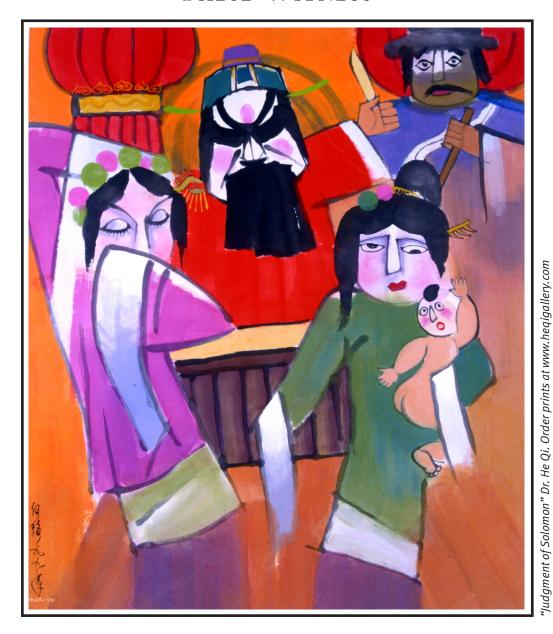
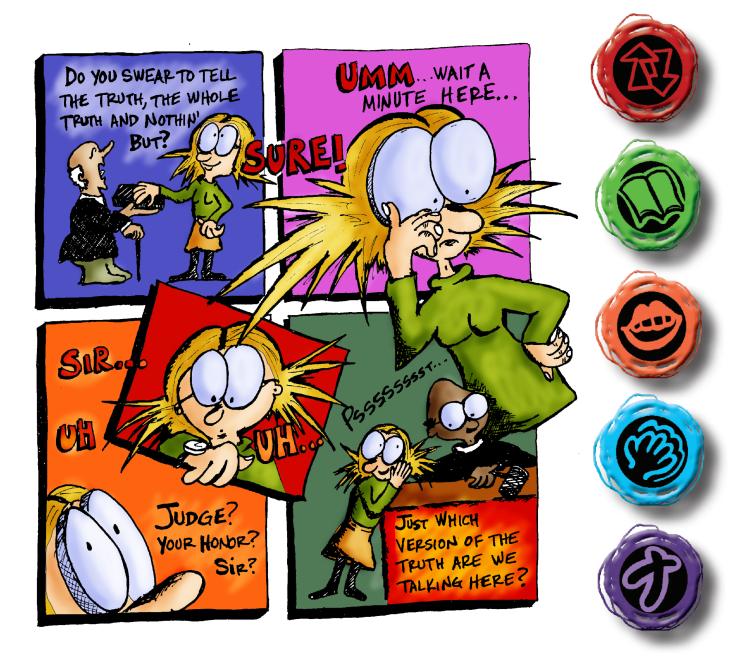
• False Witness •



"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."

- Exodus 20:16





FALSE Withess

Ten Commandments



"|VDGEMENT OF SOLOMOΠ" by Dr. He Qi

(www.heqigallery.com)

THEME VERSE

YOU SHALL NOT BEAR FALSE WITHESS AGAINST YOUR ΠΕΙGHBOR.

- Exodus 20:16

FAITH 5 TIME

Model this five-step process at church today, then bring it on home!

SHARE your highs and lows of the week oneon-one with another person. Listen carefully and record their thoughts in the space below. Then return to small group and share your friend's highs and lows with the group.

MY HIGH THIS WEEK	
MY LOW THIS WEEK	
MY FRIEND'S HIGH THIS WEEK	
MY FRIEND'S LOW THIS WEEK	



READ and highlight the theme verse in your Bible.



+ ART ATTACK & MINDZEYE GALLERY

What do you see in today's theme art or your own drawings? How do the art and the theme verse relate to each other? How do they relate to your highs and lows?

+ ROLE PLAY

Assign roles and take turns acting out the following:

- **1.** You notice your teacher gave you a higher grade than you deserved on a test. You approach her desk and...
- **2.** A friend is spreading rumors about a new kid in school. Whether they are true or not, they are costing this new kid friends. What do you do and say?

+ QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Share your thoughts on the questions below:

- **1.** Where do you draw the line between talking about other people, gossip and bearing false witness?
- **2.** What could you do to make things right if you have said something that harmed another person's reputation?
- **3.** Think about a time when someone told a lie about you. What did that individual take from you by doing that? What did they gain? What did they lose? Why did they do it? How did you respond? What would you do differently if that situation had been reversed?

QUOTATIONS TO CHEW ON

PEOPLE DO NOT LIVE BY WORDS ALONE, ALTHOUGH THEY SOMETIMES MUST EAT THEM.

Adlai Stevenson

A LIE CAM TRAVEL
HALFWAY AROUND THE
WORLD WHILE THE TRUTH
IS PUTTING ON ITS SHOES.

MARK TWAIN

HELLO. I'M LEONARD
MIMOY. THE FOLLOWING
TALE OF ALIEN
ENCOUNTERS IS TRUE. AND
BY TRUE, I MEAN FALSE.
IT'S ALL LIES. BUT THEY'RE
ENTERTAINING LIES. AND
IN THE END, ISN'T THAT
THE REAL TRUTH?

A CARTOON LEONARD MIMOY on "THE SIMPSONS"

+QUOTATIONS

Choose a quotation on the right and share why you chose it.



CATECHISM CONNECTION

Go over Questions 61-62 (pg 87-89) in the Small Catechism and discuss.

Use your catechism to help answer the following questions.

1.	Why is a good reputation important?
2.	"Words can hurt and words can kill." Give an example of each way words can be used.
3.	Explore the meaning of Jesus' saying on "specks" and "logs" (Luke 6:41–42). Discuss the ways we perceive and judge people based upon our values and attitudes.
4.	Why should we guard against even thinking something bad about our neighbor?
5.	Encourage each other by talking about things you especially appreciate about one another. Discuss: How does this activity relate to the Eighth Commandment?
6.	When does our neighbor especially need protection against evil gossip and other forms of false witness?
7.	How do we put the best construction on our neighbor's words and deeds?

CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE

Excerpt from the Large Catechism

Besides our own body, our wife or husband, and our temporal property, we have one more treasure which is indispensable to us, namely, our honor and good name, for it is intolerable to live among men in public disgrace and contempt. Therefore God wil not have our neighbor deprived of his reputation, honor, and character any more than of his money and possessions; he would have every man maintain his self-respect before his wife, children, serants, and neighbors. In its first and simplest meaning...this commandment pertains to public courts of justice, where a poor, innocent man is accused and maligned by false witnesses (399:255-257).

Nobody has the right to judge and reprove his neighbor publicly, even when he has seen a sin committed, unless he has been authorized to judge and reprove. There is a great different between judging sin and having knowledge of sin. Knowledge of sin does not entail the right to judge it. I may see and hear that my neighbor sins, but to make it the talk of the town is not my business. If I interfere and pass judgement on him, I fall into a greater sin than his. When you become aware of a sin, simply make your ears a tomb and bury it until you are appointed judge and authorized to administer punishment by virtue of your office (400-401: 256-266).

How Christians should be taught to confess from the 6th Commandment

My God has given me a good name and reputation that I might cover my neighbor's sins and shortcomings with mercy, in order to preserve his name and reputation in the community. - Ask yourself:

Have I told truth in school before authorities or before my parents when I knew the truth?

Have I been afraid to bear witness when I knew the truth and it was necessary to speak up against a wrongdoer or to speak for a victim?

Have I gossiped, delighting to tell others about the faults or mistakes of another, excusing myself especially by saying that I spoke for a victim?

Have I flattered others, or put on a front to make them think of me differently from what it true?

Have I slanted stories to my benefit or deceived others by withholding some elements of a story?

Have I learned to bear with the weaknesses and faults of others, covering their shame?

Have I been faithful in keeping the secrets of another's heart entrusted to me in confidence?





+TERMS	Write a group definition	of these words:
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FALSE WITNESS

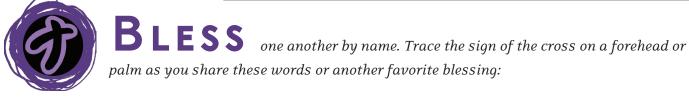
GOSSIP

LIE

SLANDER

PRAY for one another. Gather in a circle and lock arms. Praise and thank God for your highs. Ask God to be with you in your lows. Pray for your friend's highs and lows and for your world. Close in Jesus' name.

A PRAISING PRAYER	
A THANKING PRAYER	
AN ASKING DDAYED	
AN ASKING PRAIER	



"(Mame), Child of God, may you be a person of truth this day. Amen."

+ REMEMBER 1 THING Lies and gossip can be destructive. God commands you to defend your neighbors, speak well of them, and explain their actions in the kindest ways.



FALSE WITHESS

Keep your family communicating every night and grow together in insight, love and your understanding of one another and God. Try this simple five-step process just before bed for maximum impact. New to the process? Focus on step 1 initially, and grow from there. Check out *www.faithink.com*, FINKlink LFo8 for additional games, songs, and devotions on this theme.



SHARE your highs and lows of the day.

READ and highlight these verses—one a day—in your Bible.



WEEK 1 WEEK 2

Day 1	Exodus 20:16	Day 1	Proverbs 11:9
Day 2	Luke 22:48b	Day 2	Ephesians 4:29
Day 3	Proverbs 22:1	Day 3	Proverbs 15:1
Day 4	Proverbs 11:13	Day 4	Proverbs 6:16-19a
Day 5	Exodus 23:1	Day 5	Ephesians 4:11-12
Day 6	Proverbs 25:18	Day 6	Psalm 82:3-4
Day 7	Review - Exodus 20:16	Day 7	Review - Exodus 20:16



LK about your highs and lows in relation to the verse for the day. Ask "How does this verse relate to our highs and lows?" and "What might God be saying to us today?"



PRAY for one another. Praise and thank God for today's highs. Ask for help with today's lows. Include highs and lows of your family, friends and world in this prayer. Close in Jesus' name.



BLESS one another using the following blessing, marking one another with the sign of the cross:

"(Mame), Child of God, may you be a person of truth this day. Amen."

FAMILY COVENANT: We have shared the FAITH 5^{TM} together as a family this week.

Parent's Signature Teen's Signature Date