

Chapter 12

Telling the Truth

Those who follow the way of truth can enter my service.
1 Psalm 101:6

For the Parents:

In chapter 12 your child learned to:

- Identify ways that the eighth commandment helps him or her deal honestly with others
- Name results of dishonest speech and actions
- Define gossip and perjury

Perhaps you find it difficult to be honest when you might hurt a friend's or family member's feelings. Perhaps you have found that keeping the truth to yourself is an effective way to keep the peace. Issues of truth and honesty confront us every day.

On the night before Jesus' death, Peter was asked, whether he knew Jesus. Each time, Peter denied knowing him. The last time, as he was assuring the bystanders that he did not know what they were talking about, he heard the cock crow. It was then that he remembered the words of Jesus, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." (*Luke 22:61*) At that point, Peter went out and began to weep bitterly. He was heartbroken by his own disloyalty to someone he dearly loved. He was devastated that he could not be honest about his friendship with Jesus. Peter acted in fear. Reflecting on our lives, we may find that fear or some other emotion has caused us to be less than honest.

With Your Child:

1. Talk with our family about the consequences of talking about others in a bad way? Think about ways that your family can avoid passing on gossip.
2. Read about Saint Peter, the Apostle on the Review and Explore page.