



Truthfulness/Integrity Lesson Plan

Values Branch

Lesson Plans are designed to accompany the related Helps documents for each Step. Please refer to the resources in the appropriate Helps document found in the Leader Pages while you prepare your lesson.

The six "F"s are presented in a suggested order, but you are not required to complete them in that order. You may rearrange them as fits your troop's particular needs.

Necessary Resources



- Large "treasure chest" filled with a variety of items

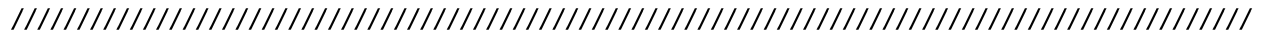


- Metallic glitter
- Small amount of craft sand
- Water bottles (one for each boy)



- Oil
- Glue (hot glue works best, but craft glue will work)
- Mixing bowls

FUN



Elbow Tag

Partner up the boys and have them lock arms. Have the teams stand in a circle with as much running room as possible. Pull one of the teams out, and designate one boy as the runner and one as the chaser. The runner is safe once he locks arms with another team to make a chain of three. The boy on the opposite side of the chain of three is the new runner. If the runner is caught by the chaser, he becomes the new chaser.

FOCUS



What is integrity?

Discuss "integrity" with the Trailmen.

Explain to the Trailmen that integrity is more than just being honest. It's about showing that we can be trusted to do what is right and say what is true for the right reasons. You don't do the right thing for attention, accolades, or rewards; you do the right thing because it is the right thing to do. Telling the truth is good, but living the truth is better.

C.S. Lewis once said, "Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching." It is not easy to do the right thing when no one is around.



Character

We have been talking this month about what character is and why it is important. Good character is very important and God values it.

Ask the following:

- Is it always easy to have good character?
- Where does good character come from? (Wait for responses)
- Where does bad character come from? (Wait for responses)
- Can you have good and bad character at the same time? (Wait for responses)
- Expound on the ideas of good and bad decisions molding our character.
- Expound on the idea that sometimes we make mistakes and need help cleaning up our messes. Even when things seem impossible, God can provide a way.



Character

Today's discussion is about developing good character, using Galatians 5:22-23 as a reference. Discuss the meaning of character as the daily choices that make us who we are. Ask for some responses and examples of good character (trustworthy, honest, etc.).

Consider asking a pastor to speak at this meeting. Trailmen can prepare questions for the pastor in the prior meeting.

FINGERS



Treasure Chest

Put a treasure chest (or other large box) in the front of the room with various items in it. Tell the Foxes that nobody touches the chest except for the Trail Guide. Select a boy (preferably a good actor) and, without the other boys noticing, tell him to look in the box. Leave the room and observe the interactions as the actor looks inside the box. See which boys will (a) approach the Fox to tell him it was wrong, (b) tell an adult, and (c) just ignore it altogether.

After the activity, discuss the following:

- How did it feel to make the decision to show integrity?
- How did it feel to not live with integrity?
- Was it easy to stand up for what is right"?

(Adapted from an activity on www.scholastic.com.)



Experiment

The glitter represents good character. Can you name some examples of good character?

The sand represents bad character. Can you name some examples of bad character?



Because we are human, we have both good and bad character traits.

- Allow the boys to mix the glitter and the sand in a mixing bowl. How will they separate it again?
- Have the boys drink half of their water bottle while they discuss options.
- Pour a small amount of the mixture into the bottle.
- Add a tablespoon of oil, replace cap (leader should apply small amount of glue to inside of cap before replacing) and shake it up.

- Allow the bottle to rest and see what happens.

Explain: Just as the glitter and the sand separate, God can help us distinguish between good and bad character traits.

FAITH (TRAIL GUIDE THOUGHTS)



Faith

Share: Matthew 5:14-16

Pray with the Trailmen.



Choose the Right Way

Read - Psalm 1:1-4:

There is a blessed man and wicked man in this story. What is the difference between these men? The blessed man delights in the law of the Lord (God's Word), and he thinks about what God wants all the time. He grows and grows and grows. But the wicked man doesn't care what God wants, and this passage says he withers up and blows away. He disobeys God. He goes in the opposite direction. If you were one of these men, which one would you be? Would you be a man who thinks about God and his ways or one who does not?

Prayer: God, I pray that these boys would choose the right way, the blessed way. Please guide their minds and thoughts and help them to think about what you say all day. We are blessed to have your Word to teach us. Remind us to read your Word every day, because we want to be men of God. When we think like the wicked man, help us to get back on track. We want to please you with our lives. Amen.



Service

Discuss how our actions reflect our character. Read and discuss - Luke 6:44-45. Read and discuss - Matthew 15:17-18. How do our actions influence what others think about us and our character?

Pray for each member to grow to be a man who seeks the character of God in his life.

FAMILY



Light in the Dark

Darken the room and light one candle. Note how one little light brightens the entire room. Discuss how a person's integrity ("doing what is right and saying what is true") is like a light to family members and friends.



Separating

Today we talked about separating good character traits from bad. Ask your Hawk to explain their bottle of sand and glitter to you. God helps us to shed the sand "dirt" or "sin" in our lives and helps us to cultivate and nurture the good.



Family Discussion

Talk with your family about respecting others and understanding differences and individuality. Discuss how we can show our "inward" character traits of respect and responsibility. For several days, choose a household chore (picking up your laundry, helping with the dishes) that you can do to show responsibility.

FOREST BADGE



By actively participating in this meeting, each Trailman earned the Truthfulness/Integrity Step on the Values Branch.



*Note: It is up to the Trail Guide to determine whether or not a Trailman was an active in the meeting. Even if he attended the meeting, you are not required to award him the Step if he did not participate.



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