



HOUSE PARTY

PARENT GUIDE

October 04th

Life App Definition

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

Main Idea

When Daniel and his friends were captured by Babylonian officials, no one would have known or possibly even cared if they continued following God's laws in captivity. However, in their hearts, they knew what was right. They decided to stay true to their faith, and God rewarded them for it. Integrity means doing what is right, even when no one is looking. When we're truthful with our whole life, we're not just honest with our words. We also make sure our actions in front of people or by ourselves match the life God wants us to live.

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

Be truthful with your whole life.

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.

- How did Daniel end up in Babylon, so far away from his home?
 - *King Nebuchadnezzar conquered Judah, and Daniel was captured and brought to Babylon.*
- Why were Daniel and his friends chosen to serve in the king's court?
 - *Because they were smart and healthy*
- How long were Daniel and his friends supposed to train to serve in the king's court?
 - *Three years*

- What food did they serve to Daniel and his friends?
 - *Rich food from the king's own table*
- Why did Daniel refuse to eat the rich food from the king?
 - *Because it was different from the traditional Jewish food he ate to honor God*
- What did Daniel ask to eat instead?
 - *Only vegetables and water for ten days*
- What happened after Daniel and his friends ate only vegetables and water for ten days?
 - *They looked healthy and well-fed.*
- What do vegetables have to do with integrity?
 - *Daniel knew that honoring God meant honoring Him with every part of his life, including what he ate.*
- How did Jesus show integrity?
- If you were guaranteed you wouldn't get caught if you lied, why would it still be important to choose to be truthful?
- What are the consequences of lying?
- What could happen if you tell the truth?
- What do we mean when we talk about who somebody is "on the inside"?
- Who is somebody you know who has integrity?

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

- ☐ No supplies needed

Activity

- Tell your children that you are going to read the scenarios below.
- Tell them to give a thumbs-up if the kid in the scenario is being truthful and showing integrity.
- Tell them to give a thumbs-down if the kid in the scenario is not showing integrity.
- **Scenarios:**
 - It's your mom's birthday, and she loves flowers. Without permission, you pick some flowers from your neighbor's yard.
 - It's your mom's birthday, and she loves flowers. You ask your neighbor if you can pick some of theirs to give her.
 - You drop some food on the floor in the cafeteria. When the teacher asks who did it, you don't say anything.
 - You drop some food on the floor in the cafeteria. You clean it up right away.

- You spill some juice on the floor just before your mom comes into the kitchen. When she asks, "Did you spill the juice?" you say "Yes" and clean it up.
 - You accidentally break something at home. When your dad asks what happened, you say, "I don't know."
 - It's close to dinnertime, and your mom goes outside to talk to a neighbor. While she's gone, you eat a cookie even though you're supposed to ask before getting treats.
 - You find some money in your classroom. You don't know whose it is, so you keep it.
 - You find some money in your classroom. You don't know whose it is, so you give it to your teacher.
 - You get mad at your brother, and you hit him. You tell your mom it was an accident.
 - Your mom tells you to clean your room, so you clean it the best you can.
- Share with them that having integrity means that you choose to be truthful in whatever you SAY and DO.
 - Ask them these questions:
 - So, if your mom tells you to clean your room, and you stuff things under your bed or in your closet, are you being truthful? (No!)
 - Why not? (My mom told me to clean my room, and I really didn't. I didn't do what my mom said.)
 - What should you do instead? (I should really clean my room. I should do what my mom told me to do.)
 - If you break something, and your dad asks, "What happened?" and you say, "I don't know," are you being truthful? (No.)
 - What should you tell your dad instead? ("I broke it. I'm sorry.")
 - Share with your children that God wants us to be truthful with our whole life because He is truthful. And you know what? If we ask Him to help us, He will! So let's remember to be truthful with our whole life.

Prayer

Take a moment and pray with your children. Ask God to help you be truthful in all you say and do.

Dear God,

Thank You so much for the example of Daniel and his friends. Thank You that they showed us that we can do what's right, even when no one's looking. Please help us do what's right, even when no one's looking. Help us live honestly and tell the truth so we can show other people who You are and what You're like. We love You, Lord.

Amen.