



ORANGE GROUP IDEAS

MAIN IDEAS FOR THE NIGHT

When it comes to sins such as lying, we often justify our actions and dismiss our words as if they are no big deal. God doesn't dismiss the sins that our culture views as harmless or even necessary. Lying is part of our fallen nature, a part that we would do well to put to death. Let's please God by speaking only truth!

KEY VERSES:

"The Lord hates those whose lips tell lies. But he is pleased with people who tell the truth."
Proverbs 12:22 NIRV

"Suppose someone wants to love life and see good days. Then they must keep their tongues from speaking evil. They must keep their lips from telling lies."
1 Peter 3:10 (NIRV)

ICE BREAKERS

Orange Group Leader: Choose the icebreaker(s) that you believe will work best for your group. Each of them works easily into the main ideas for the meeting, so feel free to use them at any point.

TWO TRUTHS AND A TALE

WHAT YOU NEED: You may need paper and pencil/pen for each group member if you decide to play individually.

WHAT TO DO: For this great game, each person must make three statements about themselves, one of which isn't true. For example: I have two brothers, I was born in Australia, I have a motorcycle. This works best when you give the group some time to think of their statements, and write them down if they need.

Once one person makes his/her statements, the rest of the group must guess, or vote on, which statement is the tale. You could also play individually by having each group member write down his/her own answers as each person makes their statements. Then see who got the most correct.

TOILET PAPER ROLL

WHAT YOU NEED: One roll of toilet paper

WHAT TO DO: Start this icebreaker by passing around a roll of toilet paper and ask people to tear off the amount they normally use. (Have some fun with this!) AFTER everyone has done this, you then announce that for each sheet (square) they have torn off, they must tell the group one little-known thing about themselves!

THE HUMAN CHAIR

Invite everyone to stand in a circle shoulder to shoulder. Each person then turns to the right to face the back of the person in front of him or her. Ask them to place their hands on the shoulder of the person in front. On the count of three they slowly begin to sit down on the lap of the person behind. As long as everyone is helping the person in front of him or her to sit, then everyone should be supporting the weight of everyone else. Of course, should someone slip, the game becomes 'human dominoes.' © It might take a couple of attempts to complete the challenge.



OTHER ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT THE MAIN IDEAS:

SALTY ICE CREAM

WHAT YOU NEED: You need a tray of goodies for this object lesson. Include ice cream, a bowl, scoop, chocolate syrup, sprinkles, salt and plastic spoons.

WHAT TO DO: Scoop out some ice cream in a bowl and talk about how delicious it is. Ask kids what their favorite toppings are. Ask them if salt would be a good topping. Accidentally, (on purpose) sprinkle salt on the ice cream, lots of salt.



If you like, let a brave child or two try the salted ice cream (not too much, though).

Ask the children if it would help to cover the salt with chocolate syrup and sprinkles. Do they think the toppings will cover the salty flavor completely? Do this (don't use too much syrup, though).

Let them taste it using plastic spoons. (It still won't taste right; and will get worse as they eat more. Plus, eating all that salt will eventually upset their stomachs.)

THE POINT: Talk about how sometimes in our lives we disobey our parents or other authority. At other times we simply fail at something. Those times in our lives are bitter, sort of like the salt that we sprinkled in the ice cream. They make our lives feel not as good as we want them to feel.

In those moments, we may be tempted to lie about our disobedience or failure in an attempt to cover it up. We might try and blame somebody else for what we did or didn't do. But that's like trying to cover up salty ice cream with chocolate syrup and sprinkles – it might appear to be better, but it's still actually bitter. And just like eating the salty ice cream, the more we lie, the more bitter our lives become.

God always wants us to tell the truth. Otherwise, we are speaking the language of the devil who always lies!

The Bible says: "When (the devil) lies, he speaks his natural language. He does this because he is a liar. He is the father of lies." John 8:44b (NIRV)

Let's make certain that we only speak the truth. Even if telling the truth might cost us something right now, it is always the best way to go.



“BUTTON, BUTTON”

During this honesty game, children will compete to see if they can tell who is lying. The game will help students understand why honesty is the best policy by trying to guess who’s lying! The game breeds distrust, which they will feel, and it will give you a chance to talk about a great Scripture urging truthfulness.

WHAT YOU NEED: A button; space for the children to sit in a circle.

HOW TO PLAY: Begin by saying: Lying is so easy sometimes. We don’t want to hurt someone’s feelings, or it may feel easier to fib a little than to get into the whole story of what really happened. But when it comes down to it, lying is the most difficult thing anyone can do. Not only for the person hiding the truth but also for the person being lied to. We’ll see an example of this in today’s game!

1. Have the children sit in a circle and close their eyes.
2. Once all eyes are closed choose one child to walk around the circle for a bit and have them tap a child on the shoulder to let them know to open their eyes.
3. They will then place a button in that child’s hand.
4. Next, the first child will turn around, close his/her eyes, and count to fifteen.
5. In that time, the child with the button has the option of walking around the circle and choosing a new child to give the button to, or keeping the button for themselves.
6. After fifteen seconds, have the original child stand in the center of the circle and ask each student “Button, button who’s got the button?”
7. Each student will have to say: “No, I don’t have the button.”
8. If the liar is correctly guessed, then the standing child wins. If not then the rest of the class wins.

Repeat this game with others children as desired.

THE POINT: Look all around and shudder. Can anyone else feel the energy of “distrust” that is now in this room? We’ve all been looking at each other, asking, “Who’s the liar?” It doesn’t feel great, does it? But if everyone always told the truth, we would not have to worry about who was being dishonest!

The Apostle Peter said, in 1 Peter 3:10, “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit.”

Why is lying hurtful? *(Let them discuss.)*

Did you know that if you lie to a friend, your friendship is “cut in half?” That means the person you lied to, once they find out, will not trust you again for a long, long time – maybe not ever. Did you know that when your parents catch you in a lie, they will wonder about everything you say for days or even weeks?

Lying breaks trusts. Telling the truth builds trusts. Always practice telling the truth, even when it’s not easy. You may have to apologize if you make a mistake, but you will never lose friends like you will from lying!

Let’s commit to always tell the truth in this classroom! That way, friendships can form here and people can feel trusting towards each other. Who can commit to that today?



WHY LIE?

Leader: *You may opt to use this discussion time as the heart of your meeting. Or, you can email this to each family for use in the coming week as a way to reinforce what you discussed in your Orange Group. You choose.*

LEAD THE FOLLOWING DISCUSSION:

Lying is something we all do. No one has to teach us how to lie, it comes natural for us all. Often we lie to keep ourselves out of trouble. Can you think of a time you told a lie? Why did you do it?

Read Acts 5:1-10 as a group/family if desired (included below).

It is a story of a husband and wife, Ananias and Sapphira, who both told a lie. They were not trying to get out of trouble. They were trying to get people to like them more.

Ananias and Sapphira sold a piece of land that they owned. They took the money to church and told everyone they were giving the entire amount of money to the church. They lied, because they really kept some of the money for themselves. It was really a silly reason to lie. It was their land, and their money, so they could do anything they wanted with it. They wanted all the people like them more. Peter told Ananias he had lied to God. When he heard this, Ananias fell to the ground dead. A few hours later Sapphira came in, and she told the same lie. She also fell down and died. The consequence for their lie was that they both died.

ASK AND DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING:

- What are some consequences you can think of for lying?
- Why do you tell lies?
- What is a lie you remember telling?

Pray now and ask God to help you be honest and tell the truth instead of telling lies. Ask for forgiveness for any lies you have told.

Acts 5:1-10 (NIRV)

A man named Ananias and his wife, Sapphira, also sold some land. ²He kept part of the money for himself. Sapphira knew he had kept it. He brought the rest of it and put it down at the apostles' feet.

³Then Peter said, "Ananias, why did you let Satan fill your heart? He made you lie to the Holy Spirit. You have kept some of the money you received for the land. ⁴Didn't the land belong to you before it was sold? After it was sold, you could have used the money as you wished. What made you think of doing such a thing? You haven't lied just to people. You've also lied to God."

⁵When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. All who heard what had happened were filled with fear. ⁶Some young men came and wrapped up his body. They carried him out and buried him.

⁷About three hours later, the wife of Ananias came in. She didn't know what had happened. ⁸Peter asked her, "Tell me. Is this the price you and Ananias sold the land for?"

"Yes," she said. "That's the price."

⁹Peter asked her, "How could you agree to test the Spirit of the Lord? Listen! You can hear the steps of the men who buried your husband. They are at the door. They will carry you out also."

¹⁰At that moment she fell down at Peter's feet and died. Then the young men came in. They saw that Sapphira was dead. So they carried her out and buried her beside her husband.



CEREAL BOX LIES

Leader: *Invite an adult or older child in your group who is an especially good reader to read this narrative. (You might even send it to them ahead of time to practice.) You may also want to pass around a sealed cereal box that promises to have a wonderful prize inside!*

WHAT YOU WILL NEED: *Choose a great reader to read the story (and perhaps lead the discussion); an optional cereal box with prize inside*

GRETA & DAD

"Can you get the prize out for me?" Greta eagerly asked her father. She pointed to a picture on the back of her cereal box. It showed a huge pile of colorful candy pouring out of a package.

"Well, let's see if we can find it," said Dad. He shook the box, tipped it this way and that, then reached in and pulled out the prize--a small, sample-size package of candy. He tossed it to Greta. "Save it till after breakfast," he said.

When Greta tore open the package a little later, a few small pieces of candy fell out. She counted them--only three. She counted the pieces in the picture on the cereal box. There were 20. "I thought I'd get as much candy as the picture shows," she complained to her dad.

"The cereal company wanted you to think you'd get a lot so you'd persuade someone to buy the cereal for you," explained Dad. "They deceived you."

Greta frowned. "What does *deceive* mean?"

"It means to get someone to believe something that isn't true," explained Dad.

That afternoon, Greta's friend Molly came to play. Greta had recently begun taking piano lessons, and she showed Molly what she had been learning. "That looks like fun! Let's pretend you're the teacher and I'm your student," suggested Molly.

"Greta! Telephone!" called Dad.

The caller was Kaylie, who lived a few doors away. "Play? At my house?" asked Greta after listening a moment. "Well . . . uh . . ." Greta chose her words carefully.

"I'm in the middle of a piano lesson," she said. "Uh . . . sure. Some other time."

Dad frowned as Greta hung up. "Did you tell Kaylie the truth?"

Greta shrugged. "I didn't lie."

"What did Kaylie understand about the piano lesson?" persisted Dad. "Do you think you deceived her?"

Greta blushed. She knew the picture she'd given was just as deceiving as the picture on the cereal box. She'd gotten Kaylie to think her piano teacher was there. "I'm sorry," said Greta. "I'll call her back and see if she wants to come and play piano lessons, too."

ASK THE CHILDREN:

Have you ever been deceived; given the wrong idea-by someone? Do you ever deceive other people? Deception is allowing someone to believe something that isn't true. There are other ways to lie besides just saying something that isn't true, and all of them are wrong. Speak honest words, but live an honest life, too.

SUPPORTING VERSES (IF DESIRED): Read: Proverbs 6:16-19; 12:17-22; Ephesians 4:25

FAIRNESS AND HONESTY WORD SEARCH

Group Leader: This worksheet is suitable for anyone of any age in your Orange Group. Alternately, you may wish to send this worksheet to parents to use with their children during the week.

Words can be found in the grid by looking forward, backward, up, and down. Circle them with a pencil or use a marker to highlight the letters. Most of all, JAVE FUN!

Fairness and Honesty



CHEAT
FAIR
FIB
HONEST
INTEGRITY

LIE
LISTEN
LOST AND FOUND
PROMISE
RULES

SHARE
STEALING
TRUST
TRUTH