



Family Time with God Week 4—Tell the Truth

YOU WILL NEED: Items to make something that shoots at a target. It could be a shoe you sling through the air at a hula-hoop or a chalk circle you drew on your patio. Or, a paper airplane you throw and try to get it into a trash can, or a water balloon you toss at a certain brick on your house, etc. You can be very creative with this and even play more than one style; A Bible marked at Psalm 34:13.

GET STARTED

Let your family take turns shooting at the target.

ASK: If I come close to hitting the target but don't hit it, is it still a miss? Even if I'm really close? (Yes, if it's not a hit, it's a miss. It doesn't matter how close you get to it.)

SAY: The same is true with telling the truth. Some people will tell you that it's okay not to tell the whole truth or it's good enough if you come close to the truth. But if it's not the truth, then it's a lie. Just like, if it's not a hit, it's a miss.

SAY: Here are some examples:

Let's pretend that Hayden takes a cup of chocolate milk into the living room. He knows he's not supposed to but he decides that he will be very careful not to spill it. While he's watching TV, his little brother, Timmy, runs through the room wearing a blanket as a cape. The cape hits the cup and accidentally spills the milk. Hayden's mom asks him what happened. He says, "Timmy spilled chocolate milk in the living room." Is this true or a way of lying?

It's true to a point but he's leaving out the details that could get him in trouble. Timmy did spill the milk but it wasn't his milk. Hayden needs to tell the whole truth even though it means he'll get in trouble for taking his milk into the living room.

Samantha is in the library at school. One of the library rules is that nobody is allowed to draw on the chalkboard without permission. After she finds her book, she sits down and her best friend tells her to look at the chalkboard. Her friend has drawn a really nice picture of a flower. A few minutes later the teacher calls the class together and asks, "Did anyone see who drew this picture?" Her friend looks scared but she doesn't admit to doing it. The teacher says again, "Did anyone see who drew this picture?" Samantha doesn't want her friend to get in trouble? What should she do?

Samantha decides not say anything because even though she knew who did it, the teacher asked, "Did anyone SEE who did it" and she didn't actually SEE her friend do it. Is this being truthful or is it a way of telling a lie?

Sometimes we can lie by not speaking up when we know the truth. Samantha knows that even though the teacher is saying, "Did anyone SEE who did it," she really just wants to know who wrote on the chalkboard. Samantha is twisting what her teacher means to justify not telling on her friend.

ASK: How do you think God wants us to use our words?

Read Psalm 34:13 from your Bible.

SAY: God wants us to use our mouths and tongues for doing good and to keep them from lies and evil.

Have everyone in your family hold their tongue and REPEAT the verse after you.

REPEAT after me: "Always tell the truth!"

PRAY and ask God to help your family to always be truthful.