



# WEEK 3

## ELEMENTARY LESSON OUTLINE



### **BIG IDEA**

God helps us be honest with our families.

### **THE BIBLE**

**Jacob and Esau:** Genesis 25:19-34; 27:1-41  
(Psalm 34:13-14, Hebrews 6:18)

### THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

## LARGE GROUP TIME

- **ACTIVITY** | Deal or No Deal
- **ACTIVITY** | Two Truths and a Lie
- **POLL** | Honesty Poll
- **VIDEO** | Your Nose is Growing
- **THE BIG IDEA** | God helps us be honest with our families.
- **BIBLE STORY** | Genesis 25:19-24, 27:1-41
- **ACTIVITY** | Family Stew
- **OBJECT LESSON** | Hide a Lie Spray
- **SCRIPTURE** | Psalm 34:13, Hebrews 6:18
- **OBJECT LESSON** | Ice Cream Honesty
- **ACTIVITY** | Box of Lies
- **REFLECTION** | Honest Evaluation
- **MEMORY VERSES** | Romans 8:28; Psalm 23:1-3

## SMALL GROUP TIME

- **DISCUSSION**
  - What are two ways Jacob was dishonest in this story?
  - Why did Jacob trick Esau and lie to Isaac?
  - What were the consequences of the lies?
  - What are some things family members might lie to each other about?
  - Why do you think God wants us to be honest in our families?
  - How can God help us be honest with our families?
- **SCRIPTURE** | Psalm 34:13-14
- **ACTIVITY** | Go Fish
- **MEMORY VERSES** | Romans 8:28; Psalm 23:1-3



# WEEK 3

## ELEMENTARY LESSON GUIDE



### **BIG IDEA**

God helps us be honest with our families.

### **THE BIBLE**

**Jacob and Esau:** Genesis 25:19-34; 27:1-41  
(Psalm 34:13-14, Hebrews 6:18)

## **LARGE GROUP TIME**

**WHAT?** *What are we talking about today?*

### **ACTIVITY | Deal or No Deal**

- Welcome, everyone! It's our third week of our series about families! We're going to talk about someone from the Bible who traded something important for something else. Let's play a game where we'll have the chance to trade things!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Before the kids arrive, number some small paper bags from one to seven and put small prizes (some good, some not good) in the bags. Invite a kid to the front and hand them a candy bar (be aware of food allergies). Tell them they can either choose to keep the item they have or they can have what is in bag one. They can choose to say "Deal" or "No Deal." If they take the deal, they give up the candy bar and get whatever is in bag one. If they choose to keep the candy bar, they can take the candy bar and go back to their seat. Invite another kid to the front and make the same deal with bag two. Play until all the bags are gone.*
- **FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** *Give them a pack of gummies, or another food that is safe to them. Let a volunteer do this activity with them on their own.*
- **Was it hard to decide if you should make the trade or not? Was anyone disappointed with what you got when you made the trade?**

### **ACTIVITY | Two Truths and a Lie**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid a piece of paper and a pencil. Have each kid write down three statements about themselves. Two statements should be true and one statement should be a lie. Let the kids read their statements aloud and have the group vote on the statement they think is a lie.*

- **FOR PRETEENS:** See your weekly instructions for details about a fun game to play with your preteens to teach them about lying and reading people who aren't telling the truth.
- **FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** Prepare three sets of examples for the kids. As the group chooses ones they think are the lies, cross them off to double check the truths; do this three times. The last one should have a very realistic lie for kids to see how difficult it can be to tell the difference between truths and lies.
- **Is it easy to tell when someone is lying? It's not always easy! We're going to hear about someone in the Bible who lied and was tricky.**

### POLL | Honesty Poll

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid two pieces of different colored paper. Ask questions and have the kids hold up one color to answer "yes" and the other color to answer "no." To make them feel more comfortable answering honestly, tell your leaders to answer honestly as well.
  - Have you ever told a lie?
  - Have you ever lied to get something you wanted?
  - Have you ever lied so you wouldn't get in trouble?
  - Have you ever lied so you wouldn't be embarrassed?
  - Have you ever lied so someone else wouldn't get in trouble?
  - Did you get caught?
  - Was it worth it?
- **What are some reasons we might lie?**
- **What are the consequences when we lie?** We're going to talk about some people who lied and had to deal with the consequences!

## SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

### VIDEO | Your Nose is Growing

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Watch [this](#) famous video clip about lying.
- Pinocchio is probably the most famous liar of all time. His dishonesty got him into a lot of trouble. The fairy said, "A lie keeps growing and growing until it's as plain as the nose on your face." **Do you think that's true?**
- Today, we're going to hear about a family who was also hurt by dishonesty.

### THE BIG IDEA | God helps us be honest with our families.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Each week, do a big reveal (and make it fun) when you announce the Big Idea, like:
  - Ask the kids to give you a drumroll by stomping their feet or patting their laps.
  - Shout the Big Idea, then point to the kids and have them shout it back. (Change it up by using funny voices, different volumes, or inflections).
  - Have a character (either recurring or rotating) come out every week to reveal the Big Idea.
  - Write it on a piece of paper and hide it somewhere in the room. Have the kids go on a "hunt" for it. When it's found, ask someone to come up and read it.
- This week's Big Idea: **God helps us be honest with our families.**

**BIBLE STORY | Genesis 25:19-24; 27:1-41**

- We've been learning about the family of Abraham! **Do you remember where we left off?** Abraham and his wife, Sarah, had a baby named Isaac. God asked Abraham to sacrifice his son, and Abraham obeyed, but God provided a ram so Abraham didn't have to sacrifice Isaac! Now we're going to learn about what happened when Isaac got old and had two sons of his own!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Look up the story in your Bible and encourage the kids to do the same. There is a long section, so you can summarize this story.*
- **How did God answer Isaac's prayer for a child?** He gave him twins: Jacob and Esau. **Is anyone in here a twin?**
- **How were Jacob and Esau different?** Esau had red hair, and he was very hairy! Esau became a hunter and Jacob stayed home.
- **When Esau came in from hunting and was very hungry, what deal did he make with Jacob?** He traded his birthright for some stew! **Do you know what a birthright is?** It was what a son inherited from his father when the father died. It involved material possessions, like money, animals, and the house. It also involved spiritual gifts, such as becoming the spiritual leader of the family. For Jacob and Esau, it was extra special because it told who would get the promise from God to make nations through their family and lead to the family of Jesus. This was a really big deal! Esau was supposed to get the birthright because he was born first. But Jacob tricked him and traded the birthright for some stew. That must have been some really good stew! **Do you think that was a fair trade? No! Was Esau wrong to trade his birthright for some stew?** Yes! Both of them were wrong in this story. But that's not the end of their story! **What happened later when Isaac was about to die?**
- **How did Rebekah and Jacob trick Isaac?** They dressed Jacob up like Esau and made him hairy and made Isaac believe it was Esau.
- **How do you think Esau felt when he found out what Jacob had done?**
- Esau was wrong to give up his birthright, and both Jacob and Rebekah were dishonest when they tricked Isaac. Jacob got what he wanted twice, but it caused big problems in their family. Jacob and Esau had a bad relationship for most of their lives.
- Dishonesty causes big problems in families today. **Do we ever lie to our family members? What kinds of lies might cause problems in families?**
- **Why do you think it is important to God that we are honest with our families?** God wants us to have good relationships in our families. God can help us be honest with our families.

**ACTIVITY | Family Stew**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Get some different colors of Play-Doh and let the kids help you make things out of it that would be ingredients in a stew. They could make tomatoes, onions, meat, green beans, beans, peppers, potatoes. Set a big bowl or pot in the middle of the room and let them take turns putting them in. Each time they put something in the pot, they have to say one way God can help their family.*
- **FOR PRETEENS:** *You can play a messy game and dump some canned soup into paper bowls, then hide a piece of candy in each one and see who can get the candy out of the stew first (without using their hands).*
- **FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** *Let them play with the play dough during parts of the service when it is difficult for them to focus. You can give them stamps and Play-Doh shape cookie cutters.*

### ACTIVITY | Hide a Lie Spray

- I have a new product I want to test! **Do you want to do an experiment with me and see how well it works?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Using chalk, write the word "LIE" on some poster board or craft paper. Tell the kids you are going to test this spray and see if it's a good way to cover up a lie. Spray some hairspray evenly over the words and watch them disappear. Then remind the kids about some things we might lie about, such as doing our chores, breaking a dish, getting a bad grade at school, or having a fight with friends. Keep talking until the hairspray dries and the word reappears. Wait for the kids to notice and point out that the word is back.
- **Did the spray cover up the lie?** No! Even when we try to hide them, our lies don't really disappear. God sees everything we say and do, and the truth always comes out. The best thing we can do is be honest.

## NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

### SCRIPTURE | Psalm 34:13, Hebrews 6:18

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Look up the verses and read them.
- **What does this verse say about how God feels about lies?**
- **Does God ever lie?**
- God is always truthful. He doesn't lie. He views even little lies as sin. Like any other sin, lying separates us from Him. We can tell God we're sorry and ask Him to forgive us. When we lie to others, we can tell them the truth and tell them we're sorry too.

### OBJECT LESSON | Ice Cream Honesty

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Make a bowl of ice cream. Show kids a container of salt. Explain that the ice cream represents honesty and the salt represents a lie. Sprinkle salt all over the ice cream. If you have one brave enough, let a leader taste the ice cream (or a kid, if you have any really brave kids!). Be aware of food allergies. Then, tell the kids you are going to cover up the lie and add chocolate syrup. Again, let the leader taste it (make sure they still get part of the ice cream with salt). Then, tell the kids you can cover it up even more by adding sprinkles! Let the leader taste it again and discover that covering up the salt didn't get rid of it.
- **FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** See your weekly instructions for an easy activity to illustrate this truth for your kids with special needs, using paper, tape, and sticky notes.
- **Did any of you think the chocolate or sprinkles would cover up the taste of the salt?**
- **What are some ways we try to cover up the lies we tell?**
- No matter what we added to the ice cream, you could still taste the salt. Dishonesty is similar. No matter how you try to cover it up, a lie doesn't go away and eventually the truth will come out.
- **When you've been dishonest, what is the right way to handle it instead of trying to cover it up?**

### ACTIVITY | Box of Lies

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Get eight brown paper bags or shoeboxes and fill them with the most random items you can think of (the funnier and more unexpected, the better). Have two kids come up and sit

facing each other, with the boxes on a table next to them, and some volunteers holding up a sheet between them so they can only see each other's faces, but nothing on the other side of the table. This is based on a popular game by *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*. [Click here to see an example of how to play.](#) In the show, it's supposed to be things in the box that no one has ever seen before.

- **FOR PRETEENS:** Let your preteens watch the sample video and then let them be the first to play the game. They can also help you put crazy objects in the boxes.
- **In our story from the Bible, was Isaac good at knowing who was lying?** No! He thought it was Esau in his room getting the blessing, when it was really Jacob.
- In this game, we're going to see how good you are at telling if someone is lying or telling the truth. One player will choose a box and open it on their own side of the sheet so the other player can't see it. Then, you'll describe whatever is in the box and the other player will say if they think you're lying or telling the truth. If they get it right, they get a point, and if they get it wrong, you get a point. Then, you'll switch and the other person will get a turn. The first person to get two points wins. You have to be very tricky so they don't know if you're telling the truth or not!

### REFLECTION | Honest Evaluation

- If we are very honest, we all struggle with being dishonest at times. God wants us to confess that to Him and help us learn why honesty is always the best choice for us to make. We are going to spend a few quiet minutes thinking about who we've been dishonest with or things we have been dishonest about.
- This isn't to try and get anyone in trouble or embarrass anyone! We all struggle with being honest. We aren't trying to catch anyone in a lie. This is between you and God. You're going to tell Him you're sorry.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Post signs around the room for each of the following statements: "Parents," "Siblings," "Grandparents," "Homework," "Chores," "Bedtime," "TV/Tablet," and "Friends." Play some quiet music and give kids a sheet of stickers. While the music plays, have them rotate to different signs. If they recognize that they have been dishonest to the person or about the subject on the sign, they should put a sticker on the sign. They can then pray and ask for God's forgiveness and/or ask Him to help them be honest with that person or situation. Encourage kids to do this quietly and on their own.
- We all mess up. When we realize we've been dishonest, we can tell God we're sorry and ask Him for forgiveness. Then, we need to tell our family the truth, apologize, and make things right with our family.

### MEMORY VERSES | Romans 8:28; Psalm 23:1-3

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid memory verse magnets or stickers. Then work on the memory verse together. For ideas on how to do this well, check out the Memory Verse Guide in your Programming folder and give them to your small group leaders, if you'd like.



## SMALL GROUP TIME

### DISCUSSION

- **What are two ways Jacob was dishonest in this story?** (*Tricking Esau out of his birthright and tricking Isaac to get the blessing.*)
- **Why did Jacob trick Esau and lie to Isaac?** (*He wanted things that weren't his; he was looking out for himself.*)
- **What were the consequences of the lies?**
- **What are some things family members might lie to each other about?**
- **Why do you think God wants us to be honest in our families?**
- **How can God help us be honest with our families?**

### SCRIPTURE | Psalm 34:13-14

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Look up the verses in your Bible and encourage the kids to do the same. Read them!*
- **What do these verses tell us to do?**
- **How can being honest with our family help us seek peace?**
- **In what situations might you need to remember these verses?**

### ACTIVITY | Go Fish

- You might have heard of the game, Go Fish! We're going to play, but with one change: when someone asks you if you have something, you're allowed to lie! **Do you think it will be easier or harder to play this way?** Let's see!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *You can play any game your group is familiar with, just adapt the rules so kids are allowed to cheat or lie. If you have the game Go Fish, play using regular Go Fish rules, but tell the kids they're allowed to lie! Let the kids play for a while and allow kids to become frustrated and realize it's not fun when people aren't honest. Then, have the kids play the correct way and see how much more fun it is when everyone tells the truth.*
- **FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:** *You may need to encourage the kids to actually lie and remind them that others are lying. Remind them before the game that they should not play this way in real life, and it is just for this lesson.*
- **Did you like playing the game when people were allowed to lie?**
- **Was it frustrating for you?**
- **Is it frustrating in our families when people aren't honest? How can we work on being more honest in our families?**

### MEMORY VERSES | Romans 8:28; Psalm 23:1-3

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