# Offstage: Drop the Act

PARENT GUIDE
Preteen

Use this guide to help your family learn about how God wants us to live with integrity.

First, watch this week's video!

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

#### **Memory Verse**

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

#### **Bible Story**

A Matter of Trust (Naaman and Elisha's Servant) 2 Kings 5

#### **Key Question**

Why is it important for people to trust you?

# **Activity**

**Truth or Lie** 

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

Paper and writing utensil for everyone who's playing.

#### WHAT YOU DO:

Each person writes down 5 truths and 5 "lies" about themselves that you may not know. Make sure the truths and lies are mixed up randomly on the list. Note: These can be simple like, "My favorite color is blue, or I really don't like pizza."

Take turns sharing facts, letting everyone try to guess which ones are true, and which ones are lies.



# Talk about the Bible Story

Who was someone in our story who did not show integrity? (Gehazi: he lied)

Who showed integrity in the story? Give an example how they showed integrity. (Naaman—apologized when he was wrong, asked for forgiveness; offered thanks and gifts)

How did Gehazi's lack of integrity affect others? How do you think it affected Gehazi and Elisha's relationship? (Allow for response.)

How can our choice to be truthful in whatever we say and do affect others? (Discuss.)

Why does lying get us in trouble? (We lose trust with the people and break relationships. Lying hurts our reputations and how people will trust us in the future.)

What about when we lie and nobody finds out? Do those lies hurt anyone if we're the only ones who know we lied?

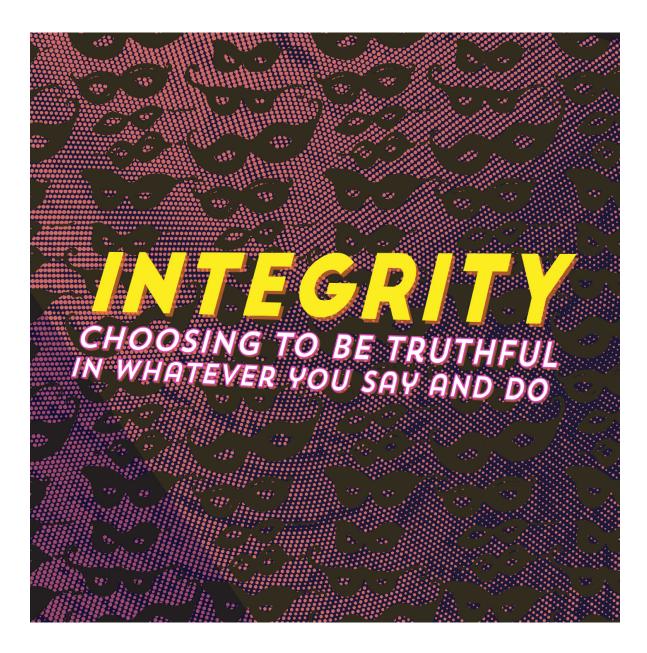
When we lie, there are consequences. There were consequences to Gehazi's lie, weren't there? Let me tell you a story about a time I didn't tell the truth. (Share a personal story about a time you told a lie. Make sure you include the consequences.)

# **Prayer**

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"God, we pray that our family would be one that's known for its integrity all the time. Help us to remember that when we're honest, we build trust and strengthen our relationships with each other. We pray that we are like Naaman—that when we're wrong, we're quick to apologize and ask for forgiveness. Thank You for loving us and forgiving us. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen."

Preteen Week 3



# Day 1

Go to Studio252.tv and watch this week's episode of The So & So Show.

→Click on Fun2Watch! then The So & So Show.

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

#### SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that:

- 1. You liked:
- 2. You learned: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. You'd like to know: \_\_\_\_\_

| Journal |
|---------|
|         |

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.

# WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR PEOPLE TO TRUST YOU?

| YOU? |  |
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# Day 4

You've probably played the game two truths and a lie before.

It's a pretty fun game, but it only works because you know the person is telling you one lie, and as soon as the person makes their guess, you come clean.

Find a friend, sibling, or parent to play the game with. Each of you should take a turn sharing two truths and a lie. When you're done, take some time to talk about it. Share with each other why it isn't upsetting to play the game, but in real life, if someone lies to you, it really damages the relationship.

Talk with each other about the importance of trust, and commit together to be truthful to each other and to everyone around you.

# Day 5

Have you ever known someone who was always lying? Even when they say something kind to you, you aren't sure how to take it, right?

Imagine being that person. The one that no one can trust. It must be pretty lonely.

On the other hand, if you're someone others can trust, they will want to be around you. They will want to spend time with you and confide in you. And that feels pretty awesome.

Grab a dry erase marker and head to the bathroom mirror. Draw a circle around your face and then a rectangle around the circle so it looks like a picture frame. Now imagine what people would think when they see a picture of you. Do they think about how kind, loyal and trustworthy you are? Or do they see someone who they aren't sure they can trust? Around the picture frame, write some words that you hope describe how others see you, like honest and trustworthy. Every time you look in the mirror, think about how important it is for others to see you like that!

# Day 2

## Read 2 Kings 5.

As you read chapter five, circle any numbers you see. How many circles do you have? (See the answer below.)

Those numbers may not mean much, but they do illustrate something important: God is into the details. He knows all the "numbers" of our lives. Luke even teaches us that God knows how many hairs are on our head! That means we can trust Him no matter what. And the more we try to follow after God, the more we should be someone others can trust. And for them to be able to trust us, we have to tell the truth every single time.

# Day 3

From reading the story of Naaman and Gehazi, it seems like Gehazi had an honesty problem, and that it probably had a lot to do with what he wanted.

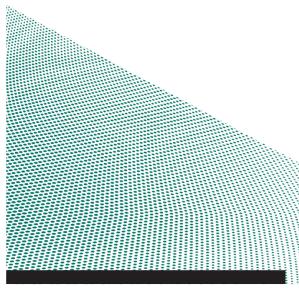
In other words, if he had his eye on something, he was going to do whatever it took to get it.

Maybe that's not your particular honesty struggle. Maybe you have found yourself lying to keep from getting in trouble or you sometimes exaggerate stories to make people like you more, or to one-up your friends. The great thing is that it's not too late to ask forgiveness and make a change! You can begin living a life of integrity today! You can use the prayer below to help you press re-start.

"Dear God, as You know, I struggle with being honest when it comes to .Ithink it's hard for me

because .

Please forgive me for not being honest, and help me to begin being honest in everything I say and do. In Jesus' Name, I pray, amen."



There were 11 numbers in this story.

OCTOBER 2020

# **Preteen**

WEEKLY CUES

YOU GOT THIS!

**Theme** 

# Offstage: Drop the Act

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



### **REMEMBER THIS**

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

#### **Week Three**

Naaman and Elisha's Servant 2 Kings 5

# **Ask This**

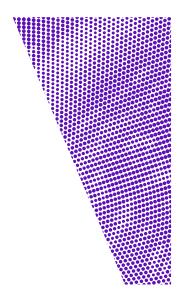
Why is it important for people to trust you?

# **Do This**



#### **Bed Time**

When you don't tell the truth, people find out. And when they find out, they might stop trusting you. Your teachers might not give you as many privileges. Your friends may not want to hang out with you. Bottom line: it's always better to be truthful. Pray for each other, that God will give you the courage to be truthful with the people in your life.



# When something comes between you and your child relationally, fun can be the bridge that rebuilds trust.

For blog posts and parenting resources, visit The Parent Cue.org

