

# TRUTH

## Bible examples and Bible sayings.

### Outline

The Christian value of truth includes both the idea of truthfulness and the concept of truth in such statements as “I am the way, the truth and the life”. Truthfulness is relatively easy to teach to children but the concept of truth, which is fundamental to the Christian faith, is more difficult. These two things have therefore been combined each day, and it is expected that more attention will be given to the first part.

Except for the first day the first part is to look at an example from the Bible where people in some way lied or tried to deceive other people or God. Sin is deceptive and it is tempting to think that lies and deception will be our benefit, and in the short term this often seems to be true. But we see in the Bible, and from experience, that there are longer term consequences in this life, and ultimately all such things will be judged by God.

Each day we also look at a particular saying from the Bible about truth. Where possible this is related to the first part. It is intended that each day the verse should be added to the Belt of Truth.

### The Belt of Truth

This is intended to be a belt in the style of those used by a Roman soldier and based on Ephesians 6.14, as explained on the first day. Each day the Bible verse about truth can be added to the belt, either as a plaque on the belt, or as a strap hanging down.

Some classes may like the children to make their own version of this, an example of which is shown over the page. There is a list of the Bible verses at the end.

### Questions

In each Bible example we will see someone lying to or deceiving others. The following general questions might help to explore what was going on:

**Why did the person lie?**

**What did they hope that they would gain, or someone else would lose as a result?**

**What was result of their lie? Did it pay?**

**What would have happened if they had refused to lie?**

In addition to “The Belt of Truth” you might like to have two other belts. One with the word “truth” and the other with the word “lie”. If the Bible account is acted out then the children can be asked to decide whether someone was telling the truth or telling a lie, and the person acting the role can put on the appropriate belt.



Roman soldier's belt



Craft activity belt with Bible verses.

**Is it ever right to lie?**

The module does not cover any of the incidents where people lied for apparently good motives such as when Rahab hid the spies or David pretended to be mad. Instinctively it feels right that Rahab lied to protect the lives of others. But we also see situations in the Bible where people refused to compromise on what was right and endured the consequences. It seemed likely that this issue would therefore complicate matters and it was best to leave it to one side.

The module also avoids the Cretan who said, “Cretans are always liars!” (Titus 1.12) - was that Cretan telling the truth or not?

**Bible verses for the Belt of Truth**

- The Belt of Truth - Ephesians 6.14
- “I am the way, the truth and the life” - John 14.6
- You shall not bear false witness - Exodus 20.16
- I the LORD speak the truth; I declare what is right. - Isaiah 45.19
- God does not lie - Titus 1.2
- Let your ‘yes’ be ‘yes’ and your ‘no’ be ‘no’. - Matthew 5.37
- The Spirit of Truth - John 15.26
- Do not lie to one another - Colossians 3.9
- Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbour, for we are members one of another. - Ephesians 4.25
- God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth. - John 4.24
- Whatever is true ... think about these things - Philippians 4.8
- Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. - Psalm 19.14
- Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD - Proverbs 12.22
- If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. - John 8.31-32