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Community
We build positive relationships.

POWER TEXT

"The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy" (Proverbs 12:22).

KEY REFERENCES

- 2 Samuel 11
- *Patriarchs and Prophets*, chap. 71, pp. 717-720
- *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 4, pp. 96-98
- Student lesson on page 32 of this guide

OUR BELIEFS

- No. 7, The Nature of Humanity
- No. 8, The Great Controversy
- No. 23, Marriage and the Family

OBJECTIVES

The students will:

- **Know** that God is honored when we respect other people.
- **Feel** impressed to honor and value the rights and freedoms of others.
- **Respond** by choosing to help their friends and relatives.

Death by Deception

POWERPOINT

We treat others with respect by being honest and not taking advantage of them.

The Bible Lesson at a Glance

King David covets another man's wife. He sends for her while her husband is at war. After he finds out she is pregnant and he won't be able to blame it on her husband, he sends her husband to the front lines to be killed. After she mourns for a time, he takes her as his wife.

This is a lesson about community.

In order to share God's love and grace with our community, we treat each other with honesty and respect. This is a negative example of what deception does to a community. Only by staying focused on God and His grace in our lives are we empowered to live in a manner that builds up, doesn't tear down, the community of believers.

Teacher Enrichment

"Amid the perils of his earlier life David in conscious integrity could trust his case with God. The Lord's hand had guided him safely past the unnumbered snares that had been laid for his feet. But now, guilty and unrepentant, he did not ask help and guidance from Heaven, but sought to extricate himself from the dangers in which sin had involved him" (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 718).

"The Bible has little to say in praise of men. Little space is given to recounting the virtues of even the best men who have ever lived. This silence is not without purpose; it is not without a lesson. All the good qualities that men possess are the gift of God; their good deeds are performed by the grace of God through Christ. Since they owe all to God the glory of whatever they are or do belongs to Him alone; they are but instruments in His hands. More than this—as all the lessons of Bible history teach—it is a perilous thing to praise or exalt men; for if one comes to lose sight of his entire dependence on God, and to trust to his own strength, he is sure to fall. Man is contending with foes who are stronger than he. . . . It is impossible for us in our own strength to maintain the conflict; and whatever diverts the mind from God, whatever leads to self-exaltation or to self-dependence, is surely preparing the way for our overthrow. The tenor of the Bible is to inculcate distrust of human power and to encourage trust in divine power" (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 717).

Welcome

Welcome students at the door and direct them to their seats. Ask them how their week has been. Encourage learners to study their Sabbath School lesson regularly, and use several minutes to debrief students on the previous week's lesson.

Ask: **What was the most interesting part of the Bible story? What activity did you find the most helpful? Which activity was the most fun?** Invite students to share their experiences and/or the handiworks they created for Sabbath School during the week. (The leader should be familiar with the previous lesson to be able to direct the discussion.) This is also a good time to have students recite the power text.

Have students begin the Readiness Activity of your choice. »

Program notes

LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
Welcome	Ongoing	Greet students at the door. Ask about their week.	
1 Readiness	10-15	*A. What's Behind It?*	Bibles, advertisements, paper, pencils, white/chalkboard, markers/chalk
		B. Not What It Seems	three books with covers, three cans of food with labels, can opener
* Prayer & Praise	15-20	See page 27. Prayer & Praise may be used at any time during the program.	songbooks, world map, pushpins, offering plate/basket
2 Bible Lesson	15-20	Introducing the Bible Story	four copies of *Net Kids* script (p. 145)
		Experiencing the Story	Bibles, paper, pencils
		Exploring the Bible	Bibles, paper, pencils
3 Applying the Lesson	10-15	*Role-Play Scenarios*	Bible
4 Sharing the Lesson	10-15	*Posters*	poster board, art supplies
* Closing		A. Prayer and Closing Comments B. Reminder to Parents C. Coming Up Next Week	

1

READINESS ACTIVITIES

Select the activity or activities that are most appropriate for your situation.

A

YOU NEED:

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ advertisements
- ☐ paper
- ☐ pencils
- ☐ white/chalkboard
- ☐ markers/chalk

What's Behind It?

Find advertisements from magazines, newspapers, or other sources. Number them and post them around the room with distance between them. Try to find some straightforward advertisements and some that are quite misleading. Ask students to write the numbers of the advertisements on a piece of paper. Then ask them to rate each advertisement on a scale of 1 to 5 for honesty, with 1 being very misleading and 5 being very straightforward.

Debriefing

Ask students to share their ratings with you. Write them on the board. Discuss differences in answers and students' reasoning. Ask the students to turn to Isaiah 33:15, first part, and read it aloud with you. Ask: **How does this verse apply to what we have been discussing? How can someone be dishonest while not actually saying anything? Which advertisements do not speak "what is right"? How do you feel?** (misled) **Let's say our power text together, Proverbs 12:22:**

"The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy" (Proverbs 12:22).

Remember our power point:

We treat others with respect by being honest and not taking advantage of them.

B

YOU NEED:

- ☐ three cans of food (same size) with labels
- ☐ can opener
- ☐ three books (same size) with jackets

Not What It Seems

NOTE to teachers:

For this activity inquire in advance if any of the students has food allergies. Bring only food cans that would not cause any of the students to experience an allergic reaction.

You will need three cans of food of the same size, three books of the same size with dust jackets, and a can opener. Change the labels and the dust jackets on two of the three so that they are not on the appropriate can or book. Ask student volunteers to come up one at a time, choose a book or can that appeals to them, and open it. Encourage the volunteers to react to what they have just experienced.

Debriefing

Say: **How did you feel when you did not get what you expected?** (disappointed, confused) **How can people have the wrong label or cover?** (by acting nice to your face but talking about you behind your back, etc.)

Let's say our power text together, Proverbs 12:22:

"The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy" (Proverbs 12:22).

How does this verse apply? Did any of these cans or books have "lying lips"?

We need to remember our power point:

We treat others with respect by being honest and not taking advantage of them.

Prayer & Praise

Fellowship

Report the students' joys and sorrows (pleased and troubled) as reported to you at the door (as appropriate). If they have given you permission, share one or two special items from students' Bible study during the week. Acknowledge any birthdays, special events, or achievements. Give a special, warm greeting to all visitors.

Suggested Songs

"He Has Shown Thee" (*He Is Our Song*, no. 125)
"Take These Hands" (*He Is Our Song*, no. 127)
"Step by Step" (*Praise Time*, no. 67)

Mission

YOU NEED:
- ☐ world map
- ☐ pushpins

Use *Adventist Mission for Youth and Adults* (go to www.juniorpowerpoints.org and click on MISSION) or another mission report available to you. Using a world map, have the students identify and mark with pushpins the location where the mission story is taking place.

Offering

YOU NEED:
- ☐ offering plate/basket

Explain that each person has a unique role to play in the mission of our church. While the students may not be able to go overseas on mission trips at the present, they may each contribute with their offerings to support the work of dedicated missionaries.

Prayer

Have students all kneel and have a time of silent prayer. Offer those who would like to pray aloud the opportunity to pray after the time allotted to silent prayer. Close with a prayer for the students' joys and sorrows, for the birthday and other special event celebrants, as well as for the visitors.

Notes

2

BIBLE LESSON

YOU NEED:
- ☐ four scripts (p. 145)

Introducing the Bible Story

***The* Net Kids**

(Note: The *Net Kids* are an imaginative way to introduce the Bible story. If you prefer not to use this imaginary element, read over the script yourself and introduce the lesson concept in your own words.) Scripts for duplication are found at the end of this guide. Introduce the *Net Kids* to your class.

Say: **The *Net Kids* are an international group of children ages 11-14 who communicate regularly through e-mail. Emiko and Darren met in a teen Christian chat room and found out that they were both Seventh-day Adventists. They then created a chat room for Adventist juniors and teens and the other four joined. They get together as often as they can via the Internet.**

Ulla: 11-year-old girl from Sweden
Ivan: 12-year-old boy from Russia
Tendai: 12-year-old boy from Zimbabwe
Ana: 13-year-old girl from the U.S.A.
Darren: 13-year-old boy from Australia
Emiko: 14-year-old girl from Japan

Arrange the students at desks, or at chairs turned around as desks if no desks are available. Have them tap as they read their part, to simulate typing at a computer keyboard. Make four copies of the *Net Kids* script found on page 145 of this guide. Distribute to the students you have selected as early as possible. Allow practice time before using this activity. Present the skit.

Debriefing

Ask: **When has someone taken advantage of you? How did you feel? What, if anything, did you do? How did it change the way you treat others?**

YOU NEED:
- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ paper
- ☐ pencils

Experiencing the Story

Divide students into groups of three or four. Hand out Bibles, paper, and pencils. Divide the verses in 2 Samuel 11 among the groups. Have students in each group take turns reading the verses allotted to them. Have students list the incidents in their fragment that are examples of deception (i.e., lying, disrespect, abuse). At the end of the activity have each group report a summary of their reading.

Debriefing

Ask: **Why was God displeased with the events in this story? What does this story tell about the danger of lying? How did a lie lead to another? Why is God sad when people take advantage of others who are vulnerable?** (He created human beings in His image, and His desire is that they would live in harmony with Him and reflect His love in their interactions with others.)

Accommodation for students with special needs

Guide students with special needs who experience difficulty with this activity to groups that offer them assistance in participation.

3

APPLYING THE LESSON

Exploring the Bible

YOU NEED:
- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ paper
- ☐ pencils

Have students, in groups, look up one or as many as possible of the following Bible stories:

Mark 14:43-46 (Judas and Jesus)
Acts 5:1-11 (Ananias and Sapphira)
Genesis 27 (Jacob and Isaac)
Genesis 12:10-20 (Abraham and Pharaoh)

With their group leader, have them make a list of who tried to deceive whom in each story and what the results were. If there is time, ask each group to report back on a specific one from the list. Otherwise, have group leaders close the discussion and make the point that with God's help . . .

We treat others with respect by being honest and not taking advantage of them.

Let's say our power text together, Proverbs 12:22:

"The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy" (Proverbs 12:22).

Role-Play Scenarios

YOU NEED:
- ☐ Bible

Have students work in pairs or small groups to think of a situation in which someone who is in authority decides to always be a person of integrity. He/she does not take advantage of those who are under his/her command, but treats each person with utmost respect and kindness. Have them role-play their scenarios.

Debriefing

Read Mark 12:31 aloud and have students say together the power text, Proverbs 12:22. Ask: **How might these situations have been different if the people involved had chosen not to live by these verses? Would you do things the same or differently if you found yourself in one of these situations?** (Encourage students to explore their own commitment to live by these verses with God's help.)

Say: **Let's remember to apply the principles we have learned from our lesson. As the power point summarizes:**

We treat others with respect by being honest and not taking advantage of them.

4

SHARING THE LESSON

YOU NEED:
- ☐ poster board
- ☐ art supplies

Posters

Allow time for students to share with the class if they had the opportunity during the past week to encourage or advise someone who had been treated unjustly or unfairly.

Divide students into groups. Give each group poster board and art supplies. Have each group choose a way to share the power point of this lesson:

We treat others with respect by being honest and not taking advantage of them.

They can also include some of the following ideas: God loves truthful people. Love your neighbor as yourself. They can choose to write a poem, change the words of a song, make a doorknob hanger or wall plaque. Have them decide on locations where they can post or exhibit their creations.

Debriefing

Ask: **How will your choices reflect that you are honest and straightforward with others? Who are some people at school, in Pathfinders, or in your neighborhood for whom you can show love and care?**

Accommodation for students with special needs

Encourage students who experience difficulty with this activity to work in groups that will offer them assistance in participation. Build on their strengths so that they may feel comfortable engaging and participating.

Closing

Prayer and closing comments:

Ask God to teach and equip you to love and accept others as He does.

Reminder to parents:

Say: **Check out the student Bible study guide to find Parents' Pages for your use in family worship, or however you wish to use them to spiritually guide your children. You may listen to the podcast of the lesson online at www .juniorpowerpoints.org/podcast.php?channel =1.**

Coming up next week:

Say: **God forgives David! Just as God has forgiven us, we should forgive others.**

Notes

Student lesson

Death by Deception

What are some of the issues that result from selfishness? What helps you always treat others respectfully and kindly?

It was springtime, a time when kings went off to war. Israel was at war with the Ammonites [AM-on-ites]. While the army commander, Joab, and all the forces were laying siege to a city, King David returned to Jerusalem. One evening David couldn't sleep, so he got up and walked around on the roof of his palace. Across the way he saw a beautiful woman. He wanted to know more about her, so he sent a servant to inquire.

The news came back that she was Bathsheba [bath-SHE-buh], the wife of Uriah [you-RY-uh], one of David's bravest and most faithful soldiers. David sent a messenger to get her. She came. The king spent time with her, then sent her home.

Before long, Bathsheba sent a message to David. She was pregnant. David was in trouble. He knew he had done wrong. The law said that death was the punishment for a convicted adulterer. Instead of admitting his sin and turning to God, David continued trying to do things his own way. He decided to bring Uriah back from the battle so that he could spend some nights at home with his wife. Maybe no one would ever know that the child was David's.

David's deceitful plan was put into action with a message to Joab. "Send Uriah the Hittite to me," it said. When Uriah arrived at court, David pretended that he wanted a special report on the war. Uriah gave his report. Then David encouraged him to go home to rest and see his wife.

But Uriah didn't go home. He stayed outside the palace with the servants and palace guards. When news of this got back to David, he asked, "Haven't you just come from a military campaign? Why didn't you go home?"

Uriah, the loyal soldier, responded, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my commander Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open country. How could I go to my house . . . ? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!"

David tried again to get Uriah to go home. "Stay here one more day, and tomorrow I will send you back," he insisted. So Uriah stayed for another day in the city and accepted the invitation to eat with the king in the royal palace. During the meal Uriah got drunk. But he didn't go home the second night either. David's deceitful plan had not worked.

In the morning David wrote a message to Joab and sent it to the camp with Uriah. The message said, "Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die."

Joab did exactly what he was told to do. While the Israelite army had the city under siege, he put Uriah where the fighting was heaviest. Several men were killed, including Uriah.

Once again a message flew back to King David with a swift runner. It contained a full account of the battle.

The messenger gave his message—all of it. "The men overpowered us and came out against us in the open, but we drove them back to the entrance of the city gate. Then the archers shot arrows at your servants from the wall, and some of the king's men died. Moreover, your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead."

David sent a message back. "Say this to Joab: 'Don't let this upset you; the sword devours one as well as another. Press the attack against the city and destroy it.' Say this to encourage Joab" (2 Samuel 11:10-25).

David thought he had covered up his sin. After a period of mourning for Uriah, Bathsheba became David's wife. It was not one single bad decision that led to David's downfall. The journey that led him to defeat consisted of many small steps in the wrong direction. Instead of trusting completely in God, King David gradually was drawn by the attractions of power as well as the sinful practices and customs of surrounding nations. In place of humbly accepting God's leading in everything he did, David chose to rely on his own human wisdom and power. As a result he separated himself from God, the only sure source of power.

It is clear from the Bible that "the thing David had done displeased the LORD" (2 Samuel 11:27).

In the beginning God created humankind in His image. Originally it was natural for humans to obey God and to do only what was right, good, and just. However, as a result of disobedience, sin entered into our world, causing separation between us and God. As a result of sin, the thoughts, feelings, impulses, desires, words, and actions of all human beings were corrupted. The destiny of our world appeared hopeless. Yet God did not let us die in our sins. He sought us, found us, and saved us.

What a different course your life can take if you choose to be faithful to

KEY REFERENCES

- 2 Samuel 11
- *Patriarchs and Prophets*, chap. 71, pp. 717-720
- *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 4, pp. 96-98
- Our Beliefs, nos. 7, 8, 23

POWER TEXT

"The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy" (Proverbs 12:22).

POWER POINT

We treat others with respect by being honest and not taking advantage of them.

God even in the smallest details of your life! Lasting peace and joy are found on the path of obedience to God. He knows what is best for you and has a wonderful plan for your life if you obey Him.







Sabbath

DO Do the activity on page 19.

Sunday

READ Read Isaiah 33:15, 16 and this week's lesson, "Death by Deception."

DRAW Draw a pair of lips. Write on them the power text. Begin to learn the power text.

PRAY Ask God to help you be truthful.

Monday

READ Read 2 Samuel 11:1-13.

THINK Who is the real hero in this story and why? When have you been tempted to sin or to hide a wrongdoing? How can you stay away from sin?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to give you wisdom and strength always to do the right thing.

Tuesday

READ Read 2 Samuel 11:14-26.

LIST In your Bible study journal, list the times that David could have made a different choice. What should he have done at each point? How do you think the leader of the army felt about David?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray for your church and country leaders. Pray that they will accept Jesus as their personal Savior.

Wednesday

READ Read 2 Samuel 12:1-9.

THINK What do you think about Nathan's actions? Do you think David would have responded in the same way if Nathan had confronted him directly with his sin?

DISCUSS With an adult, discuss how you should react when someone has done something wrong.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray for wisdom to stand up for what's right.

Thursday

READ Read Mark 12:31.

REVIEW Review the power text.

WRITE In your Bible study journal, write a letter to a new friend, describing how you wish your friendship to be.

PRAY Ask God to help you be the friend you wish for.

Friday

READ Read Proverbs 12:19-22.

CREATE In your Bible study journal, create an advertisement for the truthful person described in the verses.

SING Create a song about being like Jesus or being a true Christian, or sing a familiar song on this topic.

PRESENT Share what you created at family worship.

REPEAT Share the power text from memory.

PRAY Ask God to help you be loving, compassionate, and truthful when you interact with your friends.