

One Last Thought. . . .

The father should not be like a child, moved merely by impulse. He is bound to his family by sacred, holy ties. He is the lawmaker, illustrating in his own manly bearing the sterner virtues,--energy, integrity, honesty, and industry. He is in one sense the priest of the household, laying upon the altar of God the morning and evening sacrifice, while the wife and children unite in prayer and praise. In such a household Jesus will love to tarry. {Ellen G. White, Signs of the Times, April 17, 1884, par.8



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¹ Based on the book "10 Christian Values Every Kid Should Know," by Dr. Donna Habenicht. Review & Herald



Christian Values Your Kid Should Know



Honesty and Integrity¹

***Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from speaking
lies. (Psalm 34:13)***

Children learn to live by watching us live, no matter how much we tell them to live differently.

- 1. Model honesty and integrity in your own life.**
- 2. Look for real-life models of honesty and dishonesty to share with your children.**
- 3. Notice and compliment honest actions.**
- 4. Provide consequences for dishonest actions, but give children an opportunity to start over again.**
- 5. Help your children learn to figure out how to deal with difficult situations.**
- 6. Teach your children that honesty is never rude.**

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ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

The Boy Who Cried "Wolf, *Aesop*

This may be Aesop's most famous fable, and for good reason. The fastest way to lose what we call our "good character" is to lose our honesty.

There was once a shepherd boy who kept his flock at a little distance from the village. Once he thought he would play a trick on the villagers and have some fun at their expense. So he ran toward the village crying out, with all his might:

"Wolf! Wolf! Come and help! The wolves are at my lambs!"

The kind villagers left their work and ran to the field to help him. But when they got there the boy laughed at them for their pains; there was no wolf there.

Still another day the boy tried the same trick, and the villagers came running to help and were laughed at again.

Then one day a wolf did break into the fold and began killing the lambs. In great fright, the boy ran back for help. "Wolf! Wolf!" he screamed. "There is a wolf in the flock! Help!"

The villagers heard him, but they thought it was another mean trick; no one paid the least attention, or went near him. And the shepherd boy lost all his sheep.

That is the kind of thing that happens to people who lie: even when they do tell the truth they will not be believed.

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- Pinocchio
- The Emperor's New Clothes

Here are a few texts that will remind us of God's view of honesty and integrity.

(Psa 119:128 NKJV) I hate every false way.

(Prov 11:1 NIV) The LORD abhors dishonest scales.

(2 Cor 8:21 KJV) Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.

(2 Cor 13:7 KJV) You should do that which is honest.

(Phil 4:8 KJV) Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are . . . honest. . . think on these things.

(Psa 25:21 NIV) May integrity and uprightness protect me.

(Rev 14:5 NIV) No lie was found in their mouths.

Other terms for honesty and responsibility: Principle, Truth, Character, Sincerity, Genuineness, Decency, Honor.