

# HONESTY

## Be Responsible for Your Actions: Achan

### LESSON POINTS

- Dishonesty causes us to have to keep secrets.
- Dishonesty takes a lot of work and worry to keep the truth hidden.
- Your dishonesty affects more people than just you.
- God cannot tolerate dishonesty.

### BIBLE TEXT

Achan Buries Treasure for Himself – Joshua 7:10-26

The Israelites had won the Battle of Jericho, and God told the people to take none of the treasures of Jericho for themselves. They set their sights on conquering Ai, but were defeated for no apparent reason. Joshua asked God why they had lost. God told him that Achan had been dishonest and had taken some gold and silver from Jericho and buried it to keep for himself.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When is it okay to keep a secret from your parents?
2. Does anything happen to your body physically, like Pinocchio, when you are hiding the truth?
3. Tell about a time when you were dishonest and it hurt someone else.
4. Why is it more work to be dishonest than honest?
5. Why do we sometimes feel like it is easier to be dishonest than honest?

### MINISTRY IDEA

Prophetic Words

Have leaders pray for prophetic words in season for children and give the words received from the Holy Spirit. Filter the words before hand to make sure they are positive and encouraging and what God would say to the children. God's prophetic word reminds us that God knows everything, even what is in the deepest part of our hearts.

### ACTIVITY IDEAS

Movie Clip

Show a clip from "Pinocchio."

Special Guest

Interview a parent about how they feel and what they do when their children lie to them.

### DEFINITION

Honesty - does not steal, cheat or lie; sincere or genuine.

### FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

God knows all things.  
1 John 3:20; Luke 16:15

### MEMORY VERSE

An honest witness tells the truth; a false witness tells lies. Some people make cutting remarks but the words of the wise bring healing. Truthful words stand the test of time, but lies are soon exposed. The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in those who tell the truth.  
Proverbs 12:17-19, 22