raise their hand and tell us about a time when someone might feel tempted to lie?

Let kids share examples of situations when it might be tempting to lie.

Remember, integrity is about choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do. So that means even when it's hard, we still choose to tell the truth.

We can think about Jesus and remember how HE always told the truth. Jesus loved everyone with honesty and integrity. Jesus was truthful with His whole life. Even when it was hard, He still told the truth. We should follow His example and choose to live with integrity.

Gehazi's story reminds me of our memory verse, Proverbs 10:9. Say it with me.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

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

Let's be truthful so we can walk safely, friends! Let's pray and ask God to help us choose to be truthful.

SLIDE: Theme

Dear God, thank You for the story of Naaman, Elisha, and Gehazi. It helps us see just how important it is to be truthful. Help us always remember that we need to make the wise choice and live with integrity. Give us the courage to be truthful in everything we say and do. We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

OFFERING:

Until the end of this year, our offering money will go to families in Kenya. They will receive much needed food baskets. It's great that we can pool our money together to help feed people all the way in Turkana.

Turkana video #1

If you have any offering you can bring it up now.