



## MIDDLE SCHOOL RESOURCE

### God's Way: Session 10

#### Do Not Lie

Key Statement: The Ninth Commandment helps us see that 1) God forbids lying, 2) God desires a truthful heart, and 3) a truthful heart is found in Christ.

#### ::CONNECT::

##### Option 1: Fantasy

- Inform students that they're going to play a game called "Fantasy." In this game, two or three volunteers will leave the room while the remaining students will create a fantasy story involving the two or three volunteers. When they finish, the volunteers will come back in and must figure out the story by asking only yes-or-no questions. Choose two or three volunteers, and then have them leave the room.
- Truth is, you're not going to make up a story. Instead, tell the remaining group that every time the volunteers ask a question where the last letter is a vowel, the answer to that question is yes. For every time they ask a question where the last letter is a consonant or y, the answer is no. Take a little time to be sure everyone understands, then have the volunteers come back in.
- Begin the questioning and see what kind of story they come up with. After a time you think appropriate, close the activity and tell the truth about the origin of the "story."
- Ask the volunteers to explain how they felt when they found out the truth. Were they hurt? Bummed? Surprised?
- Use the reactions of the volunteers to connect to the points of the lesson: that God forbids lying and desires a truthful heart.

##### Option 2: For better...

- Split students into groups. They are to create skits in which someone tells a lie. Have them create and present their skits.
- Now, take a moment to discuss why the character felt the need to lie. What were they trying to do by telling such a lie? What good did it do?
- Next, the students are to replay the exact same scenario, but this time, the character must tell the truth. They should also extend the skit to see the consequences of telling the truth.

- Allow a few minutes for students to show the skits.
- Discuss the benefits of telling the truth in that situation. Explain that even if it is hard, telling the truth results in greater joy in the Lord. You could also point out how it shows trust in the Lord to tell the truth. If possible, connect truth telling to the new heart as stated in point 3 of the lesson.

#### ::CONVEY::

If you are pressed for time this week, consider only covering points two and three of the lesson.

Remember, this is merely a suggested outline adaptation for a middle school group. If you decide to incorporate one or more option into your group time, you will likely have to be very selective on the material you decide to teach through. Keep in mind that each class is different, and as the leader guide suggests, personalize the lesson content for your class by determining what elements are most applicable. Don't feel pressured to teach through all of the content in a single meeting, but instead help middle school students to see the main overall point and big picture the lesson is conveying.

#### ::COLLIDE::

See Leader Guide