

COTTONWOOD KIDS

**ELEMENTARY**

**LESSON & ACTIVITIES**

OCTOBER - WEEK 3

20  
20

## OCTOBER WEEK 3

# BIBLE STORY OVERVIEW

### BIBLE STORY

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

### BOTTOM LINE:

When you're not truthful, you lose trust.

### MEMORY VERSE

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

### MONTHLY LIFE APP

#### Integrity

Choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do

### BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

This Month's Theme:

# integrity.



# BIBLE STORY

Hi, everyone! I've got a great story for you today that comes from the book of 2 Kings. 2 Kings is one of the books that tells the history of God's people.

To get us started, let me introduce you to a man named Elisha. Elisha was a prophet of God who lived a long time ago. He shared God's words with the people of Israel. Elisha had a trusted servant named Gehazi. As you're about to see, Gehazi faced a true test of integrity when he and Elisha crossed paths with a man named Naaman."

At that time, the nations of Israel and Aram were enemies. Naaman was an army commander for the king of Aram. Naaman was a brave soldier . . . but he had a skin disease.

Soldiers from Aram had captured a young girl from Israel. She was working in Naaman's house. The young girl mentioned that there was a prophet named Elisha who could heal Naaman. She told Naaman's wife . . .

Open the Bible to 2 Kings 5:3 (NirV) and read.

**"I wish my master would go and see the prophet who is in Samaria. He would heal my master of his skin disease.**

So, Naaman went to see the king of Aram and told him what the girl had said. The king of Aram told Naaman that he should go to Israel. In fact, he gave Naaman a letter to the king of Israel, asking the king to heal Naaman of his skin disease.

When Naaman arrived, he gave the letter to the king of Israel. The king read the letter from the king of Aram and was upset. He didn't think he could heal Naaman.

But Elisha heard what had happened. He sent the king a message, saying, 'Tell the man to come to me,' (2 Kings 5:8, NirV).

Naaman went to see Elisha, and Elisha sent a messenger out to him. The messenger said to wash in the Jordan River seven times, and Naaman's skin would be healed. Naaman was angry. He thought he was a very important person and that Elisha was very rude because he didn't come out to meet Naaman himself. Naaman expected Elisha to come out, pray, and heal him. But still, Naaman's servants convinced him to go down to the Jordan River and do what Elisha had said.

Naaman went into the river. He washed seven times . . . and he was healed!

Naaman was so happy to be healed that he went back to Elisha and tried to give him a gift to say thank you. But Elisha said he wouldn't accept it.

Remember Elisha's servant Gehazi? Gehazi thought Elisha should have accepted Naaman's gift. So Gehazi decided to do something sneaky. He figured he could go after Naaman and get something for himself! Gehazi ran after Naaman's chariot . . . and he LIED.

Gehazi told Naaman that Elisha wanted 75 pounds of silver and two sets of clothes. Naaman agreed, and he gave Gehazi twice as much silver as he'd asked for. Get this—then Gehazi took the gifts and hid them in Elisha's house!

Here's the thing. Elisha knew what had happened. He asked Gehazi where he had been. Gehazi lied and said he hadn't gone anywhere.

But Elisha told him he knew the truth, because his spirit had gone with Gehazi. He said that Gehazi, and his family after him, would have Naaman's skin disease. Gehazi told a lie. That lie got him some new clothes . . . but it destroyed the trust he had built with Elisha.

That's what happens when we aren't truthful. When we tell a lie, we show that we don't have integrity . . . and that can really hurt our relationships with other people. **When you're not truthful, you lose trust.**

Let's ask God to help us live with integrity so that others will know they can trust us.

# prayer

**Dear God,**

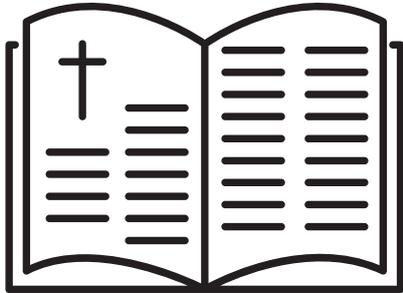
**Thank You for this story that helps us see what happens when we're not truthful. Help us live with integrity and make the wise choice so that everyone will know they can trust us.**

**We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus' name.**

**Amen**

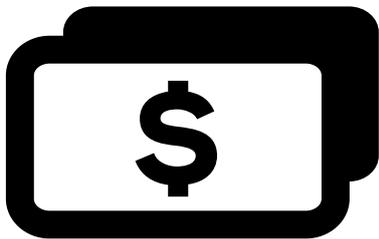


# HOW YOUR ELEMENTARY KID CAN STAY CONNECTED



## FAITH STARTER KIT

If it is your first time asking Jesus to be your Lord and Savior, we want to celebrate with you! You can go to [cottonwood.org/kids](http://cottonwood.org/kids) and we would love to send you a bible and resources!



## BIBLE BUCKS

Your child can earn bible bucks each week by completing challenges or homework



## VIDEO LESSONS

Your child can learn bible stories and engage in worship

For more information, follow Cottonwood Kids on facebook and instagram ([cottonwood\\_kds](https://www.instagram.com/cottonwood_kds))

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

WEEK  
**3**  
K-1ST

Read John 8:31-32

DAY  
**1**

## Hurt Heart

Grab some paper and scissors. Cut out the shape of a heart. Crumble the heart shape in your hands. Then, carefully smooth it out.

When we lie to others, we hurt their heart and they lose trust in us. It's a lot like the heart you just made. It started off perfect and unhurt and then it got crumpled. Even if you are super careful undoing it, it will never go back to the way it was before.

**Ask God to help you speak truth to your friends.**

DAY  
**2**

## The Boy Who Cried Wolf

Did you ever hear the story about the boy who cried wolf? Ask a parent or adult to tell you the story or help look it up online.

Has someone ever lied to you? Was it hard to believe them next time? Think of a time something like this happened to you or where you have seen it done around you. Talk about it with an adult.

Adults: Talk with your kid about how that made them feel when someone lied to them or how it could make someone feel if they haven't experienced it.

**Know that when you tell the truth people can trust you.**

DAY  
**3**

## Walk on T-R-U-T-H

Grab five pieces of paper and a crayon. On each of the pieces of paper write one of the letters in the word truth. Then, lay the papers out in front of you like a sidewalk spelling out T-R-U-T-H. Now, look up this week's verse. After you have read it, say your verse aloud while walking on the letters. Now, go walk in truth, even without the papers!

**Thank God for giving us an example of how to walk in truth.**

DAY  
**4**

## Whatever You Say and Do

Whatever you say and do be truthful. Sometimes it's easier to tell a lie because it might get you what you want. It might be easier to cheat in the game so that you can win. But even when it's hard, let whatever you say and do be truthful. Pray and ask God to help you do this.

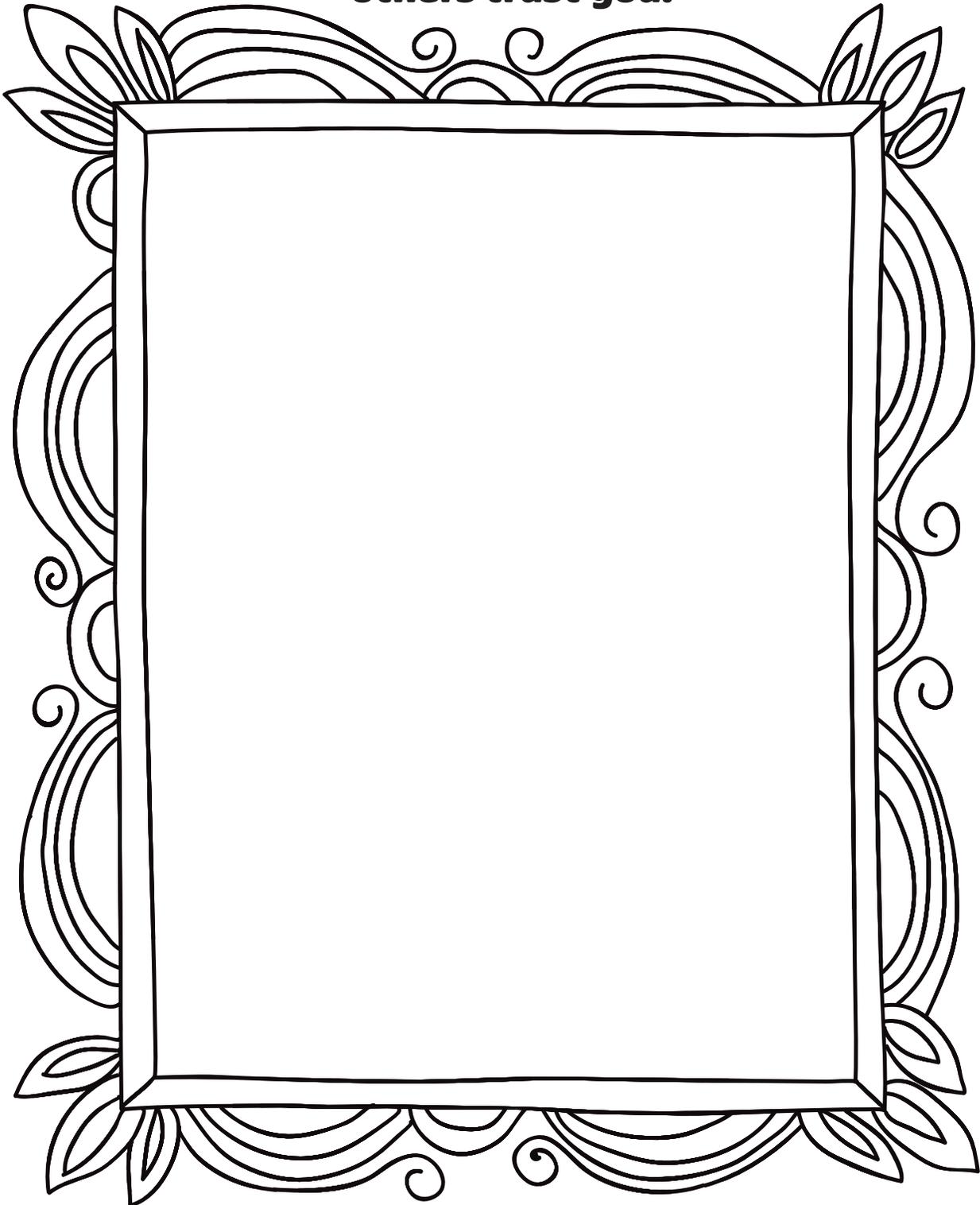
*"Dear God, sometimes it is really hard to be truthful. Please give me the strength to do my best. I want to be someone others can trust. Help me tell the truth in whatever I say and do. Amen"*

**Look for opportunities to be truthful in whatever you say and do.**

*When you're not truthful, you lose trust.*

PARENT CUE

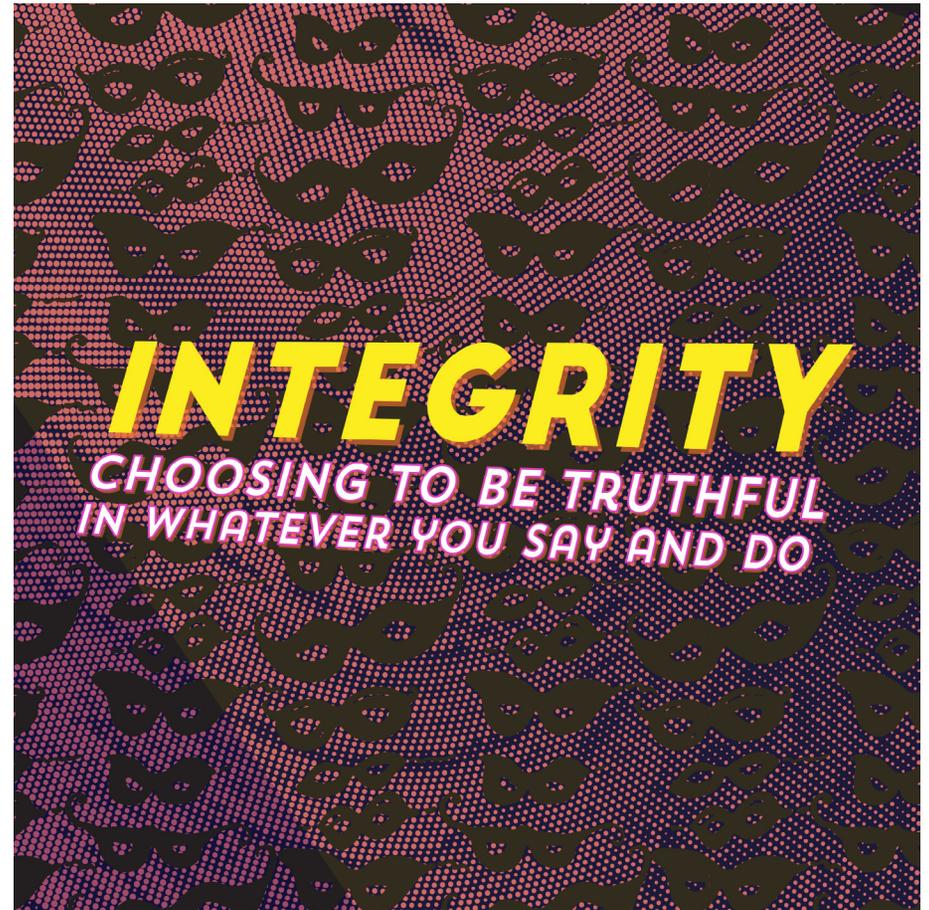
**Draw a picture of you and your friends.  
Remember, when you are truthful  
others trust you.**



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?**

Journal writing lines for the question: WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR PEOPLE TO TRUST YOU?



Day 1

Go to [Studio252.tv](http://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: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_. I think 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.

## 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!