INTEGRITY



BIG IDEA

Is the obedience to a moral code of values that have honor, truth, and reliability. It will allow one to keep his word and do his best even when no one else is looking.

KEY VERSES

Proverbs 11:3

MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 11:3

"The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity."

PREPARATION & MATERIALS

BIBLE LESSON SKIT

- balloons, one per person
- ball of thick yarn
- integrity quotes written on cards for kids to read

GAME

- small balloons like water balloons in a variety of colors
- strips of paper with activities written on each one

CRAFT

- Colorful scrapbooking type paper
- Thin ribbon or yarn
- · Colorful cupcake liners
- Glue
- Tape

WORKSHEETS

Photocopies of Coloring Sheet (1 per child)



OPENING GAME

Give each student a balloon which they blow up and tie.

The challenge of this game is for everyone to keep their balloon in the air by hitting it.

Last person standing wins, but you have to sit down if any of these things happens:

Your balloon touches the ground: sit down.

Anyone else's balloon touches you: sit down.

You look ANYONE in the eyes: both sit down.

If you say anything: sit down.

Say: OK, sound simple?

We will see: GO.

Leader: Watch carefully for students who might be 'stretching' the rules such as looking at someone and not sitting down, accidentally getting touched by another balloon, or talking.

Hopefully, these rules will prove more challenging for students, and they might begin to try to tell others who break the rules to sit down, which is one of the things that means they have to sit down.

Once the first round is over, which means that only one person is standing, ask the group if they have any questions about this game.

Ask them which rule was the toughest to remember.

Say: OK, let's try this again, and remember the rules.

Play the game again.

Gather the group together and be sure to take all of the balloons!

TEACH - INTEGRITY

What was the toughest part about this game?

Here is a strange question, but an important one: How tempting was it to cheat at this game?

What are some of the ways that you could have cheated at this game?

How simple was it to 'act' like someone's balloon didn't really touch your arm, or maybe you did look at someone, but you both kinda had this secret 'look' and acted like neither of you looked at the other.

Say: Integrity. How would you define integrity?

(Give youth a few minutes to share their thoughts on integrity and if possible write them down for the group to see.)

Ask for volunteers to read the following famous peoples' takes on integrity and hand them one of the quotes below:

Integrity Quotes:

"Whoever is careless with the truth in small matters cannot be trusted with important matters." – Albert Einstein

"Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching." — C. S. Lewis

"Real integrity is doing the right thing, knowing that nobody's going to know whether you did it or not." — Oprah Winfrey

"The time is always right to do what is right." — Martin Luther King, Jr.

"Today I shall behave as if this is the day I will be remembered." — Dr. Seuss

(Leader get a long piece of yarn and as you talk in this next section, wind it into a ball.)

Think about integrity like this piece of string.

As we read, in these quotes, integrity seems to begin small.

"Integrity is who you are when no one is looking", one person said.

But think back to a time when you told a 'small lie'.

Then you had to cover with another lie.

And another.

It became more and more difficult to remember who you told what.

And with each lie, things became more and more complicated.

Think of how many times you've heard that some famous person, everyone thought was an example and honest, actually messed up big time.

Do you really think that one day this person just woke up and thought "I'm going to lie, steal, or do something to disappoint everyone?"

No, it begins in those small decisions – telling one small lie or changing that one detail.

Thinking to yourself "No one saw me, so it's not that big of a deal'.

One day you will wake up and what started out so small, has become a big giant ball of lies.

Some of you may have heard about King David in the Bible.

He was an awesome king and was called a 'man after God's own heart'.

Yet, this amazing king made one small choice, which led to one lie, which led to another and another.

Up to the point that David, the King, had stolen another man's wife, committed adultery, had

her husband killed in battle, and still seemed to not admit that he had done anything wrong until he was confronted.

David messed up big time.

Look at this huge ball. (hold up the ball of yarn)

It took David coming face to face with the huge mess that he made to realize that he had betrayed God.

He had sacrificed his integrity.

It's easy to look at others and wonder how they could put themselves in that type of situation, but let's be honest: All of us have fallen and been less than honest – if we are honest!

Maybe you talked about a friend behind their back, or told your parents that you finished homework that wasn't finished.

Or watched that video you know you shouldn't have or said something you regret.

You reason with yourself that it was a small thing.

Or that nobody knew about it.

But there is something that we all tend to forget: Someone DOES know.

God. The good news is that God can help you, but first, you must let him help you to be honest with him and honest with yourself.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What are some of the greatest tests of integrity that youth face today?

Which integrity quote did you identify with the most?

If time allows, read each of the integrity quotes again and discuss them.

Do you think integrity is valued today in society? Why or why not?

What do you think is the biggest challenge that youth face in keeping their integrity today?

Share a time when it was very tempting to lie or be less than God would want you to be.

What types of situations test your integrity the most?

SIMPLIFIED LESSON OPTIONS

- Blow the balloons up prior to club.
- Ask 3-4 of the simpler discussion questions.

CRAFT • GAME

CRAFT

OBJECTIVE: HOT AIR BALLOON

Make a hot air balloon hanging decoration

DIRECTIONS

- Cut 6 hot air balloon shapes out of scrapbook paper (see template)
- Fold balloon shapes in half vertically
- Glue 1/2 of one balloon to 1/2 of another balloon. Continue connecting balloons until the last two glue together to to create a 3D hot air balloon.
- Punch a hole on either side of a cupcake liner.
- Run a piece of ribbon through holes and tape ends to the bottom of the balloon.
- With a small piece of yarn tuck the two ends into the top of the balloon and glue it tightly

SIMPLIFIED CRAFT OPTIONS

- Precut balloon shapes
- Pre-holepunch cupcake liners
- Pre-cut ribbon

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- · Colorful scrapbooking type paper
- Thin ribbon or yarn
- Colorful cupcake liners
- Glue
- Tape

EXAMPLES



• GAME •

OBJECTIVE: BALLOON SURPRISE

Teams pop balloon to reveal actions that teams must perform.

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- small balloons like water balloons in a variety of colors
- · strips of paper with activities written on each one

PREPARATION

- Write individual actions such as hop on right foot 10 times, spin in 5 times, line up from shortest to tallest, hold hands and make a circle, etc. Make 4-5 duplicate sets.
- Sort balloons by colors. Hide a set of action slips individually inside a specific color, hide a second set of action slips inside a different color of balloon, etc. balloons. Blow up and tie off balloons.

GAME PLAY

- Divide kids into 4-5 teams
- Give each team a set of balloons
- Teams pop a balloon and perform the action before popping the next balloon.
- First team to pop all balloons and complete all actions wins.

SIMPLIFIED GAME OPTIONS

- Hide actions inside sealed envelopes
- Draw simple actions using stick figures if literacy or language is a barrier



