



**Sunday School Lesson for May 21, 2006**  
**Released on May 18, 2006**

**"The Path of Honesty"**

**GOLDEN TEXT:** - "The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them" (Proverbs 11:3).

**SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT: Proverbs 11:1 - 14**

**11:1 A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight.**

**2 When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.**

3 The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall

destroy them.

**4 Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death.**

5 The righteousness of the perfect shall direct his way: but the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.

**6 The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them: but transgressors shall be taken in *their own* naughtiness.**

7 When a wicked man dieth, *his* expectation shall perish: and the hope of unjust *men*

*perisheth.*

**8 The righteous is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked cometh in his stead.**

9 An hypocrite with *his* mouth destroyeth his neighbour: but through knowledge shall the just

be delivered.

**10 When it goeth well with the righteous, the city rejoiceth: and when the wicked**

**perish, there is shouting.**

11 By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted: but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.

**12 He that is void of wisdom despiseth his neighbour: but a man of understanding**

**holdeth his peace.**

13 A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter.

**14 Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.**

### **THE OBJECT IN VIEW**

Honest is required of the believer.

### **TRUTHS TO STRESS:**

God wants us to be honest.

We should desire to tell the truth.

Stopping to think first helps prevent dishonest words.

### **PLANNING VISUAL AIDS**

For Beginning the Lesson, on the chalkboard write the word "integrity" and scramble the letters for the word "honest" For Telling the Lesson, each child will need a Bible. For Telling How to Live, make a stop sign. Print the word "Think" on the back. For Helping to Remember, Read short story about shepherd boy who did not tell the truth. Students will discuss the moral of the story and the importance of truth and honesty.

### **BEGINNING THE LESSON**

(Point to and pronounce the word "integrity") This word may be new to you. It is something the Bible says the believer must have. Unscramble the letters on the board to find the meaning. (Give thinking time; then write "honesty" after "integrity.")

Why is honesty important to God, to others, and to us? Our lesson talks about honesty.

## **TELLING THE LESSON**

**Today we will look at Proverbs 11: 1 - 14**

**1. The opposite of lying is\_\_\_\_\_.**

Answer: (Honesty) keeps us doing and saying what is pleasing to God. (Read John 14:6)

**2. Jesus said that He was the\_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_**

Answer: Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. Accepting Jesus helps us to be honest.

**3. What keeps us doing and saying what is pleasing to God?**

Answer: (Honesty) If we are dishonest we disappoint God. He wants us to be honest in our hearts and in all our ways.

**4. Who promises to guide those who live Him?**

Answer: (God) If we are stubborn and disobedient God will not give us His guidance. Honesty is a guide for life. It helps us do and say what is right. Read verse 13

**5. What do the word "talebearer" mean?**

Answer: The talebearer tells secrets. If you promise to keep a secret then you should be honest and do what you promised.

## **TELLING HOW TO LIVE**

We must do our best to tell the truth.

We need to help to be honest. We cannot do it on our own.

What do you do when you come to a crossroad? Let us pretend the name of the crossroad is "Lie Street."

(Hold up the stop sign.) First, we stop. Then what do we do? (Discuss, Look both ways. Remember what God's Word says.)

(Turn the sign over to "Think.") We must think. What will help us take the right road?

Call for help. (Pretend you are calling on a cell phone.) "Hello God. I have a problem here. I need help to tell the truth."

Stop, think, and ask for help. Go straight across Lie Street. Stay on Truth Road.

Write "Be Honest" on the board. When we tell the truth, God is pleased. It gives peace inside. We do not feel guilty.

Sing the following words to the tune of "Take My Life, and Let It Be: (Havergal).

***Take my lips and let them say***

***True and honest words today;***

***Help me stop and think of Thee,***

***Who gives peace of mind to me?***

## **HELPING TO REMEMBER**

**It is important to always tell the truth and be honest. This is a story about a shepherd boy who did not tell the truth and what happened to him and his sheep.**

There was a shepherd boy who watched his flock of sheep on the hill outside the village. One day he decided to play a trick on the townspeople and began to cry, "The wolves are eating my sheep!" All the people from the village came running to help but the shepherd boy just laughed because he had fooled them. A few days later he did it again, "Wolves are coming!" Again the people came and again the little boy laughed at them. Then one day he spotted a real pack of wolves coming up the hill. He desperately cried, "Help, Wolves! Wolves are coming to eat my sheep!" Do you know what happened next?

***No one came to help and the wolves ate his sheep.***

Students will discuss the moral of the story and importance of telling the truth and honesty.

## **EXPLAINING THE GOLDEN TEXT**

**"The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them" (Proverbs 11:3).**

Honest guides the believer in what to say and what not to say. The stubborn and disobedient go their own way. The promise of destruction follows.

***PRAYER: Father God, we pray that we may always say words that are pleasing in your sight. We ask before we speak words that we think are they***

***true, honest, and what you would have us say. In Jesus' name we pray.  
AMEN***

### **ANTICIPATING NEXT WEEK'S LESSON**

Next week lesson will discuss what it takes to be a Godly Woman and how serving God is more important than jewels. Also, how we should aim to please God first in our lives.

### **LESSON SUMMARIZED BY:**

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Maze Activity:

Jesus leads us in the Straight and Narrow Path

