

Unit B: Qualities of a Good Leader

Lesson 4: Practicing Honesty

Student Learning Objectives:

Instruction in this lesson should result in students achieving the following objectives:

1. Identify what honesty means.
2. Identify the benefits of being honest.
3. Explain the value of honesty as a human character trait.

Recommended Teaching Time: 1 hour

Resources:

Blanton, Brad PhD. *Radical Honesty: How to Transform Your Life by Telling the Truth*.
New York, New York: Dell Publishing, 1996.

List of Equipment, Tools, Supplies, and Facilities:

- Writing surface
- PowerPoint Projector
- PowerPoint Slides
- Transparency Masters
- Copies of student worksheets
- Advertisements from Flyers, Newspaper, Magazines, etc.
- Markers
- Paper
- Pencils

Terms: The following terms are presented in this lesson (shown in bold italics):

- Honesty

Interest Approach:

Remind students that comments they make today are to be confidential and not shared outside the walls of the classroom. Encourage them to ask questions and be honest and sincere about their comments. Pass out a different advertisement to each student. Have them analyze it for honesty.

Script for Teacher: *Take a moment and look at the advertisement in front of each of you. What does it say or imply that might make you think it is untrue? What might it be trying to say that is not exactly true? What might it be leaving out that would be important or might cause you not to buy the product? How might it mislead you in anyway? Does it include half-truths? Be prepared to share your responses.*

Ask for several students to share some of their advertisements and comments with the class. Take about 10 minutes for this activity.

SUMMARY OF CONTENT AND TEACHING STRATEGIES

Objective 1: Identify what honesty means.

Anticipated Problem: What does honesty mean?

- I. Activity—what honesty means.

This activity takes about five minutes.

Script for Teacher: *Describe a time when you were dishonest. Tell us what happened. What did you learn from the experience?*

Separate the class into groups of three and have them identify ways they can be honest in school, at work, and at home. Take about ten minutes.

Script for Teacher: *On a piece of paper, create three columns. Title the columns, School, Work, and Home. In each column list ways you can demonstrate honesty. You can work in groups of three on this project for the next few minutes.*

Objective 2: Identify the benefits of being honest.

Anticipated Problem: What are benefits of being honest?

- II. Activity—benefits of being honest.

This activity takes about five minutes.

Script for Teacher: *When was there a time you were tempted to lie but chose to be honest? What happened? Did you regret your decision? Was there a benefit to your choice to be honest?*

After each pair of students has interviewed each other, have a few of them share.

Script for Teacher: *Discuss the benefits of always being honest with others.*

Objective 3: Explain the value of honesty as a human character trait.

Anticipated Problem: What is the value of honesty as a human character trait?

III. Activity—class discussion.

Lead a class discussion for fifteen minutes on the following questions:

Script for Teacher: *Who are people you know who are honest? How do you feel about these people who tell you the truth even when it may be difficult or hurtful?*

Script for Teacher: *Is there anything wrong with a small lie to parents or friends to keep from hurting their feelings?*

Script for Teacher: *What risks are involved with being honest? What risks are involved in being dishonest? How can you benefit from being honest?*

Script for Teacher: *What does honesty have to do with your character?*

Review/Summary: Ask each student if they would consider themselves an honest person. Have them write down the answer and justification as to why. Make sure they consider all the prior discussion when they justify their answer. Let the students know that this exercise is completely confidential. Take about five minutes to do this activity.

Application: Have the students create and teach a lesson to younger students about the importance of honesty. Remind them to be creative and have fun. They could do a skit or role-play with the students to make their point.

Evaluation: Evaluation should focus on student achievement of the objectives for the lesson. Have students write a five-hundred word essay about honesty.

Rubric for evaluating Essay:

Content from class discussion—15 points

Spelling and grammar—5 points

Writing style and structure—5 points

Practicing Honesty

Name: _____

Five hundred word essay paper.

How do you rebuild trust with a person after they have lied to you?