

Topic: Proper Humanity – Truthful (Lesson 118)

Note: The practical applications provided in the lesson are offered as suggestions to help the saints in their preparation. They are not meant to direct or limit the ways in which the focus of the lesson can be applied. The saints are encouraged to pray and contact the Lord to receive His burden and guidance in teaching and applying the lesson. Fellowship with other saints, and inquiring of the children themselves, may also bring out many helpful applications.

Elementary:

Verse: “Therefore having put off the lie, speak truth each one with his neighbor...” (Ephesians 4:25).

Focus: A truthful person will always speak the truth and not tell lies.

Practical Application: When we talk about a certain matter we must tell the truth and not lie. Talk to the children about how they feel when they speak the truth and when they speak a lie. Because we were made by God to be truthful, we do not feel right inside when we lie. Also, if we speak truthfully, people will believe what we say and trust us. Consider telling the story about the boy who cried “wolf” to show that people will eventually not believe the things we say if we do not always speak the truth.

Intermediate:

Verse: “Little children, let us not love in word nor in tongue but in deed and truthfulness” (1 John 3:18).

Focus: We should be truthful not only in the things we say but also in our deeds, in the things we do. All of our actions and dealings with others should be truthful.

Practical Application: While you are playing with your toys, suppose your parents ask you to go and tidy your room. You want to keep playing with your toys, but you also know that your parents are waiting for your response. You might say, “Yes, mommy,” but you don’t actually go to tidy your room. Instead, you continue to play. Were you being truthful? To agree to something means that we have to follow through in a timely manner and do what we have promised. This is to be truthful.

Advanced:

Verse: “Behold, You delight in truth in the inward parts; And in the hidden part You would make known wisdom to me” (Psalm 51:6).

Focus: Being truthful is a matter of the heart. We should be truthful in our words and deeds outwardly, and more so inwardly in our heart.

Practical Application: At home your parents might ask you to set the table for dinner. Even though you may go and set the table, in your heart you may be complaining. You may think that it is not fair that you have to set the table and that your brother or sister does not have to help. After you finish setting the table your mother says, “Thank you,” and you reply, “You’re welcome.” Outwardly, your words and deeds were correct, but inwardly your heart was not right. Your heart should match your words; otherwise, you are not being truthful.