

6KIDS HOUSE PARTY

PARENT GUIDE

October 18th

Life App Definition

Integrity — choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do

Main Idea

In 2 Kings 5, we find the prophet Elisha and his servant named *Gehazi*. *Gehazi* seized the chance to use dishonesty to take advantage of Naaman's gratitude and get riches for himself. He went behind Elisha's back, then denied his actions, and inevitably lost Elisha's trust. Being truthful is not just about the lie you tell and the consequence you might receive. When you don't have integrity, people will start to see that you're not really who you say you are.

Memory Verse

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

Bottom Line

When you're not truthful, you lose the trust of others.

Monthly Profession

I am a follower of Jesus and will love the Lord my God with all my heart, all my soul, and all my strength.

Small-Group Discussion

Review the story and use the following questions to reinforce the lesson learned from the story.

- Who was the commander of the army of Aram?
 - *Naaman*
- What was Naaman's problem?
 - *He had a terrible skin condition.*
- Whom did Elisha send to tell the king to send Naaman to him?
 - *Gehazi*
- What did *Gehazi* tell Naaman that Elisha told him to do?
 - *Go wash himself in the Jordan River seven times.*
- Was Naaman healed?
 - *Yes*

- After Elisha turned down the gifts from Naaman, what did Gehazi do?
 - *He went after Naaman and told him that Elisha said to give the two young prophets 75 pounds of silver and two sets of clothes.*
- How do you think Elisha felt when he knew that Gehazi had been dishonest?
 - *Sad, angry, hurt*
- What happened after Gehazi lied to Naaman?
 - *He and his family after him would have Naaman's skin disease forever.*
- How does not telling the truth affect our relationships with others?
- How can choosing to be truthful affect our relationships with others?
- Why is it important for people to trust you?

Object Lesson

The following activity is intended to help your children apply the lesson that was learned in today's House Party. Complete the activity as a family by following the steps below.

Supplies Needed

- "Gahazi Mistake" Activity page(Attached)
- Paper
- Crayons

Activity

- Give your children paper and crayons.
- Have your children draw a smiley face on one side of the paper.
- Tell them to flip the paper over and draw a frowning face on that side of the paper.
- Instruct them that you are going to read "Gehazi's Mistake," pausing in different spots.
- Tell them that when you pause, they will need to show the appropriate emoji response for that part of the story by lifting up the correct side of the paper.
- After you have finished reading the story, share with them that Gehazi saw a chance to get some stuff from Naaman, so he chose to be dishonest so that he could get it. But Gehazi's dishonesty had serious consequences.
- When we lie to get what we want, we end up hurting ourselves and others, too.
- Make it personal by thinking back to when you were a kid, and tell your children about a time that you lied to get something you wanted.
- Tell your kids how you felt afterward, and also share the consequences of your lie—especially if others lost trust in you.
- Remind them to always be truthful because when they're not truthful, they will lose the trust of others.

Prayer

Lead your children in prayer, asking God to help both you and them make the wise choice to be truthful.

Dear God,

Thank You for always being truthful. Help us to be truthful in all we say and do so that others will trust us. Help us to remember that living with integrity is impossible on our own. We need Your help, for sure. Help us to choose to be truthful, knowing that when we are not truthful, we lose the trust of others. Amen.

Naaman was the commander of the army of Aram. Even though Naaman was an important man, he had a problem no doctor could solve—a terrible skin disease. *(Pause.)*

One day, Naaman heard about a prophet in Israel named Elisha who might be able to help him. *(Pause.)* So, Naaman went to the king of Israel. When Elisha heard that Naaman was looking for help, he sent a messenger. It may have been his trusted servant, Gehazi.

Gehazi took Elisha's message to the king. Gehazi announced, "Elisha says, 'Tell the man to come to me!'" Sure enough, the king of Israel sent Naaman straight to Elisha.

When Naaman arrived, Elisha sent his servant out the door with a message. "Go! Wash yourself in the Jordan River seven times. Then your skin will be healed. You will be pure and 'clean' again." *(Pause.)*

Naaman was upset. *(Pause.)* "I thought Elisha would come out himself. Can't he just say some words and wave his hand and make me better? And the Jordan River? Ew! It's full of muck and tadpoles and . . . ew! Forget it!"

Naaman left, angry. *(Pause.)* But his servants convinced him to follow Elisha's instructions, anyway. So, Naaman dipped seven times in the murky Jordan River. When he rose from the water the seventh time, his skin was perfectly clean! He was healed! *(Pause.)*

Naaman raced back to Elisha's house. This time, the prophet came outside, along with Gehazi. Naaman said, "Now I know that there is no God anywhere except in Israel! Please take a gift from me!" *(Pause.)*

But Elisha said, "No! I serve the Lord. You can be sure that he lives. And you can be just as sure that I won't accept a gift from you."

But after Naaman left, Gehazi took off running down the road to follow him. When Gehazi caught up to Naaman, he said, "My master sent me to say that . . . uh . . . two young prophets have come to visit. Please give them 75 pounds of silver and two sets of clothes." *(Pause.)*

Naaman replied, "Of course! Take twice as much." Naaman's servants carried the heavy bags of silver and clothing back up the road, but as they approached Elisha's house, Elisha asked Gehazi, "Where have you been?" And Gehazi answered, "Who, me? I didn't go anywhere." *(Pause.)*

"Didn't my spirit go with you?" Elisha replied. "I know Naaman greeted you. I know you took money and clothes. You and your family after you will have Naaman's skin disease forever." *(Pause.)*

Sure enough, Gehazi's skin was soon covered with sores, just as Naaman's had been. His lie had won him some new clothes, but it had cost him Elisha's trust—and a full and healthy life. *(Pause.)*

What to Do:

Print one for each small group.