

Life of Christ

Jesus is on trial

Matthew 26:57-68

Younger Verse

Speak the truth to each other. Zechariah 8:16

Older Verse

Speak the truth to each other. Zechariah 8:16

Lesson Goals

Explain how Jesus was honest
See how each person should be honest and truthful

Welcome Time

Sometimes it is really easy to tell a little lie. It may seem like we get attention for a little while or keep us out of trouble. Jesus had a choice whether to tell the truth or not. Let's see what He does.

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.*
them.

People tell lies for all kinds of reasons. Some may want to look good. Others may be afraid, because they did something wrong. Still others may lie in order to receive something. What does God want us to do? Let's see how Jesus handles this subject.

At Easter time, we learn about how Jesus died and came back to life three days later. Let's look in the Bible and see how Jesus handled this hard, scary time.

While Jesus was praying in a special garden, His friend, Judas, came with soldiers and pointed Him out. The men grabbed Jesus and arrested Him. They drug him to the leaders for a trial. All the teachers and leaders were there.

A trial is supposed to be a place where both sides of a story are told. There are supposed to be people there that fairly decide justice for a case. They are not to be prejudiced for or against a person.

Well, the people in this case all hated Jesus and wanted Him dead. They did not understand that Jesus really was God's Son. In fact, the trial they held was illegal because they brought everyone together at night.

In fact, there were even people that came to testify against Jesus. They told untrue things, but kept getting facts mixed up.

What did Jesus do during this awful trial? He was silent! That's right. Jesus did not say a word. He could have stood up and demanded a new trial because of the corrupt people or the timing. Instead, Jesus was quiet.

Two people came to the group and told them how Jesus said that he would destroy and then rebuild the church temple in 3 days. Again, Jesus was quiet and did not respond. Please know that Jesus could have told the group that He was talking about how HE

would die and then 3 days later come back to life. He may have been quiet because He knew that the group would not believe Him.

Finally, the leader asked Jesus a question. He asked Jesus if He was God's Son.

Jesus knew that if He answered this question truthfully, something awful would happen. He knew that they would not believe Him and sentence Him to death. Jesus could have lied or remained quiet; however, Jesus told the truth. He stood up for what was right and true.

Jesus told them that He was God's Son and that one day He would sit beside God in Heaven. The men could not believe their ears. He heard Jesus say this but they did not believe Him. Immediately, they decided that He must die. They spit on Him and hit Him with their fists.

Jesus knew what was ahead. He would die on a cross. However, He also knew that something wonderful was going to happen 3 days later. He would come back to life! Jesus chose to tell the truth and He helped make a way for us to go to Heaven, if we believe in Him.

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 our sins. 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 them 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

Help the kids see the importance of telling the truth, even when it may hurt.

Memory Verse Activities

Help the kids find the verse in the Bible. Zechariah comes before Malachi which comes before Matthew. Share how important this command is.

Prayer Time

Ask God to help us tell the truth this week. Thank God for loving us and caring for us in good times and bad times.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Share snacks and ask the kids to help clean up.

Planning for October 6th
Does God want me to respect others?
Jesus and the little children
Matthew 19:13-15

Preschool Lesson For Jesus is on trial

It is very important for us always to tell the truth. Sometimes it is very hard because we may get into trouble for doing something wrong.

At Easter time, we learn about something that Jesus did just for us. Let's listen and hear what happened.

While Jesus was praying in a special place with some of His close friends, a group of soldiers came with weapons. They came looking for Jesus.

Jesus knew that they were mean people. In fact, He was praying because He knew that they were coming for Him and would hurt Him.

Instead of running away, Jesus calmly went with the soldiers.

One of Jesus' friends was mad. He pulled out a little knife and cut one of the soldier's ears off!! Jesus looked at his friend and told him that they were not going to fight. Jesus picked up the ear and put it back on the soldier!! The soldier's ear was well again.

Even though these men were mean, Jesus was kind, and believe it or not, Jesus loved them.

They took Jesus to some of the leaders and asked Him lots of questions. They were angry and wanted to trick Jesus. Jesus was quiet the whole time. They lied about Jesus and probably called Him names. Jesus did not fight back or try to say bad things back. Instead, He did not say a word. The people could not believe it.

Finally, the leader asked Jesus if He really was God's Son.

Jesus spoke and told the truth. He told them that He was God's Son. He also told them that one day He would be in Heaven sitting next to God.

The leaders did not believe Him. They did not know that He was telling the truth. They decided that Jesus should die for saying these things.

Jesus did die on a cross, but it was not for anything wrong He had done. Jesus never did wrong. He never told a lie or did anything to hurt someone else. Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for the things that WE have done wrong. Jesus did this to make a way for us to go to Heaven if we believe in Him. That's how much Jesus loves us!

Thank God for Jesus. Ask Him to help us be honest this week and tell the truth.

Hands-on Ideas For Jesus is on trial

Play the “Quiet game” and see who will be the winner.

Try to see if the kids can tell how long 1 minute of silence is. Bring a watch with a second hand and time the kids. Ask them to be quiet and try to tell you when a minute is up. You’ll be surprised at how long it takes! Talk about how Jesus was patient and quiet even when people were mean to Him.

Play a game and talk about being honest. Many times children “cheat” to win the game. Talk about playing fair and being honest.

Teachers, today may be a good opportunity to share your personal experiences with honesty and untruthfulness. Share how telling the truth is important to us and to God.

For older kids, let the kids act out a situation where someone lied and the problems that happened because of the lie. (Example: something breaks or disobeying parents etc.)

Try the Honesty object lesson. Practice beforehand to make sure you get it right.

Bring a large glass jar and fill halfway with popcorn kernels. Push a ping pong ball into the bottom of the jar. Now swirl the jar. The ping pong ball will always come to the surface of the jar. Share how the ball is like our lies. We think that we have hidden them from everyone. However, our lies are always revealed sometime and God always sees our behavior. Encourage the students to tell the truth to everyone.

Honesty Object Lesson

Supplies:

- Test tube filled with water or small glass
- Potassium permanganate crystals (powder)

All pharmacies sell potassium permanganate as it is used as a disinfectant to wash fruit. Note that since the potassium permanganate is sold as powder you won't actually see the crystals .

- spatula or spoon
- piece of white paper

Instructions:

Introduce this object lesson to your audience by saying that the potassium permanganate crystals, which are very small (barely visible with the naked eye) can be compared to our little lies. Now take a very small amount of potassium permanganate with the spatula, and in front of the class drop the crystals in the test tube. Mix well. Place the white paper behind the test tube and ask the class if they can observe any differences. Potassium permanganate is very soluble in water so the color would have changed to a pinkish color, but not every one will notice this change. Observe to your audience that these little lies will make a difference over time. Add some more crystals (a small amount) and you should notice that the pinkish color becomes more visible. With two more repetitions the color of the water changes into a visible pink color. At this point, point out to your audience that the small potassium permanganate crystals have changed considerably the color of the water. In the same way, our lies will make our lives colored and dirty.