

# the rock

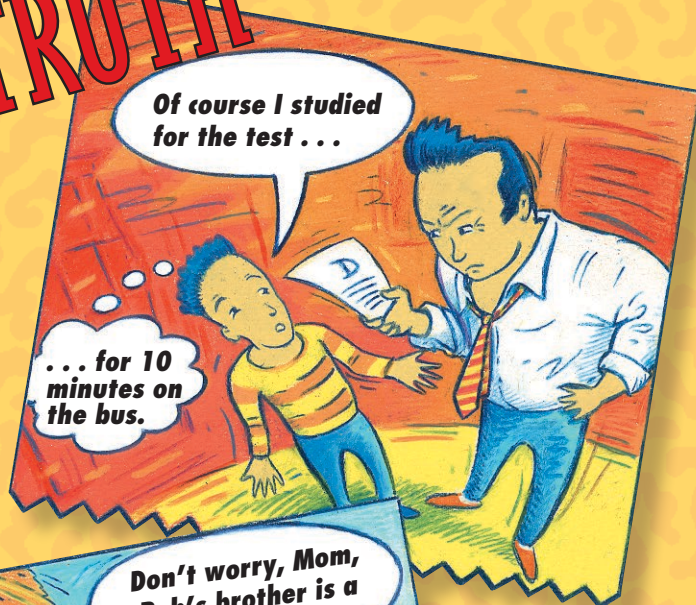
THE TRUTH  
AND  
THE  
WHOLE  
TRUTH

I can't come.  
I'll be busy . . .

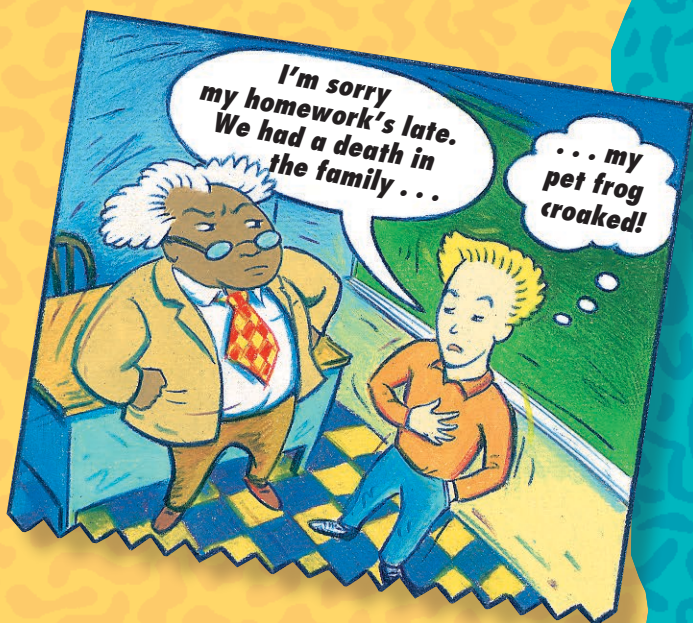
. . . I hope!



# THE TRUTH AND THE WHOLE TRUTH







Continued on page 6.



# THE TRUTH



**L**ying is a serious thing. It can damage reputations and undermine relationships. Maybe that's why God wants us to always be honest.

## **Read Exodus 20:16.**

This is where God set down a standard for honesty. Why do you think honesty is so important?

What is a witness? What does it mean to “give false testimony”?

## **Read John 8:44.**

Who is the source of lies? Why?

According to this verse, when you lie, what does that say about you?

## **Now Read Matthew 26:31-35, 56b, and Luke 22:54-62.**

Did Peter intend to deny Christ?

Why did Peter lie?

When Peter realized what he had done, what was his response?

# ABOUT LIES

### Exodus 20:16

"You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor."

### John 8:44

You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

### Matthew 26:31-35, 56b

<sup>31</sup>Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written:

" 'I will strike the shepherd,  
and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

<sup>32</sup>But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

<sup>33</sup>Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will."

<sup>34</sup>"Truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times."

<sup>35</sup>But Peter declared, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the other disciples said the same.

<sup>56b</sup>Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

### Luke 22:54-62

<sup>54</sup>Then seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance. <sup>55</sup>And when some there had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. <sup>56</sup>A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at him and said, "This man was with him."

<sup>57</sup>But he denied it. "Woman, I don't know him," he said.

<sup>58</sup>A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them."

"Man, I am not!" Peter replied.

<sup>59</sup>About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean."

<sup>60</sup>Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed.

<sup>61</sup>The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." <sup>62</sup>And he went outside and wept bitterly.





Continued from page 3.

**Now you add the whole truth to these situations.**

# THE TRUTH AND THE WHOLE TRUTH



**Today's Bible study will help free you from the half-truth trap. Turn back to page 4.**





**F**ind the words listed here.  
Starred words are repeated.  
When you're finished, you'll  
find 39 leftover letters, which spell a  
secret message about honesty. Start  
at the top of the puzzle and write  
the unused letters to form the hidden  
message.

A R I H P P A S S C O M M A N D M E N T  
T Y P M U R D E R E R E R E T E P A F K  
R E F O R K E D T O N G U E S E I L I A  
U N L T O G E T H E R D K A C T S T B E  
T O I R O B H G I E N E H D E I L E B P  
H M E D N A T I V E L A N G U A G E E S  
U T T W O F A C E D R T E X O D U S R S  
U N L I V E D L I A R H T R U S T T A F  
H L T I S P I H S N O I T A L E R I F A  
E N I R L T I R I P S Y L O H F N O R L  
V S E F U N H O J E F I L E P A L J I S  
C D L H E S E S P R I C E I N L A O E E  
H O U A A F T N G D O N T A S S N H N W  
U N F B F R T W N F H E A R T E D N D I  
R A H E O I R S O G I V I N G T R U S T  
C T T L D E A T L R A P O S T L E S U N  
H I I O O N E C E R T F G N I R A H S E  
I O A N G D H A B F T H T R U S T E E S  
N N F G S S E N N E P O Y F R I E N D S

**ACTS\***  
**ANANIAS**  
**APOSTLES**  
**BELONG\***  
**CHURCH**  
**COMMANDMENT**  
**DEATH**  
**DEVIL**  
**DONATION**  
**DON'T**  
**EXODUS**  
**FAITHFUL**

**FALSE\***  
**FALSE WITNESS**  
**FIBBER**  
**FORKED TONGUE**  
**FRIENDS\***  
**GIVING**  
**GOD\***  
**HEART\***  
**HOLY SPIRIT**  
**JOHN\***  
**LAND**  
**LIAR**

**LIE**  
**LIED**  
**LIES**  
**LIFE\***  
**MONEY**  
**MURDERER**  
**NATIVE**  
**LANGUAGE**  
**NEIGHBOR**  
**OPENNESS**  
**PETER**  
**PRICE**

**RELATIONSHIPS**  
**SAPPHIRA**  
**SHARING**  
**SPEAK**  
**TOGETHER**  
**TRUST\***  
**TRUTH**  
**TWO-FACED**  
**UNTRUSTWORTHY**

**KEEPING  
YOUR WORD**

S  
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R  
O  
I

Answer: Speak the truth in  
love. Ephesians four fifteen.





**A** lie covers the truth like a hood covers the head. It's an attempt to cover something up. But lies are a false protection.

# REMOVE THAT FALSE HOOD



**T**HEREFORE each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.  
—Ephesians 4:25

**MONDAY** When is the last time you told a lie? Why didn't you tell the truth? What does your lie tell about you? Ask God for His forgiveness.

**TUESDAY** Some people stretch the truth to make themselves look good to others. Trouble is, they end up stretching other people's ability to like them. Read Romans 12:3 and ask God to help you be honest about yourself with others.

**WEDNESDAY** Read John 8:44. Who would you rather have as a father, Satan or God? Ask God to help you live like a child of God today.

**THURSDAY** Have you ever damaged a relationship by lying? Pray for that person and ask God for a chance to mend the relationship.

**FRIDAY** Read Luke 10:29-37. Who is your neighbor? If you have deliberately lied to someone, apologize today.

**SATURDAY** What would happen to your body if your eyes lied to you? Draw a picture of a body to represent the church. What happens to the church body when one of its members lies?

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