

Acts-Revelation

Be honest with God Acts 5:1-11

Younger Verse I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You. Psalm 119:11

Older Verse I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You. Psalm 119:11

Welcome Time

Have you ever lied to someone? Have you ever been lied to? It feels bad to lie and to be lied to. Let's see what happens when a man and woman lie to the church.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Teachers: Be sensitive to your kids. Smaller kids may be scared when they hear that the 2 people die because they lie. You may want to say that Peter found out about the lie and just explain that they were punished for what they did.

People tell lies for all kinds of reasons. Some may want to look good. Others may be afraid because they did something wrong. What does God think about lying? Let's look in the Bible to see. Turn with me to Acts, chapter 5.

At this time, lots of people were believing in Jesus and coming to church. Many people sold things that they had to help others in need. Ananias (Ana-nigh-as) and his wife Sapphira (Sa phi-ra) sold some land too. But they had some wrong motives. That means that they were trying to make themselves look important and good. They wanted people to praise them and be proud of them. They agreed together to give only part of the money they received to the church. They were then going to tell the church that they gave ALL the money to them.

Ananias proudly gave Peter the money he had in his bag. Peter looked at it and said, "Ananias, why did you let Satan rule your heart? You lied to the Holy Spirit. Why did you keep part of the money and pretend that you gave it all? Don't you know that you lied to God, not just to men?"

When Ananias heard this, he fell to the ground and died. Some men took his body and buried it. Everyone who heard about it were afraid.

About 3 hours later his wife, Sapphira, came to the church. She did not know what had happened to her husband. Peter said to her, "Tell me how much money you got for your field. Was it the amount your husband gave the church?"

Sapphira lied and said, "Yes, that was the price."

Peter said to her, "Why did you and your husband agree to lie about this. Look, the men who went to bury your husband are back—ready to bury you!" At that moment Sapphira fell down and died.

Lesson Goals

Describe what happens in the lesson and why
Explain why we should be honest and truthful

The young men buried her by her husband. The whole church and all the others who heard about these things were filled with fear. They knew that God wanted only honesty. He was not pleased with someone who lied.

God was upset with Ananias and Sapphira because they lied and tried to bring attention to themselves instead of God.

How do you think God feels when we lie? (wait for answers) When we lie, someone always finds out and we have to suffer the consequences. Also, God knows and He is not pleased.

When we lie, we sin. That means we have done something wrong. That makes God sad and it separates us from God because He is clean and pure. God cared about us so much that He made a plan for us to get back to Him and be together with Him. He knew there was only one way to clean up all the bad things we have done. He sent His son to die for all the bad things we have done. Jesus died on a cross for us. He died for all the sins we have done. Why? Jesus did this so that we could go to Heaven. How? When we believe in Jesus and trust Him, He does an amazing thing. He erases all the bad things we have done. God does not remember them any more. We are clean and can be with God. All a person has to do is trust Jesus and ask Him to be with you forever. Jesus stays with you and helps you do right. If you sin again, you ask Jesus to forgive you for doing wrong and ask Him to clean up your mistake. He does! That's a real friend!

Learning Activities

Do activities that will help the kids see the importance of honesty.

Memory Verse Activities

Let the kids write the verse on white paper with a white crayon. Now, scribble over it with a washable marker. The verse can be seen. Challenge the kids to really be honest this week.

Prayer Time

Circle up and pray. Be sure to pray that each person will be truthful and honest this week.

Clean Up/Snack time

Serve treats and ask the kids to help you clean up!

Planning for February 8th
Stephen
Acts 6:8-15; 7:1-60

Preschool Lesson
For
Be Honest with God

God wants us always to tell the truth. Sometimes we do not want to tell the truth because we have done something wrong or we are afraid of what might happen to us.

There is a story in the Bible that tells about two people who chose to lie to God. Let's listen and see what happened.

After Jesus went up to Heaven, many people believed and trusted in Jesus. They took care of each other and helped with whatever needs they had. Some would sell land and property to help others in need.

One day, a man and woman decided to sell some of their land and give the money to the church. They wanted to keep some of the money too. So, they decided to lie and say that they gave ALL the money to the church, when in fact, they kept some of it for themselves.

The man went by himself to give the bag of money to Peter. Peter asked the man why he lied to God. "Why did you keep part of the money and pretend that you gave it all? Don't you know that you lied to God, not just to men?" Peter said.

About 3 hours later his wife came to the church. Peter said to her, "Tell me how much money you got for your field. Was it the amount your husband gave the church?"

She lied and said, "Yes, that was the price."

Peter told her that both of them would be punished for the lies that they told to God. He wanted her to know that you cannot lie to God. God sees all things and wants us to be honest and truthful all the time.

This week, let's make sure we always tell the truth and are honest with everyone.

Sing this song to the tune of "The Farmer and the Dell."

Tell the truth each day

Tell the truth each day

This is what God wants

To tell the truth each day.

Hands-On Activities For Be Honest with God

Bring several weeds to class (or go outside and show them some). Talk about how a weed grows and grows if someone does not pull it out by the roots. Now share that lies are like the weeds. If we do not stop telling them, they continue to grow and grow. Soon, there are lots of weeds (lies) and people start to question if what you say is really true.

Another fun object lesson to illustrate the “sourness” of telling a lie:

Give each person a sour lemon/lime and a sweet gumdrop or sugar cube. Now instruct them to take a lick of the lemon if you tell something false and a lick the sugar if you tell something that is true. Now, make statements about the lesson. For example: Paul found out that the couple told a lie (false-it was Peter). Ananias and Sapphira were two people in the story (true). Continue until you have covered the lesson. Now, share how awful it is to have a sour taste. Share how much better it is to have a sweet taste. Share how telling the truth is so much better than telling lies.

Have two clear cups, one with clear soap and water and the other with plain water. Explain that both cups look the same but one is different. Share how sometimes we cannot “see” when someone is not telling the truth. Explain that God knows and sees all things. He knows when we have not been honest. Show the kids the one cup that has soapy water in it. Share how lies may seem OK at the time but in the end we have to “clean up” the problem. Share that it is much better to tell the truth and be honest.

Bring fruit that has a “pit” in it. Share how lies see easy to do but in the end hurt everyone. Bite into the fruit and make a funny expression as you bite the pit. Share how lies may see “good” to do when you are in trouble, but in the end its “the pits!”