

TRUTH

I can control my choice to be honest, but I cannot control the consequences of choosing to lie.

The Power of Truth!!

Lesson Summary

Teacher: 30 Minutes

This lesson addresses the power that comes with choosing to take responsibility for one's actions.

Define it:

Whenever we choose an action, there are always consequences. Some can be good, and some can be bad depending on the choice we make. Telling the truth means that you have chosen to take the time to confront situations and circumstances that you are faced with instead of running away from them or ignoring them. The consequences of telling the truth may be hard at first because it takes courage to be a leader and set the example of honesty, but in the end, you will mature as you develop this important quality of leadership.



Let's Look at an Example.

You are hanging out with a group of friends at the mall and one of them has a chip on his shoulder. While you all are at the food court, he gets into an argument with one of the attendants at the food court. As things get more escalated, he walks over to the group and explains his side of the story. Just as he is finishing up, the mall security comes up. Your friend begins to explain his side of the story and then he adds that all of you sitting there, witnessed the entire incident and can corroborate his story. What do you do?

Let's Talk About It:

Whenever we decide to be silent or not tell the truth, it becomes an untruth. Untruths are like little blocks that kids play with. Each time we decide to not tell the truth, they pile up and can become massive. One untruth seems small enough, but when it is joined with more, it can become a roadblock to success and a reputation killer!! People will see that there is no integrity in you, and you will miss good opportunities. There are also times when we may choose to ignore things that happen in our lives and this habit can cause another nasty habit called procrastination. Procrastination is a nasty habit because it makes us think we can just leave a problem or challenge and it will just go away. But problems must be confronted, or they just get bigger. When we lie and then ignore the situation, it multiplies and grows until it has more power than you! It all comes down to your choice. If you tell the truth you can deal with it once and for all!!



**Your
Takeaway.**

Lies grow and spread like germs and can cause major damage to friendships, family, and your entire life because you are communicating to people around you that you cannot be trusted.

Let's Look and Discuss.

Let's Look and Discuss different outcomes, pros, and cons:

- You take money out of your mom's wallet. She asks you about it and you lie. What would you do?
- You and a group of friends are hanging out and one of your friends goes into a store, steals something, and runs out. The store owner calls the cops, and everyone gets in trouble. What would you do?
- Your teacher announces to the class that the answer key to the test next week has mysteriously disappeared from her desk drawer. You know who took it. The teacher announces that everyone will fail if the key is not produced immediately, and it can be done anonymously. What do you do?



Video and Discussion: Make an Impact – 10-15 Minutes



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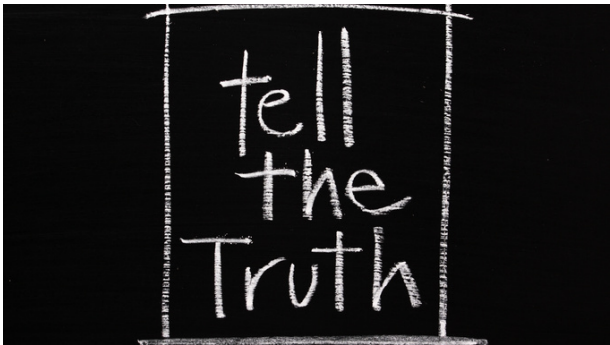
Questions.

Are you prepared to have negative consequences for not choosing to tell the truth?

It is never too late to turn it around! What choices can you make today to correct some choices you may have made to lie?



Make a commitment to yourself that you are going to take steps to be an honest person, and it will help to develop the qualities of a leader in you!



After you complete this assignment, take it home to remind yourself.