

BASKETBALL LEAGUE DEVOTIONS

Parent Companion Guide

UPWARD
SPORTS

PRACTICE 11

HONESTY

is choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do.

KEY VERSE

**PEOPLE WITH INTEGRITY WALK SAFELY, BUT THOSE WHO FOLLOW
CROOKED PATHS WILL BE EXPOSED.**

PROVERBS 10:9 (NLT)

Bottom Line: When you're not truthful, you hurt others.

The last few practices, we've been talking about honesty. Honesty is choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do. Honesty is a big deal because it builds trust. Have you ever done something you weren't supposed to do and then someone asked you about it? In that moment, maybe you were tempted to lie, to blame it on someone else, or just deny it. But you know that if you lied about it and the wrong person found out, the consequences would be way worse than simply telling the truth from the beginning.

Our young athletes were presented with the following scenario in their devotion this week:

"Have you ever spent hours working on something, like a LEGO creation with a million pieces or a big art project for school? What would happen if you left the room and I kicked your LEGO creation across the room like a soccer ball or poured a cup of water over your art project? How would that make you feel? The first thing you would probably do is tell your parents what you thought I did.

What if your parents came to me and asked me what happened, and I told them I didn't know, even though I actually did ruin your LEGO creation or your big art project? You would be hurt, confused, and angry with me. Once your parents found out I lied, that would be terrible and damage that relationship, too. When you aren't truthful, you hurt others.

Just like it would take hours to rebuild that amazing LEGO creation or to somehow recreate your art project, it can take a while to build back the trust you lose when you're dishonest. But here's the good news. You can build it back.

It is possible when you decide to tell the truth and ask for forgiveness. We all mess up from time to time, especially when it comes to living honestly. And no matter what you do, God loves you and will always forgive you and help you start over."

PRACTICE 11

Honesty

When we're tempted to lie to someone or do something dishonest, we should think about protecting the other person and their friendship first. Let's think about how it would make the other person feel and make a different choice so that the people around us can really trust us because we practice honesty.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

(Apply to All Grades This Week)

- What have you learned about knowledge, wisdom, or honesty this season?
- What has been your favorite part of this season?

GOING DEEPER

This week, read 1 John 3:18 with your child. Together, think through the different things these devotions have covered this season. What are some ways we can show the truth through our actions? How can we honor God by living with knowledge, wisdom, and honesty? Take some time to pray out loud for your child. Ask God to help them live like Jesus and to grow "in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people." (Luke 2:52, NLT)