

FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

Age	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Number and Title
6	1	2	WORSHIP	God forgives	19: Being honest with God

Use the syllabus framework to complete above. Infants: 20 minutes; Juniors: 30 minutes; Middles & Seniors: 45 minutes
(Mod. = Module Number, Module Theme - in the heading, Module Title - uppercase in the cell, Lesson Num [NO. column] and Title)

							
Verbal V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Logical L	Spatial S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kinaesthetic K <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Musical M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Intra - personal P1	Inter - personal P2	Natural N

Tick the appropriate box(es) above [copy this:] for the modes of learning being used in this session.

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, when all is darkness and we feel our weakness and helplessness, give us the sense of Your presence, Your love, and Your strength. Help us to have perfect trust in Your protecting love and strengthening power, so that nothing may frighten or worry us. Amen.

Starter:

The Tower of Trust. When talking about honesty, use blocks to show how trust is gained and lost. Tell the children to think of the blocks as times they have been honest. As you build the tower, ask children for examples. *(They cleaned their room right away after being asked./ They returned a toy they accidentally took from their friend./ They told the truth when asked if they hit their sibling.)*

Learning objectives:

To understand that the spiritual person shows himself honestly for what he is, knowing that God sees all and judges with righteousness.

To understand that God wants us to come to Him with everything that's on our minds and our hearts.

Core Activities and Learning

1. The teacher will tell the children that our most meaningful relationships are built upon trust, and it's no different when we consider the one that we have with God. Often, a reluctance to speak honestly with God points to a lack of trust in Him. We can fail to trust Him to be just, to be forgiving or to be helpful when in fact He is these things. God wants us to come to Him with everything that's on our minds and even though we might not be able to see a way through, He always can.

Once we get over our fear of telling God the truth about everything, we can still find difficult to be honest. We need to ask God to help us to be more honest, not just with Him but with everyone. The more we speak truthfully, the more it will become second nature. We'll also experience the benefits and others will too. We need to think of the relief we experience when we unburden ourselves from trying to hide our true thoughts and self from other people and God. Think of the possibility that our honesty could lead to others sharing things they've been hiding and how our relationships can improve.

And we need to remember what Jesus said: "I am the way and the truth and the life." Speaking the truth will help the people we are honest with to see that Jesus lives in us.

2. The teacher will explain to the children that the spiritual person shows himself honestly for what he is, and does not pretend to be what he is not. He reveals himself to all exactly as he actually is. He does not say or do anything that would lead people to have a false impression of him or of anyone or anything. He is honest and pure in all that he thinks, says and does, knowing that God sees all and judges with righteousness.

The teacher will invite children to ask themselves how can we be honest with God in prayer? One way is to imagine God right in front of us. We might imagine God sitting across from us in a chair, or sitting beside us. Then speak in a familiar way, in silence or out loud, about our life. Being honest with God means sharing everything with God, not just the things that we think are appropriate for prayer, and not simply our gratitude and praise. Honesty includes sharing things we might think inappropriate for conversation with God.

Children will understand the following: Honesty is about being truthful in what we say and in what we do; / Honesty is more than "not lying". Honesty includes not hiding the truth (deceiving); Our conscience (the voice in our head and feeling in our heart that tells us if something is right or wrong.) helps us know right from wrong and helps us make good choices; Mistakes are how we learn and grow to be better people. It's important to forgive ourselves, and remember the lesson we've learned.

3. *Trust in Jesus banner.* Cut out large letters to spell, T-R-U-S-T J-E-S-U-S and tape the letters in various places around the room. Have the children find the letters and tape the letters in order to spell, TRUST JESUS. Let the class colour and decorate the banner.

Resources:

building blocks, cut out letters to spell T-R-U-S-T J-E-S-U-S, coloured pencils, felt tips

Review:

We can trust God because He loves us and so we can and must also be honest with Him.

Follow Up:

Try through the next week to tell the truth in love and not to make excuses when we do wrong.