

KIDTOWN GUIDE

1st-5th Grades

DATE: 2/21/21

SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 11

LESSON: Guarding the Truth



INTRO

Parents say to your kid(s) - Last week we learned about what it means to live as followers of Jesus from Paul's letter to the Colossians! This week we're going to learn about a time when the Church had to be on guard against false teachers.

Spot the Lie! - Kids love to learn in concrete ways. This activity is a simple object lesson to help your kids interact with the Bible story they're about to learn.

Before you start, create a series of true-or-false statements. Think about ex.'s from your life, review from previous lessons, or choose a topic that interests your kids. Ex's:

- The heart of a shrimp is in its tail. (false, its head)
- Slugs have four noses. (true)
- Bats always turn right when leaving a cave. (false, they always turn left)
- Giraffes have no vocal cords. (true)

Read each statement and let the kids guess whether it is true or false.

Say - It's not always easy to know the truth from a lie. When you don't know much about a subject, it's easy to be tricked into believing false statements. In today's Bible story, we're going to hear about a group of people who started believing false things about God, which is a really big problem.



LESSON - GUARDING THE TRUTH

Watch the Gospel Project Bible video: [Guarding the Truth](#)

Story Point #1: (Kids repeat!)

False teachers were deceiving God's people in Corinth. (Kids repeat!)

Paul had gone to Corinth and shared the gospel - the good news about Jesus. Many people in Corinth believed in Jesus and had become a young church (kinda like Midtown)! But when Paul left, false teachers came in and started teaching them things that weren't true. They led them away from believing in Jesus alone.

Story Point #2: (Kids repeat!)

Paul wanted God's people to know the truth. (Kids repeat!)

The false teachers did not have good reasons for what they were doing. Paul warned the Corinthians that the false teachers wanted to make money and take advantage of them. But that wasn't Paul's heart in sharing the gospel. He told people about Jesus because he knew Jesus was the very best thing, the only one worthy of worship. Paul told people about Jesus because he loved them and he wanted them to know the truth! Paul knew that sharing the truth about Jesus might lead him to suffering, but he wouldn't back down, because Jesus is worth it!

Story Point #3: (Kids repeat!)

Paul instructed God's people to defend the truth. (Kids repeat!)

Paul told the Corinthians that it isn't enough to just know what's true and what's a lie about the gospel. Christians should know the gospel so well that they can defend the truth of the gospel! One of the trickiest ways to change the gospel is to add things to it. Instead of believing in Jesus *alone* being the only way to forgiveness, false teachers

add little extra rules. Like, believe in Jesus and look a certain way. Or believe in Jesus and act a certain way. Or believe in Jesus and worship a certain way. Jesus loves us too much to let us believe these lies. The gospel can be summed up as Jesus + nothing = everything. When we believe in Jesus and nothing else - not ourselves, not our goodness, not our friends, not our family - God gives us everything!

Christ Connection! (Kids repeat!)

Jesus is the truth. (kids repeat)

Jesus said He is the truth, the way and the life, there is no other way to God, than through Him. Sometimes other people tell lies as if they are the truth. Just like the false teachers in Corinth, these lies prevent the good news of Jesus from going out into the world. Jesus calls us to defend the truth no matter what. It isn't always easy, but when we trust in God, He can help us share the good news. Paul had been changed by Jesus. He was willing to suffer for Jesus because He knew Jesus was the truth. He knew Jesus was worth it. He knew Jesus deserved to be praised. And He wanted everyone else to know the truth about Jesus too!



RESPONSE

Sing: [First Place in Everything](#) (Key Passage Song)
[Psalm 40:5](#)

Pray: Dear God, Thank you for giving us your word so we can know the truth. Help us to hold onto the truth when people try to tell us false things about you. Amen

Discuss:

- What stood out to you from this story? *Let kids answer. Non-spiritual answers are okay--we want them to interact with Scripture, not just regurgitate facts.*
- Why did Paul write to the church of Corinth? *To warn against false teachers.*
- What did Paul say about the false teachers? *They were trying to prevent the good news of Jesus from being shared.*
- How was Paul's life changed by Jesus? *He believed and began sharing Jesus. He suffered for Jesus because he loved others.*
- How have you seen Jesus change you?
- Does anyone have any questions? Was anything about this lesson confusing?
 - *Allow time for questions and if you don't know the answers, that's okay. Affirm their question and let them know that you don't know but will try to find out.*
 - *If you have any questions you are really stumped on, feel free to email us at kidtown@midtowncolumbia.com.*



BONUS ACTIVITIES

Coloring Sheet - [Printable Coloring Sheet](#)

Parent Share - Has there been a time when you believe something false about God? How did He show you the truth?

Bread in a Bag - Bake bread together! Click the link for a fun, kid-friendly, and low-mess recipe for "[bread in a bag.](#)"